

December 2024



<https://ed.sc.gov/districts-schools/medicaid/>

Medicaid Updates

Office of Medicaid Services (OMS) Support

As the state of South Carolina continues to recover from the devastating effects of Hurricane Helene, we want to express our deepest concern and solidarity with school districts and the communities that you serve.

The OMS understands that the recent closures and disruptions have created significant challenges for schools, students, and staff. Please know that we are committed to working closely with affected districts to provide any necessary support during this time of recovery. If your district has a QA review or meetings scheduled during closures, the OMS will work with districts to discuss options for rescheduling.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to your district's assigned Education Associate (EA) within the OMS.

Ongoing Provider Revalidation

On October 28, 2024, Medicaid released a bulletin announcing the conclusion of the federal COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE) that allowed for the temporary suspension of the Medicaid provider enrollment process. Therefore, the provider revalidation process will resume to ensure consistency with the federal regulation (42 CFR §455.414) that state Medicaid agencies must complete revalidation of enrollment for all providers, regardless of provider type, at least every five years.

In order to revalidate or renew the provider enrollment record with the state Medicaid agency, an enrollment revalidation application must be submitted. The provider revalidation process is designed to confirm or update a provider's demographic and other information including National Provider Identifier (NPI), mailing address and service location address(es). There are no exemptions from revalidation. Please refer to the [bulletin](#) for the [process of provider](#).

The Local Education Agencies (LEAs) are included in Cohort Three. The revalidation window for cohort three and future cohorts will be announced in subsequent provider bulletins that will be published prior to the start of the respective revalidation windows.

Distribution of Rehabilitation and Related Services Contracts

The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) has begun to distribute districts' Rehabilitation and Related Services contracts to school districts. Please ensure that the Superintendent and Medicaid Coordinator information within the District and Entity Information Management (DEIM) system is updated for your district. The SCDHHS reports that many emails have been returned as 'undeliverable.' Again, please ensure that your district's contact information within the DEIM system is up to date.

If you have any questions or concerns specific to the contract, please reach out to Erica Erica.Geiger@scdhhs.gov or Christopher Needham at Christopher.Needham@scdhhs.gov.

New Provider Contract Management System- August 27, 2024

Effective August 27, 2024, the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) will launch a new contract management system as shared within the August 27th [memo](#). The new system will automate and streamline SCDHHS' contract management process. Please review the memo in its entirety as this new system will have an impact on school districts' Rehabilitation and Related Services contracts with the SCDHHS.

The memo shares the capabilities of the new system, as well as the [instructions](#) that districts must adhere to in order to view and sign the contract. Please be sure that the memo and instructions are passed on to the appropriate staff within your district (e.g., Superintendent or Financial Officers) who will be responsible for viewing and signing the SCDHHS contract (if that person is someone other than yourself).

Please direct questions related to the contract management system to the SCDHHS contract management team by calling (864) 660-4200 Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. or emailing ContractManagementSystem@scdhhs.gov.

South Carolina Recovery Audit Contractor

On September 10, 2024, the SCDHHS released a [bulletin](#) to inform Medicaid providers that the SCDHHS has awarded a contract to Health Management Systems, Inc. (HMS) to act as the agency's recovery audit contractor (RAC). Per federal regulations (42 CFR 455.500 et. seq.) all states are required to establish a RAC program to promote and ensure the integrity of the Medicaid program. Additionally, the purpose of the RAC program is to identify and recover overpayments made to Medicaid providers, and to identify underpayments.

Beginning October 1, 2024, the SCDHHS contractor, HMS will resume the review of Medicaid claims submitted by providers and may request medical records from providers as needed to substantiate the claims. Therefore, if your district receives a request for medical records from HMS, please contact and consult with the HMS at the number and information provided by HMS.

Please read the bulletin in its entirety for complete understanding, and access the links provided within the bulletin to ensure that you have all the information needed. Additionally, please note that a review via the RAC is completely different from a Payment Error Rate Measurement (PERM) review. For more information regarding PERM, review the June 18, 2024 [bulletin](#) released by the SCDHHS.

Quality Assurance (QA)

QA Review Trends

- Referrals: The referring provider's title must be included on all referrals.
- Signatures: Proxy signatures are not accepted on any documentation for Medicaid billing purposes (e.g., Consent, referrals, evaluation/ reevaluation, Treatment plan).
- Signature sheets: The signature sheet must include staff name, signature and initials.
- Special Needs Transportation (SNT):
 - SNT logs must include all requirements listed in the SNT checklist and include the driver's signature.
 - Ensure that the SNT logs utilized are the current and SCDE approved.
- IHP: The Individualized Health Plan (IHP) must be completed, signed, titled and dated by the Nurse prior to the first day of service.

Referrals

The SCDHHS has communicated that Medicaid will reimburse for physical therapy (PT) services when the referral is completed by a Physician Assistant (PA) or Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) as the Medical Practice Act (S.C. Code Ann. Sec. 40-47-935) and Nursing Practice Act (S.C. Code Ann. Sec. 40-33-34(D)(2)(c)) were updated to include that an APRN and PA can both refer for physical therapy services. The Licensed Practitioner of the Healing Arts (LPHA) Referral for School-Based Rehabilitative Services (SBRS) [form](#) will be updated to reflect this information on the OMS webpage (under the SBRS section). Please reach out to your district's assigned EA should you have any questions or concerns.

School District Administrative Claiming (SDAC)

First Quarter SDAC Invoices

The OMS has begun submitting districts' first quarter invoices to the SCDHHS for payment. Please ensure that all financial data has been entered and the first financial quarter has been closed within the SDAC Application, so that an invoice can be generated for the district. Notification will be sent to the district when invoices are available for electronic signature.

Finance officials designated by the school district to sign the quarterly invoice(s) must have access to the SDAC application to electronically sign the invoice. The designated official cannot sign the quarterly invoice through another finance official's login. Therefore, if access is needed by a new finance official, please send the designated signee's name and email address to Kareyah Harrison at kharrison@ed.sc.gov so that the new finance official can be granted access to the SDAC Application and electronically sign the invoice.

SDAC Quarter Samples

The second quarter's Random Moment Samples (RMS) were released on September 30, 2024, with sample dates ranging from October 2, 2024, through December 31, 2024. District SDAC Coordinators should be working with the district's sample participants on completing second quarter SDAC samples daily. Remember, all samples must be completed by the sample participant or marked absent by the SDAC Coordinator (when applicable) within two

business days of the RMS due date and time. If you have any questions, regarding this quarter's RMS, please contact Ophelia [McClary](#) at omccclary@ed.sc.gov or by phone at 843-372-2393, and Marquita [Taylor](#) at mstaylor@ed.sc.gov or by phone at 803-734-9180 for assistance.

School District Administrative Claiming (SDAC) Fee Letters

SDAC annual fee letters were issued by the OMS during August 2024 to the school districts' Chief Financial Officer(s) (CFO) and SDAC Coordinator(s) via email. There are still a few outstanding districts to which follow up emails have been sent to remit payment. Please ensure that the SDAC annual fee letter has been received by your school district and follow-up with the OMS as required. If you believe that the fee letter was not received, please contact Ophelia McClary at omccclary@ed.sc.gov or 843-372-2393 or Marquita Taylor at mstaylor@ed.sc.gov or 803-734-9180.

SDAC Calendar

As the end of the second financial quarter nears, please review the SDAC 2024-25 calendar on the [OMS webpage](#) to identify dates and deadlines of activities that are to be conducted during the OND quarter. Information specific to sampling quarters, sample dates, sample date exclusions, and invoice due dates are included in the calendar.

Special Needs Transportation (SNT)

SNT Payments to Districts

The Office of Medicaid Services will be issuing \$531,442.85 in Special Needs Transportation (SNT) payments to 70 school districts during December 2024. The SNT payment will be reflected in the monthly reports sent to districts from the SCDE Office of Finance as Sub Fund 800 and Revenue Code 1930. The total SNT payments to school districts for calendar year 2023, is \$760,597.43. If you have any concerns regarding your district's SNT payment, contact Ophelia McClary at omccclary@ed.c.gov, or Marquita Taylor at mstaylor@ed.sc.gov.

SNT Student Roster

The student roster within the SNT application populates from PowerSchool. SNT Coordinators who notice that students are missing from the student roster in the SNT application should reach out to their PowerSchool Coordinator or designated district staff for assistance. Often, the issue is related to the instructional setting of the student record in PowerSchool. For the student information to transfer from PowerSchool into the SNT application, the student's instructional setting must be set to 'SE,' 'SR,' or 'SP.' Once a student's instructional setting is changed, it may then take up to 48 hours before the student can be seen in the SNT application.

Monthly & Quarterly Meetings

SCDHHS Provider Trainings

On Thursday, October 24, 2024, the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) published a [bulletin](#) announcing upcoming Healthy Connections

Medicaid provider training opportunities that are available November 2024 –January 2025. Training topics include Medicaid Basics, Comprehensive Web Tool, Overview of Claim-level Adjustments and Third-Party Liability (TPL), and Maximus Managed Care Enrollment Trainings. To schedule a training, please email providertrainings@maximus.com. If you have questions, please contact Michelle LeMoine at (803) 834-9956 or MichelleWLeMoine@maximus.com. To register for a workshop, please visit the Medicaid eLearning site, www.medicaidlearning.com or call the Provider Service Center (PSC) at (888) 289-0709 and select option 1. Additional training resources for providers are also available online through the Medicaid eLearning site.

QA Meeting- Second Quarter (Q2)

The second quarter QA meeting was held virtually on December 2, 2024. There were two sessions available for districts to attend. During the quarterly meetings, the training covered Occupational and Physical Therapy services. Meeting invitations were sent to the DEIM system's assigned Medicaid Coordinators.

Quarterly meetings are always open to all LEA service providers and staff (e.g., Speech Language Pathologists (SLP), Occupational Therapists (OT), Physical Therapists (PT), nurses, Medicaid Coordinators, and Medicaid Billing Clerks). Any district staff deemed appropriate by the district are welcome to attend. Please submit questions and topics that you would like to be discussed in subsequent quarterly meetings to your district's assigned EA or the OMS at medicaidservices@ed.sc.gov.

Second Quarter SDAC & SNT Meeting/Training

The next training for both the SDAC and SNT programs will take place on Wednesday, December 11, 2024. The agenda for the meeting has not been established at this time but will be forthcoming. If there are any specific topics or issues that you would like to discuss please contact the OMS' Fiscal Managers, Ophelia McClary and Marquita Taylor, or Program Coordinator, Ronette Weeks.

TELL US

What topics would you like us to address in the monthly newsletter? It is our goal to support our districts and give them all the information that they need to be successful in billing and providing Medicaid Services. Send all topics to our office email address medicaidservices@ed.sc.gov.