

February 2026



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

Medicaid Updates

Audiology Services Policy Updates

On December 23, 2025, the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services published a [bulletin](#) announcing that effective for dates of service on or after Jan. 1, 2026, the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) will update certain State Plan audiology services rendered by audiologists; local education agencies (LEA); and Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Part C, commonly referred to as BabyNet, providers. These changes are needed to comply with the 2026 American Medical Association (AMA), Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®)1 code updates received from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in December 2025.

These policy updates have been published in the Rehabilitative Therapy and Audiological Services provider manual and Local Education Agencies Services provider [manual](#). Criteria, limitations and reimbursement rates for these CPT codes are included in the [bulletin](#). The Medicaid LEA Fee Schedule will be updated and posted on the OMS webpage. It should be noted these changes will not impact the QA reviews currently being conducted.

Medicaid Web Tool Sign-in Change

Starting February 16, 2026, providers will utilize ID.me to log in to the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services' (SCDHHS') Medicaid Web Tool at www.scdhhs.gov/providers. You will need to register for a free ID.me account to access the web tool. Please review the [FAQs](#) for signing in to the Medicaid Web Tool with ID.me.

If you need help to log in to the Web Tool, please call the Provider Service Center. The phone number is (888) 289-0709. They are open Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Quality Assurance (QA)

Medicaid Consent Reminder

The OMS would like to remind districts that there have been no changes with the SCDHHS consent policy. Each district is required to obtain written consent prior to rendering and billing Medicaid for services. The OMS Medicaid General Consent form posted on the OMS [webpage](#) includes both the consent to treat and consent to bill Medicaid and/or a private third-party insurer for services.

QA Review Trends

The following are the most common findings in QA reviews so far for the 2025 – 2026 review year:

- Referrals: The referring provider's title must be included on all referrals.
- Signatures: All documentation (i.e., referrals, evaluations/reevaluations, Individualized Education Programs [IEP]/Individualized Family Service Plans [IFSP], Individualized Treatment Plan [ITP], Individualized Health Plan [IHP], Individualized Plan of Care [IPOC], clinical service notes, and progress summaries) must be signed, titled, and dated.
- Treatment Plans (IEP/IFSP/ITP)
 - All treatment plans (i.e., IEP, IFSP, ITP) must be signed by the Occupational and Physical Therapists. Occupational and Physical Therapy Assistants shall perform their duties in accordance with applicable licensure requirements only after examination and evaluation of the child and development of a treatment plan have been completed by a licensed Occupational or Physical therapists.
 - Individualized Education Program (IEP) Signatures: For Medicaid billing purposes, supplemental excusal statements should only be used when a provider is not able to attend the IEP meeting. If the provider is attending the meeting virtually, the IEP must be signed, titled, and dated electronically or handwritten.
- Individualized Health Plan (IHP): IHPs must be completed, signed, titled and dated by the Registered Nurse (RN) prior to the first day of service.
- Progress Summaries: Progress summaries must be completed at least once every three months from the start date of treatment and must record the student's attendance at therapy sessions, document the student's progress towards treatment goals, and establish the need for continued treatment.
- Error Correction Procedures: The student's clinical record is a legal document. Appropriate procedures for the correction of errors in legal documents must be followed when correcting an error in a clinical record. Draw one line through the error, enter the correction and add signature/initials and date next to the correction.
- Personnel Records: Evidence of exclusion checks from Medicare or Medicaid programs must be completed prior to the start of employment and annually thereafter. The exclusion checks must be date stamped for the year in review.
- Nursing:
 - Rest periods and observation activities are not billable under Medicaid guidelines. Observation is included in the direct services payment as long as the nurse (RN or LPN) is attending to one individual during a face-to-face encounter.
 - The district should bill nursing procedure code T1502 when administering medication.
 - All clinical service notes (CSNs) must include a narrative summary. Documentation provided by the district that does not include a narrative summary, cannot be used as a CSN.

QA Application Clarification

The OMS' QA Application is utilized to track and complete the review of school districts throughout the state. When adding text from an external source to the QA application (i.e., copy and paste), the "Paste as plain text" (CTRL + SHIFT + V) option should be selected when pasting content into the application. Please refrain from using "Paste" (CTRL + V). Making this selection will prevent error messages while working within the QA application. If you have any questions or concerns about the QA Application, please contact your district's assigned Education Associate (EA).

School District Administrative Claiming (SDAC)

SDAC Second Quarter Completion Rate

The OMS would like to extend a special thank you to each district's SDAC participants and coordinators for your commitment to completing the second quarter SDAC samples. By working together, we were able to achieve a 91% completion rate of all samples issued for the second quarter. The OMS thanks each of you for all that you do to ensure that samples are completed, which in return maximizes reimbursement to districts for administrative activities provided by staff in schools.

SDAC Third Quarter – January, February, March (JFM) '26

District SDAC Coordinators can review their Quarterly Observation Report, via the SDAC application, to view the number of random moment samples scheduled for each day of the quarter. The quarterly observations report does not indicate which participant will receive a sample but does indicate the date and time. The Quarterly Observations Report can be used as a guide or confirmation for the SDAC Coordinator to ensure that all samples are being responded to.

SDAC Application Access

SDAC Coordinators requesting SDAC application access for their participants are asked to complete the following steps prior to adding participants to their Participant Rosters via the SDAC application:

1. Verify with the district assigned Web Access Coordinator (WAC) that the participant(s) have an existing SCDE user account.
2. Download the SDAC Application Access Request [Template](#) from the OMS' webpage and fill out all pertinent information regarding each SDAC participant in need of SDAC application access.
3. Email the completed template to Kareyah Harrison at kharrison@ed.sc.gov.

Following the OMS' review, the completed template will be returned to the SDAC Coordinator, via email, as official confirmation that SDAC application access has been granted for each listed participant. For additional inquiries or requests regarding SDAC application access for other roles (e.g., coordinator or finance), please contact Kareyah Harrison via email at kharrison@ed.sc.gov.

Second Quarter – October, November, December (OND) 25' SDAC Costs

The funding quarter officially began on January 12, 2026, allowing district Finance Coordinators access to entering district SDAC costs. Templates for each financial section are available for use on the OMS' [webpage](#) of the SCDE website. Finance Coordinators may also utilize the "Copy Costs to Current Quarter" feature made available in the SDAC application. The School District Administrative Claiming (SDAC) Finance Training [guide](#) provides guidance on using these features. Please allow time for the district's funding to be reviewed, approved, and an invoice generated. If assistance is needed, please contact Marquita Taylor at mstaylor@ed.sc.gov.

Special Needs Transportation (SNT)

SNT Student Table

The Office of Research and Data Analysis (ORDA) is continuously working on ensuring that there are no delays in transferring student data from PowerSchool into the SNT application to allow for student/bus assignments. Districts should continue to notify OMS staff, Kareyah Harrison at kharrison@ed.sc.gov or Marquita Taylor at mstaylor@ed.sc.gov, when students are not reflected in the application. Prior to contacting the OMS, please confirm that students are recorded in PowerSchool with the proper instructional setting of SE, SR, or SP.

SNT Payments & Ridership Logs

All December SNT payments have been issued to districts. The OMS is pleased to share that the December 2025 SNT total paid to districts was \$462,318.85. The June and December payments gave a cumulative total of \$1,127,045.24 to districts for calendar year 2025. We thank each district for their continued support of the SNT program.

Some districts may see reduced amounts than previously received due to incomplete or missing ridership logs. An audit of each district's SNT ridership logs has been completed and district SNT Coordinators have received email notifications identifying the number of incomplete or unsigned logs. Please review the email and make the necessary corrections for the district to maximize reimbursement on the June 2026 payment. If any questions or concerns arise regarding the email, please contact Kareyah Harrison at kharrison@ed.sc.gov or (803) 734-4850. If there are any discrepancies or concerns regarding the district's payment, please contact Marquita Taylor at mstaylor@ed.sc.gov or (803) 734-9180.

Meetings & Trainings

Individual District Training

As part of the QA team's efforts to reduce district discrepancies for the OMS' 1-4-1-4 strategic plan, the QA team will begin conducting individual district training beginning in the fourth quarter (April, May, and June) 2026. Each district will receive an invitation via email from their district's Education Associate (EA). These notifications will be received at least 30 days in advance of the scheduled training.

This training will be mandatory for the district's service providers (e.g., Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Speech Therapy, Rehabilitative Behavioral Health Services, etc.) and Medicaid Coordinators to attend. If all district service providers cannot attend, the QA team requests that the service provider team leads attend the training. Further details will be provided to the Medicaid Coordinators.

2025 – 2026 Third Quarter (Q3) QA Meeting

The next QA quarterly meeting will be held virtually on March 26, 2026. There will be two sessions available for districts to attend at 10:00AM and 2:00PM. During the meetings we will feature training on Speech and Audiology Services. The calendar invitation will be sent to the DEIMS assigned Medicaid Coordinator, Special Education Director, and RBHS Coordinator.

The quarterly meeting is 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 during the quarterly meeting on or before March 12, 2026 to your district's assigned EA or the OMS at medicaidservices@ed.sc.gov.

SCDHHS Provider Trainings

On Monday, January 26, 2026, the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) published a [bulletin](#) announcing upcoming Healthy Connections Medicaid provider training opportunities that are available February 2026 – April 2026. 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.

2025 – 2026 Third Quarter (JFM '26) SDAC & SNT Meeting

The next quarterly meetings for both the SDAC & SNT programs will be held Wednesday, February 18, 2026, at 10am and 2pm. The meeting invitations were sent out on Thursday, January 22, 2026, to district SDAC and SNT Coordinators as well as district Finance Coordinators. If there are any topics that district coordinators would like discussed at the third quarter meeting, please send any program related requests to Kareyah Harrison at kharrison@ed.sc.gov and finance related requests to Marquita Taylor at mstaylor@ed.sc.gov so that we may plan accordingly.

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.