

July 2026



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

Medicaid Updates

Welcome Aboard

Please join the Office of Health and Nutrition (OHN) Medicaid Services Program in welcoming Lisa Ragland to the team! Lisa joined OHN on July 17, 2026, and will serve as an Education Associate (EA) on the Quality Assurance (QA) Team. In this role, she will help ensure compliance with Medicaid policies and procedures and provide technical assistance to school districts.

Lisa brings more than 19 years of Medicaid experience and extensive expertise in Medicaid policies and procedures, program coordination, policy compliance, and quality assurance. Her wealth of knowledge will be a tremendous asset to both the team and the districts we serve.

Lisa holds a Master of Social Work (MSW) degree and is a Certified Public Manager (CPM). We are excited to welcome her to SCDE and look forward to the contributions she will make through her Medicaid expertise, leadership experience, training delivery skills, and strong community partnerships.

Local Education Agency

The academic year 2026 – 2027 has arrived, and the Medicaid Service Program is prepared to assist districts in all things Medicaid! The Medicaid Service Program looks forward to working alongside districts to ensure that services needed by students throughout South Carolina can be provided and reimbursed by Medicaid while ensuring that districts adhere to Medicaid policy and procedures. There have been staff changes in the Medicaid Service Program. The Medicaid Service Program staff now consists of the following people and roles:

- Vanesha Perrin, Director
- Kareyah Harrison, Program Coordinator II (School District Administrative Claiming (SDAC) & Special Needs Transportation (SNT) programs)
- Marquita Taylor, Fiscal Manager
- Thomas Douglas, Education Associate/Quality Assurance Reviewer
- Lisa Ragland, Education Associate/Quality Assurance Reviewer
- Maureen Ryan, Education Associate/Quality Assurance Reviewer

- Sylvia Tutt, Program Manager
- Ruth Vazquez, Education Associate/Quality Assurance Reviewer

Local Education Agencies (LEA) Provider Manual

The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) has informed the Office of Health and Nutrition (OHN) Medicaid Services program that there will be no updates to the LEA Manual at this time. SCDHHS is conducting a thorough review of the policy manual and will release a bulletin when updates are completed and open for public feedback.

Medicaid Enrollment of Ordering, Referring and Prescribing (ORP) Providers

The Office of Health and Nutrition Medicaid Services Program communicated with the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) regarding the bulletin bulletins [MB# 25-015](#) and [MB# 26-016](#). These bulletins do not apply to LEAs. The district employed referring providers do not need to enroll with Medicaid. Should you have any questions, please reach out to your district assigned Education Associate.

Reminder to Protect Medicaid Enrollment Information

On May 6, 2026, the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) published a [bulletin](#) reminding all enrolled Medicaid providers of the importance of safeguarding provider identifiers, login credentials and all information associated with Medicaid enrollment.

Unauthorized access to provider information can result in fraudulent billing, inappropriate account changes, and potential program integrity concerns. Providers are responsible for safeguarding enrollment-related information and ensuring access is limited to authorized personnel to prevent fraud, improper billing or unauthorized changes.

Providers must promptly report any suspected compromise of information or unusual activity to SCDHHS' Provider Service Center (PSC). Notification can occur by calling (888) 289-0709, option four, from 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday; or by contacting a provider representative via the agency's [website](#).

District and Entity Information Management Systems (DEIMS)

Please ensure that your district's contact information for program leads (e.g., Medicaid Coordinator, SDAC Coordinator, SNT Coordinator, RBHS Coordinator, etc.) are updated in DEIMS. School districts are responsible for updating information in DEIMS at the beginning of each new school year and throughout the school year as needed. The DEIMS contact list is used for all communication. It is imperative that your district's contact list is up to date to ensure that your district receives all Medicaid Services Program information and communication. If you need assistance with updating your district's contact list, please contact your district's Web Access Coordinator (WAC).

Quality Assurance (QA)

District Assigned Education Associate

The Medicaid Services Program has made changes to district assigned EAs, and all districts have been notified of their assigned EA/Quality Assurance Reviewer for the 2026 – 2027 review year (RY) via email. If you have not received notification of your district's assigned EA for the 2026 – 2027 RY, please inform the Medicaid Services Program by submitting an email to medicaidservices@ed.sc.gov.

QA Review Process

The QA review process will be carried out differently by the Medicaid Services Program this year with desk audits and onsite district training. Please review the QA review date notification email that was sent out to districts on July 1, 2026. The District Medicaid QA Preparation Guide RY26-27 will be posted on the Medicaid Services webpage soon which outlines the QA process in great detail. Should you have any questions about the QA Process, please reach out to your district assigned EA.

Audit Dates for RY2026 – 2027

The Medicaid Services Program will begin conducting QA reviews for the 2026 – 2027 review year in July 2026. Districts were notified of their review date on July 1, 2026, via the QA Application and email from the district assigned EA. Should you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to your district assigned Education Associate (EA).

School District Administrative Claiming (SDAC)

First Quarter (Q1) – July, August, September (JAS) '26

To identify the number of random moment samples scheduled to be released for each day of the quarter, districts' SDAC Coordinator(s) can review the Quarterly Observations Report in the SDAC application by selecting the "Reports" tab. The Quarterly Observations Report does not indicate which participant will receive a sample but does indicate the date and time that a sample will be received by a random participant. The Quarterly Observations Report may also be utilized by the SDAC Coordinator to view samples pulled for validation and the activity/response(s) of completed samples. Should you have any questions, concerns, or need assistance accessing your district's Quarterly Observations Report, please contact Kareyah Harrison at kharrison@ed.sc.gov.

Fourth Quarter (AMJ 2026) SDAC Funding

Fourth quarter SDAC funding invoices have not yet been generated due to delays associated with system updates to the SDAC application. Districts that have already submitted funding entries can be assured that their submissions have been received and are currently under review. If any discrepancies are identified or additional information is needed during the review process, districts will be contacted directly for clarification. Once the application updates are complete, invoices will be generated for all approved districts. Notification of invoice availability will be sent through the SDAC application via a system-generated email. Districts that have not yet

submitted fourth-quarter funding entries may still do so at this time. For questions or assistance, please contact Marquita Taylor at mstaylor@ed.sc.gov.

SDAC Budget Increases for New Contract Period

The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) has approved budget increases for all participating SDAC districts for the upcoming three-year contract period, covering academic years 2026–27 through 2028–29. Updated budget allocations are being shared with districts prior to their SDAC breakout sessions scheduled by Medicaid Services Program Coordinator, Kareyah Harrison. These increases are intended to help districts maximize eligible Medicaid reimbursement opportunities, particularly those that have historically exceeded their allocated budgets. The increased funding is not intended to encourage districts to add participants unnecessarily. Districts choosing to enroll additional participants should ensure that all SDAC eligibility requirements are fully met. Districts that do not have additional eligible participants will not be negatively impacted by these budget adjustments. For questions or concerns, please contact Marquita Taylor at mstaylor@ed.sc.gov.

Coordinator SDAC Application Access

SDAC or Finance Coordinators must follow the steps below (in the order documented) to gain access to the SDAC application:

1. Confirm with the district's Web Access Coordinator (WAC) that the staff has an active SCDE user account.
2. Confirm with the WAC that the staff has been added to the District & Entity Information Management System (DEIMS) with the role of "Medicaid School District Administrative Claiming."
3. Email Kareyah Harrison at kharrison@ed.sc.gov and provide the following details:
 - Staff's full name (i.e., first and last name)
 - Staff's email address associated with their SCDE user account
 - Type of access needed based on role (i.e., SDAC Coordinator or Finance Coordinator)

Should you have any further questions, please contact Kareyah Harrison via email at kharrison@ed.sc.gov.

Participant 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 WAC that the participant(s) has an active SCDE user account.
2. Download the SDAC Application Access Request [Template](#) from the Medicaid Services 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 Medicaid Services 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.

Special Needs Transportation (SNT)

SNT Bi-annual Payments

Reimbursement payments for Special Needs Transportation (SNT) services were distributed by SCDE Finance on or around June 22, 2026, as part of the agency's monthly payment processing cycle. Districts can locate these payments on their payment reports under Sub Fund 800 and Revenue Code 1930 – Special Needs Transportation. A payment memorandum was also distributed to districts on July 21, 2026, outlining each district's reimbursement amount. For questions or concerns regarding SNT reimbursements, please contact the Medicaid Services Fiscal Manager, Marquita Taylor, at mstaylor@ed.sc.gov or (803) 734-9180.

SNT Application: Missing Drivers

If drivers are not present in the SNT application, SNT Coordinators should take the following action:

- Confirm the driver's certification status with the SCDE's Office of Transportation by contacting Crystal Leaphart via email at cleaphart@ed.sc.gov or via telephone at 803-734-8245.
- After conformation, promptly notify Kareyah Harrison at kharrison@ed.sc.gov by email and include the driver's credentials (i.e., licensing and certification) for further review.

SNT Application: 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 Medicaid Services Program Coordinator, Kareyah Harrison at kharrison@ed.sc.gov and Marquita Taylor at mstaylor@ed.sc.gov, when students are not reflected in the application. Prior to contacting the Medicaid Services Program, please confirm that students are recorded in PowerSchool with the proper instructional setting of SE, SR, or SP.

Meetings & Trainings

2025 – 2026 Fourth Quarter (Q4) QA Meeting

Thank you to the 87 participants that attended the Q4 QA quarterly meeting held on Wednesday, June 18, 2026. The QA Team informed the districts of changes made to the QA review process for the upcoming 2026-2027 review year. The New District's Preparation Guide draft was presented

during this meeting and will be posted on the Medicaid Services webpage soon. If districts have any additional questions, please reach out to your district's assigned EA or the OHN at medicaidservices@ed.sc.gov.

2026 – 2027 First Quarter (Q1) QA Meeting

The next QA quarterly meeting is tentatively scheduled to be held virtually on Tuesday, September 15, 2026. There will be two sessions available for districts to attend at 10:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. The training topic will be forthcoming. The meeting invite will be emailed to the DEIMS assigned Medicaid Coordinator and RBHS Coordinator. Please submit questions and topics that you would like to be discussed during the quarterly meeting to your district assigned EA or the Medicaid Services Program at medicaidservices@ed.sc.gov on or before September 1, 2026.

SCDHHS Provider Trainings

On Tuesday, June 30, 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 July 2026 – September 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 providrtrainings@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.

SY 2026-27 SDAC Application Training

The SDAC Application Training invitation was distributed via email on June 2, 2026, to District SDAC Coordinators identified in the DEIMS application. The invitation announced two virtual training sessions held on June 29 and June 30, 2026, which focused on recent updates to the SDAC application. Session one addressed participant requirements and application changes, while session two focused on SDAC Coordinator requirements. Both sessions included live demonstrations, guidance on navigating the updated system, and opportunities for discussion and questions.

Since the initial training sessions have concluded, 91 district attendees participated across both sessions, providing districts with an overview of the application enhancements and the changes that took effect on July 1, 2026. These updates significantly impact how Random Moment Samples are coded and reviewed, making coordinator participation and understanding critical to a successful transition. As a continuation of this support effort, breakout sessions were scheduled to provide more personalized assistance and district-specific guidance. To date, the first breakout session has been completed, with representatives from 13 districts in attendance. These sessions offer coordinators the opportunity to receive individualized support, review district-specific scenarios, and address questions related to the implementation of the updated SDAC application.

Five additional breakout sessions remain scheduled between July 28 and August 6, 2026, ensuring districts continue to receive targeted support as they adapt to the new requirements and processes. Overall, the training initiative has been designed to promote a smooth and successful transition across all participating districts. Coordinators who were unable to attend the initial training sessions or their assigned breakout session are encouraged to reschedule and should contact Kareyah Harrison at kharrison@ed.sc.gov for assistance.

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.