

School Based Health Services Participation Criteria

Medicaid is a state and federal partnership focused on funding health and medical services for enrolled beneficiaries. The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) is Oregon's State Medicaid Agency. Oregon's School Based Health Services (SBHS) Medicaid program, also referred to as School Medicaid, allows an Education Agency (EA) to enroll as a school medical provider and leverage Medicaid for partial reimbursement for the cost of covered health services provided to Medicaid enrolled children and young adults. Participating in SBHS Medicaid reimbursement programs can be a great way of recouping costs. There are two programs in Oregon, administrative and direct:

- Medicaid Administrative Claiming (MAC) provides reimbursement for claimable activities related to the administration of Medicaid, such as referrals to medical, behavioral, vision or dental services, assisting a student/family with enrollment in the Oregon Health Plan (OHP), and coordination of Medicaid services to OHP enrolled providers.
- Direct service billing provides EAs with partial reimbursement for covered health services provided to Medicaid-enrolled children and young adults aged birth through 21.

There are two requirements that schools must meet to be eligible to participate in the SBHS Medicaid direct services program. Schools must meet the definition of Education Agency¹ and they must meet OHA's [federally approved](#) financial reporting requirements for calculating cost-based rates. This document is designed to assist schools in determining whether they meet both requirements.

1. Education Agency Definition Requirement

The definition of education agency requires that a school be a local unit of government. OHA has determined that the entities with a green check mark meet the definition of education agency.

- ✓ Public School District
- ✓ Education Service District (ESD)
- ✓ Public Charter School
- ✓ Youth Corrections Education Program (YCEP) with Education Services Provided by an ODE Contracted Public School District or ESD
- ✓ Oregon Department of Education (ODE) approved Recovery School Operated by a Charter School
- ✓ ODE approved Recovery School Operated by a School District or ESD
- ✓ Public Alternative Education Program

¹ Education Agency, as defined by OAR 410-133-0040, means a public school district, education service district, Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education contractor or subcontractor, or a state institution providing educational or transition services to children or young adults, birth through age 21, that is also considered a local unit of government pursuant to 42 CFR 433.51. *OHA is currently seeking legal opinion on whether Private Alternative Education and Non-Profit Alternative Education Programs meet the definition of Education Agency.

2. Cost-Based Rate Requirement

OHA's federally approved cost methodology is based on prior year audits that are submitted to ODE. Does your education program submit an audit to ODE? EAs that do not have a green check mark below should verify their ODE financial reporting processes.

- ✓ Public School District
- ✓ Education Service District (ESD)
- ✓ Youth Corrections Education Program (YCEP) with Education Services Provided by an ODE contracted Public School District or ESD
- ✓ ODE approved Recovery School Operated by a School District or ESD
- ✓ Public Alternative Education Program
- ? Public Charter School
- ? ODE approved Recovery School Operated by a Charter School

3. Next Steps

- If both requirements are met for SBHS Medicaid direct service billing, the EA will need to enroll as a School Medical Provider with OHA; individual schools may not enroll.
- If you are a charter school and unsure of your financial reporting processes, please reach out to the ODE contact listed below.
- If your school meets the definition of education agency but not the cost-rate requirement, you may still be eligible to participate in MAC.
- Please see ODE's [School Medicaid: Guide to Getting Started](#) web page for additional information. You may also contact ODE and OHA staff with questions and/or request a meeting (see below).

State Contacts:

- **Joint ODE/OHA Onboarding Meeting or Content in this Document:** Jennifer Dundon (ODE) at jennifer.dundon@ode.oregon.gov
- **MAC:** OHA Medicaid at medicaid.sbhs@oha.oregon.gov