

Oregon School Medicaid Administrative Claiming (MAC)

Medicaid Administrative Claiming (MAC) is a leveraging program that 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.



What are the Benefits?

The school setting provides a unique opportunity to deliver healthcare services to children and adolescents, especially those enrolled in Medicaid. School Based Health Services (SBHS), including but not limited to preventive care, mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) services, physical and occupational therapy, and disease management have been shown to improve both health and academic outcomes.

Schools play an important role in bridging equity gaps among students in low-income and rural communities where access to healthcare services may be more limited. MAC plays a significant role in mapping, connecting and sustaining access to healthcare services for children.

Participation in MAC:

- Strengthens local relationships among planning bodies, service providers, and public entities.
- Diversifies the funding base for needed health and social service programs.
- Reinvests Medicaid funds into health and social services for schools in collaboration with other community agencies.



Who Can Participate in the MAC Program?

MAC participation must occur through an Education Service District (ESD) that holds an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with the Oregon Health Authority (OHA). The following education agencies may participate in the MAC program by contracting with an ESD that holds a MAC IGA with OHA:

- ESDs
- Public school districts
- Public charter schools
- Public recovery schools

How Does it Work?

MAC uses a Random Moment Time Study (RMTS) methodology using three survey periods (quarters) annually to include:

- Fall: September 1 – December 31
- Winter: January 1 – March 31
- Spring: April 1 – June 30



The RMTS is designed to be representative of an entire survey period and is used to measure the percentage of time education agency (EA) survey participants spend on Medicaid administrative activities. On each assigned RMTS date, participating individuals report the activities they perform throughout their paid workday under specific activity codes. This occurs through OHA's MAC web-based data capture system, which maintains all claims supporting documentation, generates time study results and provides claims data.

What are Claimable MAC Activity Codes?

Claimable MAC activities fall into the following categories:

B1: Medicaid Outreach and OHP Enrollment Support	C1: Referral, Coordination, Monitoring, and Training
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Informing families about Medicaid/OHP● Helping with applications and renewals● Explaining benefits and services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Referring students to OHP-enrolled providers● Coordinating follow-ups for medical services & monitoring care access (mental health, physical therapy, etc.)
D1: Translation and Transportation Coordination for OHP Covered Services	E1: Program Planning, Policy Development, and Interagency Coordination
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Arranging transportation to OHP-covered medical appointments● Providing or coordinating translation for medical care access	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Participating in health-related program development● Collaborating with agencies to expand or improve access to OHP services

What is a MAC Cost Pool and Who Can Participate?

The cost pool is the group of survey participants whose salary and benefits are used to calculate the amount of reimbursable time spent on MAC activities. Staff who are allowed to participate in the RMTS are individuals who engage students and their families to provide MAC related activities and often do so. Individuals who are funded entirely by federal dollars are not allowed to participate in the RMTS.

Common examples of individuals eligible to participate in the RMTS:

- Administrators (Principals, Assistant Principals, Special Education Directors, Program Managers)
- Teachers (General Education, Special Education, English as a Second Language/English Language Development, Social Emotional Learning)
- Educational Assistants / Instructional Aides
- Counselors (Teachers Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC)-Licensed or Licensed Professional Counselors)
- Social Workers (TSPC-licensed or Licensed Clinical Social Workers)
- Psychologists (TSPC-Licensed or Clinically Licensed)
- Individuals Involved in Establishing or Assessing Health Policy and Procedures or Providing OHP Outreach (e.g., Registered Nurses, Administrators, Counselors, Directors, Support Staff, Speech-Language Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists, Psychologists)
- Family Advocates/Care Coordinators

Please note: While SBHS-recognized providers may participate in MAC as well as direct service billing, they cannot claim coordination or monitoring activities considered integral to or an extension of direct medical services in the MAC program.

Oregon Data

As of Spring period 2025, 73 EAs are participating in MAC of which 11 are ESDs and 62 are school districts. OHA anticipates the onboarding of an additional 13 EA's during the Fall 2025 period because of efforts made by Wallowa County ESD's Regional Learning Cohort. The statewide total MAC reimbursement for 2023-2024 was \$17,985,095.92.

How Education Agencies Have Used MAC Reimbursement

EAs are required to reinvest MAC reimbursement back into health and social services. This information is reported to OHA. EAs provide the project, MAC expenditure amount, and other funds expended for the project (if applicable). For 2023-2024, 25 EAs submitted expenditure reports.

	Nurse Services & Supplies	Mental & Behavioral Health
Utilized Funds	\$638,073.00	\$1,866,713.00
% of EAs	44%	32%

Want to Learn More?

Please contact OHA at medicaid.sbhs@oha.oregon.gov