

FAQ: School Medicaid Pilot

Information Session Questions

This document gives answers to common questions about School-Based Health Services.

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1. How is this different/same from School-Based Health Center and School-Based Mental Health Behavioral Health Clinicians?

- School Based Health Centers (SBHC) are clinics positioned on or near campuses to provide medical services to community members, including students, in support of overall health. School Based Health Services (SBHS) are services provided to children and young adults in school settings in support of each child or young adult's educational goals. SBHS is a separate program than SBHC.

2. How is this different/same from School-Based Health Center and School-Based Mental Health Behavioral Health Clinicians provided by Multnomah County? I know that those services are currently being considered being cut for schools.

- School Based Health Centers (SBHC) are clinics positioned on or near campuses to provide medical services to community members, including students, in support of overall health. School Based Health Services (SBHS) are services provided to children and young adults in school settings in support of each child or young adult's educational goals. SBHS is a separate program than SBHC.

3. Do you have an idea of how many pilot participating districts you can support?

- At this time, we are planning to support 10 pilot EAs.

4. If we are participating in MAC claiming, but not SBHS billing, are we eligible for the pilot?

- Yes.

5. Are small school districts encouraged to participate in the pilot program, or is it more geared towards ESDs?

- Yes, all interested districts and ESDs are encouraged to apply.

6. Under this project, are non-clinical providers such as Community Health Workers and Peer Support Specialist allowed to bill? If so, would they be under the same OARs as fee-for-service?

- Not at this time. These providers are not currently on the approved list of SBHS medically qualified providers.

7. Is there an estimated time commitment for the SBHS Medicaid Billing Pilot? (ex: hrs/wk)

- This is challenging to answer. There are many activities and tasks that require multiple staff members to be involved with. In this pilot, we are integrating all of the required steps into an implementation plan that will help EAs assign/track and monitor tasks so that the planning/setting/onboarding time is streamlined. There will be monthly check-in's for Medicaid Coordinators, and other assigned roles will need to attend virtual training/technical assistance/onboarding meetings.

8. When are TSPC licensed staff (eg. School Counselors and School Psychologists) going to be eligible for Medicaid Billing?

- This is in process. We will have more information about this in Fall 2025.

9. What was the OAR were those providers are listed?

- OAR 410-133-0120: Medically Qualified Individuals

10. Would it be possible for an ESD to apply in partnership with a component district or districts for the pilot?

- Yes. We encourage ESDs to get agreement from component district(s) prior to applying. It is a requirement for ESDs to have an MOU with component districts in place prior to submitting Medicaid billing.

11. Do you have sample MOUs between ESDs and SDs as models for this?

- Not that we are aware of. We suggest reviewing the FAQ from the September OHA Webinar. OHA has provided a list of elements that need to be agreed to between ESDs and component districts to avoid duplication of services.

12. Our district has been enrolled in SBHS billing and has been successful in the past. With the loss of staff and staff changes our program has fallen apart. This year we have a whole new team that is taking on the responsibilities with no prior training/information. Should our district pursue applying for the program?

- Yes.

13. We had participated in reimbursement a few years ago, then left the program due to challenges with many changes in coding requirements. Would ORMED support training with changes to coding requirements as they come up? We often found that we didn't know that codes were changed until it occurred, then had to recode many services. Yes, procedure codes! It just made the paperwork a big challenge. Thank you!

- Yes, procedure codes and ICD 10 /Diagnosis codes have been a challenge for School Based medically licensed staff. We are planning to provide training and technical assistance around this topic.

14. Are TSPC licensed school-based health care providers allowed to bill?

- Per OAR 410-133-0120 Medically Qualified Individuals, (bb) An educator licensed and endorsed, prior to July 1, 2016, by the Teacher Standards and Practice Commission (TSPC) with a Communication Disorder endorsement (speech language pathology), exempted in ORS 681.230(4) pursuant to SB287, who meets the following requirements: (i) Holds a Certificate of Clinical Competency (CCC) from the American Speech and Hearing Association (ASHA); or (ii) Has completed the equivalent educational requirements and work experience necessary for the certificate; or (iii) Has completed the academic program and is acquiring supervised work experience to qualify for the certificate; or (iv) Is authorized to administer speech therapy to an individual when the individual is a child or young adult eligible for special education, as defined by state or federal law, receiving speech therapy services pursuant to an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP).

15. If an ESD has an NPI for EI/ECSE, but is in the process of obtaining our NPI numbers for school based IDEA and NON-IDEA is the ESD eligible for the pilot?

- Yes.

16. Since the School Based Medicaid Expansion is a Federal Grant Program, is it likely to be impacted by the current proposed Medicaid cuts by the Federal government?

- At this time, we are moving forward with the pilot.

17. Do you know how many school districts in Oregon currently participate in SBHS Medicaid Billing?

- 25% of Oregon school districts participate in SBHS / Fee for Service

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