

Medicaid School Based Services Information and Answers for Families

Why are schools receiving Medicaid reimbursement?

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA) allows some Individual Education Program (IEP) services be partially reimbursed by Medicaid. School districts optimize the use of financial resources by submitting claims when possible.

What can schools submit Medicaid claims for?

Schools can only submit claims for medically related services outlined in the student's plan of care (IEP). In general, claimable services for a school district include: audiologist services, evaluation and testing, nursing services, occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy, psychological services, and social work services.

How do schools use the money they receive from Medicaid?

Money that school districts receive is applied to that system's general fund and can be used as that local school district determines.

Do schools need parental consent to submit Medicaid claims?

Yes. Schools are required to obtain consent from parents before submitting any school based service claims. The school needs parental consent to help offset the costs of services.

Will my school bill my private insurance as well?

No. Because there could be a cost incurred by the family, schools do not bill private insurance for IEP related services.

Will Medicaid services my family receives outside of school be affected?

No. Medicaid services received outside of school and school based service claims as part of the child's plan of care (IEP) are authorized separately. If outside services have been affected, families are encouraged to share concerns with Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

Does this process impact the school services my child will receive?

No. Schools are required to provide all IEP services even if the school cannot submit Medicaid claims.

Where can I get more information about this?

Your local school district's special education office or the Muskegon Area Intermediate School District are available to provide more information on how schools receiving Medicaid reimbursement impacts students.

Additional Sources of Information include:

Michigan Department of Health & Human Services
855-275-6424

Hearing impaired callers should contact the Michigan Relay Center at 711 or 800-649-3777 and ask for the number listed above.