

Medicaid Consent Clarification For Teachers and Parents

The Law

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) establishes a responsibility for the State Medicaid agency to reimburse school districts for medical services provided to Medicaid eligible students (Section 300.154) as determined by their IEP. Although the funding received does not completely cover the expense of these services, the contribution is very helpful and allows for more resources to children with disabilities in the district.

Requirements

- *Permission from parents.* Each year, parents must give their consent for the district to seek Medicaid reimbursements for services provided to their child.
- *Services listed on the IEP.* The individual student's IEP must define the related services necessary for the child to receive FAPE. The district can only be reimbursed for these services of students qualified to receive special education.
- *Documentation that services were provided.* A log must be kept that identifies the service given on a certain date by a qualified staff member.

Services that can be reimbursed

- Speech, language, and hearing
- Physical therapy
- Occupational therapy
- Mental health services
- Nursing
- Assistive technology equipment
- Personal care assistance

Information for parents

- Medicaid eligibility is very confidential. Staff members do not know who is and is not eligible, therefore we seek permission from everyone.
- **Medicaid benefits are not affected if the school district bills for services.**
- There is no cost to parents and families.
- Parent's permission given on the IEP allows the district to share information *about services* with CMS (Center for Medicaid Services) for the time specified on the IEP.
- Special education services are not changed or terminated if consent is not given.

Script for Explanation

We are required to obtain your consent if the school district seeks reimbursement from Medicaid for medically related services provided to your child. Your consent allows the district to share information about services with CMS (Center for Medicaid Services) for the time specified on the IEP. Because Medicaid eligibility is very confidential, staff members do not know who is and is not eligible. Therefore we seek consent from everyone. This will in no way affect any entitlements you or your child may have through Medicaid or other insurance providers. There is no cost to parents and families. Special education services are not changed or terminated if consent is not given.