

School Based Health Related Services and Medicaid Reimbursements

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Why are schools seeking reimbursement money from Medicaid?

School-based services are health-related and rehabilitative services provided to children with disabilities who receive services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). These services are provided by school districts and charter schools and are considered medically necessary for children to participate in their educational program.

School districts and charter schools that enroll as Medicaid providers can receive reimbursement for school-based services provided that:

- The child is eligible for Medicaid
- Each service is specifically identified on an Individualized Education Program (IEP)
- Services are medically necessary for a child to benefit from their educational program

What Services are Eligible for Reimbursements?

Schools can only seek reimbursements for medically-related services that are outlined in the student's IEP. The district receives partial reimbursement for providing the following services:

- Evaluations
- Medical Equipment and Supplies
- Nursing Services
- Speech/Audiological Therapy and Evaluation
- Occupational Therapy and Evaluation
- Physical Therapy and Evaluation
- Transportation Services
- Interpretive Services
- Psychotherapy
- Psychological Evaluation
- Psychosocial Rehabilitation
- Personal Care Services

How do schools use the reimbursement money they receive from Medicaid?

Reimbursement money that school districts receive is used to maintain and manage programs for students with special needs by providing more funding resources for staff, equipment, and supplies.

What information is shared with Medicaid?

The only information that is shared with Medicaid to access this funding is your child's last name, first name, date of birth, Medicaid ID number, date of service and the service being provided. This information is disclosed only in an effort to obtain partial reimbursement for services provided to your student.

How is the information shared?

The information is shared ONLY with Idaho Department of Health & Welfare through the HealthPAS network system. IDHW returns a Medicaid ID to us when your child is eligible for Medicaid services. The information is transferred through a secure connection. Information on the privacy policy can be obtained here:

<https://www.idmedicaid.com/PRC%20Information/MMS%20Portal%20%20Privacy%20Notice.pdf>

My student is not currently Medicaid eligible, why are you asking me for consent?

Pocatello/Chubbuck School District 25 does not know who is or is not eligible for Medicaid until information is shared. This consent request is to share information to identify which students are Medicaid eligible. We are seeking consent from all students who fit the criterion described.

Medicaid eligibility changes from month to month. It is our policy to seek consent from any student who meets the criteria and might become Medicaid eligible at a future date.

Will the school's billing affect or impact my family's Medicaid benefits?

The School-Based Services program does NOT impact a family's Medicaid services, funds, or limits. Idaho operates the School-Based Services program differently than the Family Medicaid program. The School-Based Services program does not affect your family's Medicaid benefits in any way.

Why is Pocatello/Chubbuck School District 25 asking for consent now?

The district sought your consent through the IEP in the past. Recently, the U.S. Department of Education Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (USDOE - OSERS) changed the consent requirements. Based on these changes, consent for sharing information and billing Medicaid is only necessary one time during your student's education in Pocatello/Chubbuck School District 25.

What if I want to change my consent decision?

This consent will be valid for the duration of your student's attendance in Pocatello/Chubbuck School District 25 or until it is changed at your direction (in writing) or he/she changes IEP services to the extent he/she does not meet the criterion for reimbursement. You have the right to refuse consent and you have the right to revoke consent to bill Medicaid. If you do not provide consent, the District will continue to provide the services but will not receive any Medicaid reimbursement for the services. If you grant consent and revoke it at a later time, the revocation will not be retroactive and the services performed during the time your consent was in place will still be billed to Medicaid.

What if I don't give consent?

Your child's educational program is based on his/her educational needs as defined by the Individualized Education Program (IEP). Your consent decision will in no way impact his/her services. Based on individual student need, services are provided to all students with disabilities regardless of the Medicaid consent status.

Privacy Promise

We understand that your medical and health information is personal. Protecting your health information is important. Pocatello/Chubbuck School District 25 follows strict federal and state laws that require us to maintain the confidentiality of your health information.

More questions?

Contact Pocatello/Chubbuck School District 25 Director of Special Services at (208) 235-3242 or Department of Health and Welfare Medicaid Policy Office (208) 364-1864.