

FAQS California Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI)

Q1. What is CYBHI?

The California Youth Behavioral Health Initiative, officially known as the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI), is a comprehensive, multi-year, \$4.4 billion initiative launched in July 2021. The primary goal is to transform the way California supports the mental, health and wellness of children and youth.

Q2. How does CYBHI benefit students in school?

The Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI) is designed to directly benefit children and families by bringing mental health and wellness services into schools and school-related settings, making care more accessible, comprehensive, and youth-centered.

Q3. Will parents or guardians know if their child is receiving school-based mental health and wellness services?

Yes. As a parent or guardian, you will be informed and your consent will be sought before your child receives ongoing individual mental health services at school through the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI). CVUSD requires parents or guardians to sign a consent form prior to initiating such services. In some cases, for brief check-ins or general wellness activities, CVUSD obtains consent through annual updates.

Q4. Why should parents provide private insurance or Medi-Cal information?

While CYBHI is state-funded, private insurance and Medi-Cal offsets the costs of services allowing the school's mental health providers to create sustainable programs that are not solely reliant on the unpredictability of grant funding.

Q5. How does CYBHI work?

Under CYBHI, California has established agreements with private insurers and a standardized Multi-Payer Fee Schedule for School-Linked mental health and wellness services to ensure that schools receive reimbursement for providing mental health services to students.

Q6. How do schools get reimbursed?

1. Schools deliver eligible behavioral health services to students aged 25 and younger. These services can include screenings, assessments, therapy, and case management.
2. After delivering services, schools submit claims to the students' health insurance. The CYBHI Fee Schedule sets standardized reimbursement rates for specific services, ensuring consistent payment across different healthcare plans.

Q7. If a student's policy has service limits, how will this be addressed? Can the student continue to receive services?

Yes. The State of California has partnered with health plans to make sure students can get the mental health and wellness support they need at school. California health plans and insurers are now required to reimburse K-12 school districts, colleges and universities. State law prohibits health plans and insurers from passing school based mental health and wellness services on to families. Families will not have any out of pocket expenses (i.e. co-payments, deductibles) for school-based mental health and wellness services.

Q8. If a student receives mental health support privately, will private insurance fund both?

Yes. If a student receives mental health support outside of school, insurance can still cover school-based services through CYBHI.

Q9. Will families receive a bill?

No. Families are not responsible for any out-of-pocket expenses, such as copayments or deductibles, for services provided under this initiative. The law prohibits health plans from passing these costs onto families.

Q10. How can parents/guardians help?

Complete consent forms for your child to receive services. Provide insurance information to help schools get reimbursed to keep mental health and wellness programs sustainable.

Q11. Who is going to manage the billing process?

The Ventura County Office of Education (VCOE) has partnered with Healthy Campus, an organization dedicated to enhancing healthcare accessibility within educational settings. Healthy Campus collaborates with school districts to develop integrated, physical and mental health services on school campuses. Parents and guardians will create a portal through the Healthy Campus system so they will know when their student receives services. As always, prior to initiating services, parents must consent to ongoing individual and group mental health and wellness services provided at school.

Q12. How will health information be protected?

Healthy Campus is a platform that emphasizes data security and compliance, adhering to standards such as HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) and FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act). These laws ensure that your child's information is handled with the utmost care and confidentiality. Healthy Campus uses Software as a Service (SaaS) data protection which refers to the security measures and best practices used to protect data that is stored, processed, or transmitted.

Healthy Campus employs robust security measures to protect data, including: Secure cloud infrastructure and High-level security protocols. High-level security protocols are

achieved as the Healthy Campus system meets stringent security standards to ensure data integrity and confidentiality.

Q13. How will staff mitigate the risk of unintentionally revealing a child's personal information to their provider or parents/caretakers?

CVUSD will continue to operate within the legal protections required under California law (e.g., AB 1266, Education Code 220).

Q14. How will the district ensure safe spaces, like wellness centers and counselors offices, remain safe spaces for students who are concerned that their information is no longer staying within the school campus?

CVUSD will continue to comply with all confidentiality laws and policies, including posting what information is confidential, and when confidentiality must be broken (harm to self or others).

Q15. How will parents/guardians know their child has accessed school-based mental health and wellness services?

Healthy Campus will provide a summary of services that your child received through the online portal, which are linked to the mental health and wellness services they accessed. This communication will typically be non-identifiable in terms of sensitive details and will focus on the types of services rendered, such as: counseling sessions, mental health evaluations and other behavioral health interventions.

Q16. Are there situations when the district will not bill for services, and if so, what are those situations?

Yes. If parents do not provide health insurance information, students will still have access to services. However, providing health insurance information helps to ensure the District receives financial reimbursement for the Mental Health Services it provides to students. This reimbursement is crucial to sustaining the array of Mental Health Services the District currently provides.