



We provide special education services to our most valuable resource, our children. These children are served by dedicated professionals who are determined to provide them with quality care and attention.

Medicaid can help.

This federal funding support is very important to our school to help offset the cost of providing these essential services. To access available Medicaid funds for these health-related services, we have contracted with MSB™, a leading provider of special education solutions.

Their cost effective and confidential Medicaid administration program, Waypoynt™, has made it possible for us to successfully access Federal Medicaid dollars through the SHARS program.



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Medicaid for Texas Schools

A cost-saving program for Texas school districts

Dear Parents and/or Guardians:

In our continuing effort to provide the highest quality of service delivery, our school district has been approved as a provider for the School Health and Related Services (SHARS) program, Medicaid for Texas schools. If your child is covered under the Medicaid program, we can obtain funding from Medicaid to offset local expenditure. The SHARS program will reimburse our district for a portion of the cost of providing the following services, as determined by the Admission, Review, and Dismissal committee and stated in your child's Individual Education Plan (IEP).



Covered Services

Audiology Services
Assessment/Evaluation
Counseling Services
Nursing Services
Occupational Therapy
Personal Care Services
Physical Therapy
Physician Services
Psychological Services
Special Transportation
Speech/Language Therapy

Q: What is the Texas Medicaid (SHARS) program?

A: The Texas Medicaid (SHARS) program was designed to allow Texas school districts to bill the Federal Medicaid Program for the health-related services Texas schools provide to children with Medicaid Health Insurance. The Federal Medicaid Program will reimburse school districts for approximately 60% of the cost of these services for eligible students.

Q: What happened to permit Texas schools to bill the Federal Medicaid Program?

A: In 1988, the U.S. Congress passed the "Medicare Catastrophic Coverage Act" (P.L. 100-360) which included a provision allowing local school districts to bill the Federal Medicaid Program for these services.

Q: Will the money collected go directly to my child?

A: No. The money is a reimbursement of dollars already spent by your local school district on behalf of all children in the Special Education Program. The money will be paid to the school district, the "provider" of the health-related service. Indirectly, this new source of funding will help ALL children and reduce the cost to local taxpayers.

Q: Will this program affect my child's regular Medicaid coverage?

A: No. The school Medicaid program is specific to special education services delivered in our school district and is separate from the Medicaid program supported by the State of Texas. This program has no impact on the coverage for your child's normal medical expenses.

Q: Is our family's income the only criteria for Medicaid coverage?

A: No. The "Katie Beckett" waiver provides coverage for children with severe disabilities who are being cared for at home. If a child meets the medical criteria for this program, the income of the parents is not considered in determining eligibility for Medicaid.

If you would like more information about Medicaid you may contact the Medicaid Client Hot-Line at 1-800-252-8263.

Notification

Local Education Agencies (LEAs), such as school districts, are eligible to receive federal Medicaid reimbursement for medically necessary services provided to their special education students when the services meet the requirements of the state's School-Based Medicaid program and are provided in accordance with the students' IEPs (§300.154(d)(2)(i)-(iii)).

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEA) and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) require schools to notify parents that the district participates in this program. The district utilizes services ordered in the IEP and the Medicaid identification number, in conjunction with the state Medicaid Agency and our Medicaid billing agent, to receive reimbursements for these services from the School-Based Medicaid program.

The district's participation in this program in no way impacts the services being provided to the student nor impacts the family's Medicaid benefits. At any time, parents can notify the school district in the event they no longer want the district to access student information for the purposes of seeking reimbursements through this program.