

## Getting Started with Medicaid School-Based Services (SBS) Handout

The Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA) was signed into law by President Joe Biden on June 25, 2023. As related to Medicaid SBS, the BSCA specifically addresses the need to:

- Establish responsibility for interagency coordination among State agencies.
- Provide State Medicaid agencies (SMAs) and State educational agencies (SEAs) with technical assistance necessary for them to access Medicaid to provide SBS.
- Develop a special rule that identifies that the requirements may be met through State statute or regulation, signed agreements, or other appropriate written methods.

The goal of the TA center is to support States to increase the availability of funding for SBS beyond what is required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). By helping States enhance Medicaid payment for services, more school-based services can be provided. States are encouraged to establish policies that allow reimbursement for services provided to all Medicaid- and CHIP-enrolled students. SBS can include any service otherwise covered by Medicaid and CHIP, such as preventive care, mental health and substance use disorder services, and nursing services, which may include medication monitoring and counseling. Expanded Medicaid and CHIP school-based claiming can provide the funding needed to get services to Medicaid- and CHIP- enrolled students when and where they need them.

Through the publication of the guide *Delivering Service in School-Based Settings: A Comprehensive Guide to Medicaid Services and Administrative Claiming* and the efforts of the TA center, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and U.S. Department of Education (ED) are working in partnership to promote student health and well-being by:

- Increasing access to Medicaid/Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)-covered services.
- Providing options to ease the administrative burden for existing and new services.
- Providing best practice examples of methods that SMAs and local educational agencies (LEAs) use to provide and pay for Medicaid SBS.

### For SMAs, SEAs, and LEAs, the path to get started with implementation and evaluation of your current plan includes:

Comprehensive Review and Analysis

Information Dissemination

Building a Coalition

## Comprehensive Review and Analysis

*Conduct a Comprehensive Review and Analysis to help all stakeholders understand the Medicaid SBS landscape in your State.*

**Why?** This will inform current policy and service provision for Medicaid SBS by identifying issues with implementation of current policy and gaps in addressing student health needs.



### Comprehensive Review and Analysis of Medicaid SBS

Create a resource for understanding the school health landscape and Medicaid Billing of SBS for your State.

**Agency Roles:** Leading: SMAs and SEAs. Supporting/Informative: LEAs

Resource should inform the following:

State Medicaid Plan, State guidance, time studies, direct service billing, revenue/cost reports, community mental health plans, prior community health needs assessments, audits, etc.

### Considerations for the Comprehensive Review and Analysis:

- Defining the highest-priority student health needs in the schools and community.
- Determining health services that students have access to in schools and provision methods.
- Identifying the health services covered by Medicaid in a school-based setting.
- Understanding restrictions on the types of providers that can be reimbursed for delivering Medicaid-eligible services.
- Defining the systems that are in place to support your State's school health services program.

## Information Dissemination

*Distribute data and information from the Comprehensive Review and Analysis.*

**Why?** Dissemination of findings will promote understanding of initiatives, provide connection for decision-making, encourage informed discourse, and promote understanding of the current state.



- 1 State Medicaid Plan**  
Provide resources/information to all stakeholders about your State's Medicaid State Plan.  
**Agency Roles:** Leading: SMAs. Recipient: SEAs and LEAs.
- 2 State Medicaid Guidance for SBS**  
Review the analysis of the current provision and payment of Medicaid SBS, comparing it to what is allowed in your State's guidance.  
**Agency Roles:** Leading: SEAs. Supporting/Informative: LEAs. Recipient: SMAs.
- 3 Opportunities for the Initiation or Evolution of Medicaid SBS**  
Outline opportunities for providing and billing direct care and administrative services that currently do not exist or do not meet current needs.  
**Agency Roles:** Leading: LEAs. Supporting/Informative: SEAs. Recipient: SMAs.
- 4 Health Equity in Schools**  
Provide stakeholders with resources that outline and inform how health equity is addressed in schools.  
**Agency Roles:** Leading: SMAs and SEAs. Supporting/Informative: LEAs.
- 5 Understanding Medicaid Managed Care Plans**  
Provide resources and/or training that details how the State approaches Medicaid SBS in accordance with Medicaid Managed Care Plans.  
**Agency Roles:** Leading: SMAs. Supporting/Informative: SEAs and LEAs.

## Building a Coalition

*Build a coalition of key stakeholders with clear expectations and understanding.*

**Why?** Building a coalition will have the right people at the table with an agreement and understanding to the approach.



- 1 Identifying Key Stakeholders**  
Outreach to those who inform or are impacted by Medicaid SBS should include State, local health and education decision-makers, parents, advocates, and those who determine funding.  
**Agency Roles:** Leading: SMAs. Supporting/Informative: SEAs and LEAs.
- 2 Establish Coalition Expectations**  
Define meeting expectations, roles related to shared workplans, and efforts to improve processes.  
**Agency Roles:** Leading: SMAs. Supporting/Informative: SEAs and LEAs.
- 3 Promote Coalition Understanding**  
Define goals/objectives, common language, key actions, and evaluative metrics.  
**Agency Roles:** Leading: SMAs. Supporting/Informative: SEAs and LEAs.

## Resources

Bipartisan Safer Communities Act:	<a href="#">eCFR 34 CFR Chapter III -- Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education</a>
Community Health Needs Assessment:	<a href="#">CDC Health Needs Assessment</a>
Health Promotion Model Precede/Proceed:	<a href="#">Chapter 2. Other Models for Promoting Community Health and Development   Section 2. PRECEDE/PROCEED   Main Section   Community Tool Box (ku.edu)</a>
North Carolina Example:	<a href="#">North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Legislative Report</a>
Mandatory Core Set of Children's Health Care Quality Measures for Medicaid and CHIP:	<a href="#">2024 Core Set of Children's Health Care Quality Measure for Medicaid and CHIP (Child Core Set)</a>
Massachusetts School Based Medicaid Program (SBMP) Example:	<a href="#">Mass SBMP Resource Center</a>
Health Students Promising Futures:	<a href="#">A Guide to Expanding Medicaid Funded School Health Services 2022 Update [PDF] (healthstudentspromisingfutures.org)</a>