

## ODE-MSP MEMORANDUM #2016-2

To: Superintendents, Treasurers and Special Education Administrators

From: Sue Zake, Director, Office for Exceptional Children  
Mark Smith, Financial Program Manager, Office for Exceptional Children

Cc: Yolanda Talley, Ohio Department of Medicaid

Date: February 3, 2016

Re: Medicaid Schools Program - Eligible Services

The Ohio Department of Education works with the Ohio Department of Medicaid to implement the federal- and state-approved Medicaid Schools Program. Many partners have contributed to the development and growth of a strong base of accountability within this program. The goal is to support districts in documenting and reporting eligible services for students with disabilities. Ongoing, timely communication between Medicaid providers, their partners and Ohio's partnering state agencies will help make sure you receive updates about requirements and policy changes related to the Medicaid Schools Program.

The department of education is coordinating a series of memos related to the Medicaid Schools Program to inform and assist your district in the implementation of policy changes and to clarify Medicaid Schools Program requirements. All communication and guidance will be on the [department's website](#).

The intent of this memo is to clarify eligible Medicaid Schools Program services. There is no change in the services provider districts can claim. Eligible services include:

### **Direct Services**

**Audiology:** An audiologist or an audiology aide supervised by an audiologist must provide this service. Both must have a license in the state of Ohio under Ohio Revised Code Chapter 4753 to practice audiology.

**Counseling:** A clinical counselor or a counselor must provide this service. Both must have a license in the state of Ohio under ORC Chapter 4757 to practice professional counseling or social work. School counseling is not a covered service.

**Nursing:** A registered nurse or a licensed practical nurse supervised by a registered nurse must provide this service. Both must have a license in the state of Ohio under ORC Chapter 4723 to practice nursing. All nursing services require a physician's order/prescription/referral, as appropriate; therefore, nursing is provided under the direction of a physician. Nursing services are intermittent and claims must be consistent with service documented. Private duty nursing (continuous nursing) and delegated nursing are not covered services through the Medicaid Schools Program.

**Occupational therapy:** An occupational therapist or an occupational therapy assistant supervised by an occupational therapist must provide this service. Both must have a license in the state of Ohio under ORC Chapter 4755.

**Physical therapy:** A physical therapist or a physical therapist assistant supervised by a physical therapist must provide this service. Both must have a license in the state of Ohio under ORC Chapter 4755 to practice physical therapy.

**Psychology:** A psychologist or school psychologist must provide this service. Both must have a license in the state of Ohio under ORC Chapter 4732 to practice psychology or school psychology, or Ohio Administrative Code 3301-24-05 to practice school psychology.

**Social Work:** An independent social worker or a social worker must provide this service. Both must have a license in the state of Ohio under ORC Chapter 4757 to practice social work.

**Speech-language pathology:** A speech-language pathologist or a speech-language pathology aide supervised by a speech-language pathologist must provide this service. Both must have a license in the state of Ohio under ORC Chapter 4753 to practice speech-language pathology. Allowable practitioners include speech-language pathologists in their Clinical Fellow Year.

**Targeted case management:** This includes specific assessment, care planning, referral and linkage, monitoring and follow-up activities in an eligible child's individualized education program (IEP) that will assist the eligible child in gaining access to medical, social, educational and other needed services. Additionally, it includes the amount, frequency and duration of the case management services, as well as the case manager responsible for providing the case management service. Targeted case management is not the same as service coordination.

**Transportation:** This is a specialized conveyance that accommodates the specific needs of an eligible child (for example, transportation by a wheelchair-accessible vehicle or adapted school bus). The IEP must indicate the need for the special transportation, and an appropriate licensed professional must recommend this service. Just indicating transportation in an IEP is not sufficient for determining coverage. There is no reimbursement for transportation otherwise available to all students or for transportation in a vehicle that does not specifically accommodate the special medical need of an eligible child. Reimbursement of transportation is not covered on a day when no Medicaid-covered service allowable in OAC Rule 5160-35-05 is received.

### **Administration**

Medicaid may cover the following administrative activities:

- Medicaid program outreach;
- Facilitating Medicaid program eligibility determinations;
- Referral, coordination and monitoring of medical services;
- IEP transportation coordination and translation for medical services;
- Program planning, development and interagency coordination for medical services; and
- Allocable general administration.

The Ohio Department of Education will notify provider districts about allowed additional eligible services. However, there will be no retroactive claims for services not yet eligible for reimbursement. Send questions regarding the content of this memo to [SchoolMedicaid@education.ohio.gov](mailto:SchoolMedicaid@education.ohio.gov).