

Nevada Medicaid: School Health Services Program

Frequently Asked Questions

February 2024



Background

Nevada Medicaid covers certain health care services in the school setting when provided by qualified professionals to eligible students in public schools (including public charter schools). This FAQ is intended to provide answers to common questions regarding the enrollment and billing process with Nevada Medicaid. This FAQ should be used in conjunction with the School Health Services (SHS) Onboarding Guide, and SHS Billing Guide.

Common Questions

1. Is my school eligible to bill Nevada Medicaid for SHS when provided to students?

Currently, Nevada Medicaid covers SHS provided in public schools (including public charter schools), also known as local education agencies (LEAs), and SHS provided in state education agencies (SEAs).

2. What services are covered by Nevada Medicaid in schools?

Nevada Medicaid covers a comprehensive set of “school health services” (SHS) for Medicaid-eligible students between ages three and 21 (including students with a disability) in the public school setting. These services include, but are not limited to:

- Screening and diagnostic services, including hearing and vision screening, through the Healthy Kids Program: <https://dhcfp.nv.gov/Pgms/CPT/EPSTD/>
- Physician’s services
- Physician’s assistant services
- Nursing services, including registered nurses, licensed practical nurses and advanced nurse practitioners
- Psychological services
- Physical therapy services
- Speech therapy, language disorders and audiology services
- Occupational therapy services
- Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)
- Personal Care Services (PCS)
- Home health care services, such as those which may be written into an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP)
- Case management
- Dental services
- Optometry services
- Non-residential mental health rehabilitative services
- Outpatient alcohol and substance abuse services
- Audiological supplies such as Assistive Communication Devices
- Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and supplies
 - Infusion set for external insulin pump, needle type; Irrigation tray with bulb or piston syringe, any purpose; Tracheostomy care kit for established tracheostomy, etc.

School employees or contractors who deliver these services must meet certain professional or clinical qualifications.

SHS must be medically necessary and documented in the student’s Plan of Care (POC), and/or qualify as specific health screenings or preventive services. See Early Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT), [42 Code of Federal Regulations \(CFR\) 440.40\(b\)](#).

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Services listed in a POC are designed to:

- a. Meet the health needs of a child; and
- b. Work towards the reduction of a physical or mental impairment and restoration of the child to the best possible functional level.

Important: SHS, when provided by a school, are not subject to prior authorization nor any service limitations that apply to similar services when provided by community providers. SHS provided to a child in a school setting do not affect prior authorization requirements for services provided by any other provider type in the community setting.

3. How does a school determine whether a student is eligible for Medicaid?

If a school uses (or intends to use) a third-party vendor for billing, Medicaid eligibility can be verified by the vendor. Schools enrolled as a Medicaid billing provider can verify a student's eligibility through Nevada Medicaid's Electronic Verification System (EVS) here: [Nevada Medicaid \(nv.gov\)](https://www.nv.gov).

4. Does the school or county have to pay a portion of the cost of SHS if provided to eligible students?

No. As of July 1, 2024, there is no cost to the local county or school district for SHS that are reimbursable by Nevada Medicaid. This means all local school districts that enroll as a Medicaid billing provider can begin billing Nevada Medicaid directly for covered services when provided by qualified school staff or contractors.

As a result of this change, all contracts between the county and/or local school district and Nevada Medicaid for SHS billing, will no longer be required to receive Medicaid reimbursement.

5. What is a National Provider Identifier (NPI), and why is it needed to bill for SHS?

The NPI is a unique 10-digit number identifier assigned to a health care provider by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). It is used in electronic transactions such as billing, claims processing, and communication with health plans, to accurately identify providers.

In the context of SHS, the school district must obtain an NPI to be able to enroll as a billing provider with Nevada Medicaid. Additionally, obtaining an NPI supports the effective integration of health care services within the educational setting. Please note, school districts do not need to obtain an NPI for each medical professional providing services. For more information on enrollment with Nevada Medicaid, see the SHS Onboarding Guide.

6. How do we obtain a National Provider Identifier (NPI)?

Obtaining an NPI is the first step for schools to enroll as a billing provider with Nevada Medicaid. The simplest way to apply for an NPI is through the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES) at [NPPES NPI Registry](https://www.cms.gov/nppes) on the CMS website. See also this [How-To Guide](#) for step-by-step instructions for completing your online NPI application. More detailed information may be found in the SHS Onboarding Guide.

7. How can we enroll as a Medicaid billing provider?

First, school districts must receive their NPI. See Question & Answer #6 above. Next, school districts should go Nevada Medicaid's Provider [Online Enrollment Portal](#) and click the link to complete a Provider Enrollment Application ([or click](#)

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[here](#)). School districts will enroll with Nevada Medicaid as a *Provider Type (PT) 60*. More detailed information may be found in the SHS Onboarding Guide.

8. How do we set the school up to bill Medicaid for authorized services under SHS?

There are 5 important steps that school districts should take to successfully onboard/enroll with Nevada Medicaid:

1. First obtain an NPI.
2. The next crucial task is to enroll in Nevada Medicaid's [online portal](#) to establish a seamless interface between educational institutions and Nevada Medicaid systems.
3. It is also important to engage or hire a proficient billing agent to ensure streamlined financial transactions and adherence to billing protocols.
4. Additionally, securing an Electronic Health Record (EHR) system is essential for efficient management and maintenance of students' medical records to enhance the precision and quality of healthcare provision.
5. Lastly, training in delivering school health services using the guidelines outlined in the Medicaid Services Manual (MSM), [MSM Chapter 2800](#) is necessary to conclude this strategic process.

By carefully following these steps, schools can establish a structured and compliant avenue for Medicaid billing for SHS, with the goal of promoting enhanced accessibility to essential healthcare services for students.

9. Can the school choose a billing agent or trade partner to complete Medicaid claims?

Yes, school districts have the option to choose a third-party billing partner. School districts should ensure that the chosen partner is experienced and can integrate with the school's system.

10. What is an Electronic Health Record (EHR), and why is it important?

An EHR is a digital version of a patient's paper chart, containing health information. It is crucial for schools to have an EHR to manage and share student health records, enhancing the quality of care and communication. Having an EHR that supports interoperability is important for supporting whole-child care. It allows information sharing between providers so that each student can receive personalized health care by ensuring all providers have a big-picture view of the patient's entire clinical chart.

The Student Information System, Infinite Campus, accurately records and reports on data such as attendance, grades, administrative tools, serves as a communication bridge between administration and educators, and creates an efficient system for comprehensive, quality education and record keeping. What Infinite Campus cannot do is capture the work that non-classroom educators do. That is where an EHR can assist schools. An EHR captures the work that the non-classroom educators do in an efficient way. An EHR for nurses affords a space where they can enter doctor's orders, administer medication, case manage communicable diseases, and many other features. It automatically organizes their day managing many tasks into a dashboard for ease of documentation. Currently in Infinite Campus, nurses are not able to document medication administration accurately. There are several aspects to documentation medication administration a nurse is legally obligated to document, and an EHR allows for this documentation seamlessly.

Collectively, both systems enable schools to utilize a systems approach to create an efficient workspace for their staff, afford administrators the opportunity to make data informed decisions, and allow schools the opportunity to proficiently create another revenue stream to support student health services.

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11. Do schools need to have both an electronic student educational record and EHR for Medicaid reimbursement purposes?

Yes, both electronic student educational records and EHRs are essential for SHS and Medicaid billing. For technical assistance associated with EHRs, please feel free to reach out to the Nevada Department of Education's school health team at: schoolhealth@doe.nv.gov.

12. How do privacy laws apply to SHS?

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) both regulate the privacy and security of student health and education records. Compliance is essential when handling sensitive student information in SHS. Refer to the [Joint Guidance on the Application of FERPA and HIPAA to Student Health Records](#) for more information.

13. What other important information should schools know about onboarding with Medicaid for SHS?

School district staff must be properly trained in the Medicaid billing processes, compliance requirements, and the use of EHR systems. Regularly review Medicaid policy regulations for any updates that may impact your services and the types of qualifications for staff to render SHS to eligible students. For additional training resources offered free of charge through Nevada Medicaid, please refer to the [Provider Training webpage](#).

School health services billing staff, billing agencies, direct practitioners/health care providers, school nurses, office managers, admitting and front desk staff, etc. are all encouraged to attend any of the offered training sessions.

In addition to the training sessions and workshops scheduled throughout the year, Provider Services Field Representatives are available to assist when you have questions, concerns, or additional training needs. Field Representatives cannot tell you how to bill your claims or specific details to enter into enrollments and authorization requests, but can assist in identifying the causes to issues you are facing in these areas and help provide direction to resources. Please do not hesitate to reach out to your Field Representative as the need arises. The Field Representative for School Health Services, PT 60, is Ms. Sophia Heinz who may be reached at: sophia.heinz@gainwelltechnologies.com.

14. What if I have additional questions about the SHS program?

For any questions about the SHS program, including billing and claims, please email the Division's team at schoolhealthservices@dncfp.nv.gov. We are here to provide any assistance and support.

Remember, the information provided in this document is a general guide only. It is best practice to refer to official Nevada Medicaid resources and seek professional advice for specific situations.