

Oregon's School Based Health Services (SBHS) Medicaid Program

Medicaid is a state and federal partnership focused on funding health and medical services for enrolled beneficiaries. Oregon's School Based Health Services (SBHS) Medicaid program, also referred to as School Medicaid, allows an education agency (EA) to enroll as a school medical provider and leverage Medicaid for reimbursement for the cost of covered health services provided to Medicaid-enrolled children and young adults aged birth through 21.

What are the Benefits?

School health services are a critical component of the health care safety net for students and support improved lifetime outcomes. When barriers to education are recognized and foundational health services and supports are in place, it increases the ability for children to attend school and better access their education. It also builds educator capacity to focus on classroom instruction.



Health conditions disproportionately impact marginalized and historically underserved communities. School health services and behavioral health services play a critical role in ensuring all students can learn and thrive in the school setting. Effective use of SBHS Medicaid reimbursement to increase school health FTE and **programs can ensure that school health and behavioral health services are accessible to those who need them most.**

Who Can Participate in the SBHS Medicaid Program?

There are two requirements that schools must meet to be eligible to participate in the SBHS Medicaid direct services program. Schools must meet the definition of education agency¹ and they must meet OHA's [federally approved](#) financial reporting requirements for calculating cost-based rates. Please see the [Education Agency Eligibility Criteria](#) for additional information on eligibility for participation.

How Does it Work?

An education agency may bill SBHS Medicaid for health services provided to a child or young adult when:

- Enrolled with OHA as a School Medical provider;
- They have OHA reviewed and accepted annual cost based rates;
- The parent/guardian has received written notification and consented to allow necessary information sharing to bill Medicaid;
- The child or young adult is Medicaid-enrolled and receiving Medicaid-covered services; and
- The health service is provided and documented by Medicaid-enrolled SBHS-recognized providers.



¹ Education Agency, as defined by OAR 410-133-0040, means a public school district, education service district, Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education contractor or subcontractor, or a state institution providing educational or transition services to children or young adults, birth through age 21, that is also considered a local unit of government pursuant to 42 CFR 433.51.

Who can Provide Services?

SBHS must be documented and provided by, or under the supervision of, Medicaid-enrolled SBHS-recognized providers.

Nursing and Physician Services	Behavioral Health and Counseling Services
• Nurse Practitioner (NP) • Registered Nurse (RN) • Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) • Unregulated Assistive Person (UAP) • Medical Doctors • Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine • Doctor of Podiatric Medicine • Physician Associates	• Licensed Psychiatrist • Licensed Psychologist • Psychologist Associate • Psychology Technician • Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) • Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC), Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT) • TSPC-Licensed School Psychologists, School Counselors, and School Social Workers
Rehabilitation and Therapeutic Services	Dental and Nutrition Services
• Occupational Therapist • Physical Therapist • Speech-Language Pathologist • Licensed Audiologists	• Licensed Dentists • Expanded Practice Dental Hygienist • Licensed Dental Therapist • Licensed Dietitians

Want to Learn More?

Check out ODE's [Guide to Getting Started](#) or contact Shelby Parks at shelby.parks@ode.oregon.gov