School-Based Services Expansion for 2025-2026

DATE: JULY 23, 2025



School-Based Services Expansion

School Based Services Expansion covers Medicaid-enrolled students who are between 3 and 21 years of age during the school term.

Changes Include:





Expanded Member Eligibility



Expanded member eligibility allows eligible Medicaid-enrolled students with general healthcare service needs to receive School-Based Services(SBS), as long as there is a plan.



Previously, all School-Based Services had to be tied to an "educational need" in the Individual Education Plan (IEP)
With this change any Medicaid covered medically necessary services no longer requires they be tied to an "educational need" in the IEP.



Expanded Member Eligibility

Examples of Plans Eligible for School – Based Services:

Individualized Education Plan (IEP)

Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)

504 Plan

Individualized Health Plan

Behavioral Health Plan

Other Plan Types



Documentation is required for eligible plans and must include:



... Medicaid covered medical needs do not have to directly tie to an educational need.

Required Plan Documentation



Documentation Retention

Must retain records under DHS 106.02(9)

Providers are reminded that they must follow the documentation retention requirements per Wis. Admin. Code § DHS 106.02(9).

Providers are required to produce or submit documentation, or both, to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) upon request.

Per Wis. Stat. § 49.45(3)(f), providers of services shall maintain records as required by DHS for verification of provider claims for reimbursement.

DHS may audit such records to verify the actual provision of services and the appropriateness and accuracy of claims.

DHS may deny or recoup payment for services that fail to meet these requirements.

Refusal to produce documentation may result in denial of submitted claims, recoupment of paid claims, application of intermediate sanctions, or termination from the Medicaid program.





New Allowable Provider Types

Includes:

Clinically Trained Mental Health Professionals

Operating within their scope of practice as defined under state law

Physicians and Nurse Practitioners

- Operating within their scope of practice under Wis. Admin. Code § N 8.02(1) with prescribing authority granted under Wis. Stat. § 441.16(2)
- Providing services identified in the member's treatment plan as defined in Wis. Admin. Code § DHS 105.53(3)(a)3

Dentists and Dental Hygienists

 Operating within their scope of practice as described in Wis. Admin. Code §§ DHS 105.06(1) and 105.06(2)

Provider Requirements:

All SBS providers must be employed by or contracted with a local education agency, such as a school district, Cooperative Educational Service Agency (CESA), County Children with Disabilities Education Board, or charter school.



New Services



Physician services:

- Performing evaluation and management services
- Screening and referring for treatment of health needs
- Providing treatment
- Performing medication management
- Explaining treatments, therapies, and physical or mental conditions to family members, school districts, or CESA



Dental services:

- Performing oral evaluations
- Performing oral assessments
- Applying fluoride and dental sealants (when provided by a dentist or dental hygienist)



Included Services









Attendant Care

- Preparing food, assisting with and monitoring eating, feeding, and swallowing
- Performing routine personal hygiene dressing, toileting, diapering, transferring
- Performing routine care of personal assistive devices
- Supervising and cuing of activities

Additional medically necessary nursing services and medical services added within the provider's scope of practice

Coaching added as an allowable occupational therapy, physical therapy, and speech-language pathology service Psychological, counseling, social work, and mental and behavioral services:

- Performing marriage and family therapy
- Providing substance use disorder services



Preparing for Implementation

Providers should:



Identify additional eligible students



Review service plans



Stay updated via ForwardHealth



Resources & Support

More Information:



ForwardHealth Handbook



Provider Resources Page (coming soon)



Training Page





Thank You

