

Wisconsin Medicaid update and BadgerCare

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Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Information for Providers

To:

Nurse

Practitioners

Physicians

Physician

Assistants

School-Based

Services

Providers

HMOs and Other

Managed Care

Programs

Change in occupational therapy prescription requirements

Effective June 1, 2000, a change was made to PI 11.24(9)(c), Wis. Admin. Code, that eliminated prescription requirements for school occupational therapy (OT). Thus, prescription requirements for Medicaid's school-based services (SBS) OT services are changing for SBS providers with prescription waivers. This change does *not* affect community OT services.

How the new rule affects school-based services providers

If your school district, charter school, or Cooperative Educational Service Agency (CESA) has submitted a "Request for a Waiver to Wisconsin Medicaid Prescription Requirements under the SBS benefit" to Wisconsin Medicaid, you no longer need to obtain a prescription for occupational therapy (OT) to bill Medicaid for a child receiving services. It is no longer necessary to obtain a prescription for an initial evaluation. This change does not affect community OT services.

If your school district, charter school, or CESA has not submitted a waiver to Wisconsin Medicaid, the change in policy will not affect you. In other words, Wisconsin Medicaid will still require an annual physician prescription for

OT services that are identified in a child's Individualized Education Program.

Refer to the Attachment to this *Update* for prescription requirements when providing school-based services (SBS) in the school setting.

Providers can refer to the April 1999 *Wisconsin Medicaid Update* (99-18), titled "Change in Prescription Requirements for Billing Medicaid," for a copy of the SBS waiver form and instructions.

The *Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Update* is the first source of program policy and billing information for providers.

Although the *Update* refers to Medicaid recipients, all information applies to BadgerCare recipients also.

Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare are administered by the Division of Health Care Financing, Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, P.O. Box 309, Madison, WI 53701-0309.

For questions, call Provider Services at (800) 947-9627 or (608) 221-9883 or visit our Web site at www.dhfs.state.wi.us/medicaid/.

ATTACHMENT

Department of Public Instruction and Department of Regulation and Licensing Prescription Requirements for Providing School-Based Services in the School Setting (effective June 1, 2000)

Service	Current school-based services prescription requirements¹	Waiver school-based services prescription requirements^{2,3}	Other key school-based services requirements
Speech-language, audiology, and hearing services	Annual prescription by physician.	No prescription requirements.	Services must be identified in the Individualized Education Program (IEP).
Occupational therapy	Annual prescription by physician.	No prescription requirements.	Services must be identified in the IEP.
Physical therapy	Annual prescription by physician.	Prescription only required under limited circumstances as required by DR&L.	Services must be identified in the IEP.
Nursing services	Annual prescription by physician or advanced practice nurse with prescribing authority.	Annual prescription by a physician or advanced practice nurse with prescribing authority.	Services must be identified in the IEP.
Psychological, counseling, and social work services	Annual prescription by physician or licensed Ph.D. psychologist.	No prescription requirements.	Services must be identified in the IEP.
Other developmental testing and assessments	No prescription requirements.	No prescription requirements.	The activities must result in the development or revision of an IEP.
Transportation	No prescription requirements.	No prescription requirements.	Transportation must be included in the IEP and provided on the <i>same day</i> the child receives another Medicaid-covered SBS service.
Durable medical equipment (DME)	No prescription requirements.	No prescription requirements.	The equipment must be medically necessary, be identified in the IEP, be child-specific, belong to that child to use at school and at home, and not be covered under the Wisconsin Medicaid DME benefit.

¹Based on Department of Regulation and Licensing (DR&L) requirements.

²The waiver requirements are based on Department of Public Instruction (DPI) requirements. If, at any time after this Update, the DPI or DR&L prescription requirements change for schools, Wisconsin Medicaid will automatically adopt those new requirements.

³School-based services (SBS) providers choosing the waiver option must assure that the services billed under SBS meet the medical necessity requirements for SBS and are not noncovered services under the SBS benefit.