
CHAPTER 20: EPSDT HEALTH AND IDEA – RELATED SERVICES

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OVERVIEW

The Louisiana School Based Medicaid Program (SBMP) provides coverage to all Medicaid eligible beneficiaries age 3 through age 20 for all Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) health services and medically necessary health services to correct or ameliorate a child's disability or chronic health condition pursuant to §1905(a) of the Social Security Act in the school setting. All SBMP health services eligible for reimbursement must be provided by local education agencies (LEAs) to children who attend public school and private schools in Louisiana. EPSDT health services and medically necessary health services must be performed by or under the direction of a licensed provider within the scope of his or her practice under state law and authorized by the student's written plan of service: Individualized Education Plan (IEP), a section 504 accommodation plan pursuant to 34 C.F.R. § 104.36, Individualized Health Care Plan (IHP) or other written plans of care as long as it is ordered and performed by individuals licensed to authorize the services included. Louisiana SBMP is effective March 20, 2019 with CMS approval of Louisiana Medicaid State Plan Amendment 19-0005.

Service Exclusions

- These services are not covered if they are performed for educational purposes (e.g. academic testing) or as the result of the assessment and evaluation, it is determined the service is not reflected in a written plan of service or not determined to be medically necessary; and
- Medicaid does not reimburse for social or educational needs.

Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT)

EPSDT is the component of the Louisiana Medicaid Program that provides comprehensive and preventive health care services for children under age 21 who are enrolled in Medicaid. EPSDT is key to ensuring that children and adolescents receive appropriate preventive, dental, mental health, and developmental, and specialty services.

- Early: Assessing and identifying problems early;
- Periodic: Checking children's health at periodic, age-appropriate intervals;
- Screening: Providing physical, mental, developmental, dental, hearing, vision, and other screening tests to detect potential problems;
- Diagnostic: Performing diagnostic tests to follow up when a risk is identified; and

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- Treatment: Control, correct or reduce health problems found.

Medically Necessary Health Services

- Health care services or supplies needed to diagnose or treat an illness, injury, condition, disease or its symptoms and that meet accepted standards of medicine; and
- Authorization must be ordered and performed by individuals acting within the scope of their license.

Reimbursement Methodology

Louisiana School Based Medicaid program allows claiming for local education agencies (LEA) using certified public expenditures to provide for the State match to federal funds. LEA employees are able to claim their salaries, benefits, taxes and vendor cost for the time spent providing services to students. In order to calculate the claimable amount of the employees' salaries, the LEA must participate in the quarterly statewide time study. A cost report provided by the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) is used to calculate Medicaid eligible reimbursement due to LEAs on an annual basis. LEAs participating in the SBMP are subject to periodic audits or reviews of the information submitted in the annual cost report.