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COVERED SERVICES**School-Based Medicaid Program Expansion**

Effective for dates of service on or after March 20, 2019, Louisiana Medicaid has expanded the covered services provided by a Local Education Agency (LEA) in the School-Based Medicaid Program to include:

- Health services provided by an LEA and licensed practitioner employed by the LEA.
- EPSDT health services on the Medicaid approved Periodicity Table may be reimbursed when provided by a licensed practitioner within the scope of their practice. All other health services must be included in a completed authorizing document pursuant to 34 C.F.R. § 104.36:
 - Individualized Education Plan (IEP);
 - Section 504 Accommodation Plan;
 - Individualized Health Care Plan; or
 - Included in otherwise medically necessary documentation, and include medical services that are provided to students pursuant to an Individual Health Care Plan (IHCP), , and/or services that are otherwise medically necessary.

Note: Payment for services provided pursuant to an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) will continue to be provided under the expanded program.

Services provided in a school setting will only be reimbursed for recipients who have been determined eligible for Title XIX and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part B services with a written service plan which contains medically necessary services ordered and rendered by a physician or other licensed qualified practitioner who provides these services as part of their respective area and within the scope of his or her licensure under Louisiana state law. Licensed, qualified practitioners shall also be responsible for supervising their respective assistants in the same manner. LEAs are required to keep a copy of Louisiana licenses showing full name and dates of licensure reflecting the period services were provided onsite.

Service Exclusions

- These services are not covered if they are performed for educational purposes (e.g.

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academic testing) or as the result of the assessment and evaluation it is determined the service is not reflected in a service plan or not determined to be medically necessary.

- Medicaid does not reimburse for social or educational needs.

Covered Services Provided by Local Education Agencies (LEAs)

- Audiology Services
- Occupational Therapy Services (OT)
- Physical Therapy Services (PT)
- Speech-Language Services
- Nursing Services - Medically necessary services that are directly related to an IHP and/or a physician's written order, when required. The following school-based nursing services are covered.
 - Implementation of physician's orders.
 - Chronic Medical Condition Management and Care Coordination
 - Medication administration
 - EPSDT Nursing Assessment/Evaluation Services (IHP Not Required)
 - EPSDT Program Periodicity Schedule for Screenings (vision and hearing) (IHP Not Required)
- Behavioral Health Services:
 - **Note:** Professional requirements change:
 - Licensed Master Social Workers practicing under the supervision of a Licensed Clinical Social Worker
 - Certified School Psychologists practicing under the supervision of a licensed Psychologist.
- Special Transportation Services - Special transportation services includes travel to and from school and between schools or school buildings on a day when an covered service is on the IEP to be rendered on school premises and special transportation is included on the IEP as a separate service.
 - Travel to and from off-site premises on a day when an covered service is on the IEP to be rendered off-site and special transportation is included in the IEP as a separate service.
 - Use of a specially adapted vehicle (such as a specially adapted bus, van or other vehicle such as a wheelchair lift, special harness, safety vest or special car seat).
 - Documentation for Transportation Services:
 - Trip logs must record all trips taken by all students on the school transportation each day.

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- This information must be cross-referenced with attendance records and the documentation of receipt of a covered IDEA Health Service that is included in the student's IEP, on the same day as transport.

New Covered Services Provided by LEAs, effective March 20, 2019.

- Optometry Services
- Physician Services
- Respiratory Therapy
- Applied Behavior Analyst (ABA)
 - Medicaid covered applied behavior analysis (ABA)-based therapy is the design, implementation, and evaluation of environmental modification using behavioral stimuli and consequences to produce socially significant improvement in human behavior, including the direct observation, measurement and functional analysis of the relations between environment and behavior.
 - ABA-based therapy services teach skills through the use of behavioral observation and reinforcement, or prompting, to teach each step of targeted behavior. ABA-based therapy services are based on reliable evidence and are not experimental.
 - Medicaid covered ABA-Based therapy must be medically necessary and delivered in accordance with the recipient's behavior treatment plan.
 - Professional Requirements:
 - Services shall be provided by **Licensed Behavior Analyst** within their scope of practice. These services must be provided by or under the supervision of a behavior analyst who is currently licensed by the Louisiana Behavior Analyst Board, or a licensed psychologist, or a licensed medical psychologist. Licensed behavior analyst, licensed psychologists and licensed medical psychologists shall be reimbursed for Medicaid covered therapy services that are medically necessary, prior authorized by the Medicaid Program or its designee, and delivered in accordance with the recipient's treatment plan.
 - Licensed behavior analysts shall:
 - be licensed by the Louisiana Behavior Analyst Board;
 - be covered by professional liability insurance in the amount designated by the State;
 - have no sanctions or disciplinary actions on their Board Certified Behavior Analyst or Board Certified Behavior Analyst-Doctoral certification and/or state licensure;

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- not have Medicare/Medicaid sanctions or be excluded from participation in federally-funded programs; and
 - have a completed criminal background check according to the State's requirements.
- Certified assistant behavior analysts shall:
 - be certified by the Louisiana Behavior Analyst Board;
 - work under the supervision of a licensed psychologists, licensed medical psychologists, and licensed behavior analyst, with the supervisory relationship documented in writing;
 - have no sanctions or disciplinary actions, if State-certified or Board-certified;
 - not have Medicare/Medicaid sanctions or be excluded from participation in federally-funded programs; and
 - have a completed criminal background check according to the State's requirements.
- Registered line technicians shall:
 - be registered by the Louisiana Behavior Analyst Board;
 - work under the supervision of a licensed psychologists, licensed medical psychologists, and licensed behavior analyst, with the supervisory relationship documented in writing;
 - have no sanctions or disciplinary actions, if State-certified or Board-certified;
 - not have Medicare/Medicaid sanctions or be excluded from participation in federally-funded programs; and
 - have a completed criminal background check according to the State's requirements.
- **Supervision exercised** - Licensed behavior analysts shall provide supervision to certified assistant behavior analysts and registered line technicians. Supervision is included in the State's Scope of Practice Act for licensed behavior analysts and they shall assume professional responsibility for the services rendered by an unlicensed practitioner. Licensed psychologists and licensed medical psychologists are authorized to provide supervision to non-licensed practitioners.
- **Services Provided by Local Education Agencies (LEAs)** - Applied Behavior Analysis services rendered in school-based settings must be provided by, or under the supervision of, a behavior analyst currently licensed by the Louisiana Behavior Analyst Board, a licensed psychologist or licensed medical psychologist. Payment for services must be billed by the licensed professional.

Telemedicine/Telehealth (Not a covered service but a service delivery method)

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Louisiana Medicaid encourages the use of telemedicine/telehealth, when appropriate, for any and all healthcare services (i.e., not just those related to COVID-19 symptoms). Louisiana Medicaid allows for the telemedicine/telehealth mode of delivery for many common healthcare services.

- **Permissible Telecommunications Systems:**

- All services eligible for telemedicine/telehealth may be delivered via an interactive audio/video telecommunications system. A secure, HIPAA-compliant platform is preferred, if available. However, for the duration of the COVID-19 event, if a HIPAA-compliant system is not immediately available at the time it is needed, providers may use everyday communications technologies such as cellular phones with widely available audio/video communication software. Providers should follow guidance from the Office for Civil Rights at the Department of Health and Human Services for software deemed appropriate for use during this event.
- For the duration of the COVID-19 event, in cases where an interactive audio/video system is not immediately available at the time it is needed, an interactive audio-only system (e.g., telephone) without the requirement of video may be employed, unless noted otherwise. For use of an audio-only system, the same standard of care must be met, and the need and rationale for employing an audio-only system must be documented in the clinical record. Please note, some telemedicine/telehealth services described below require delivery through an audio/video system due to the clinical nature of these services. Where applicable, this requirement is noted explicitly.
 - **Originating Site:** The originating site refers to where the patient is located. There is currently no formal limitation on the originating site and this can include, but is not limited to, the patient's home.
 - **Distant Site:** The distant site refers to where the provider is located. The preferred location of a distant site provider is in a healthcare facility. However, if there is disruption to a healthcare facility or a risk to the personal health and safety of a provider, there is no formal limitation as to where the distant site provider can be located, as long as the same standard of care can be met.
 - **Other Requirements:** As always, providers must maintain the usual medical documentation to support reimbursement of the visit. In addition, providers must adhere to all telemedicine/telehealth-related requirements of their respective professional licensing boards.
 - **Reimbursement:** Reimbursement for services delivered through telemedicine/telehealth is at the same level as reimbursement for in-person services.

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- Providers must indicate place of service 02 and must append modifier - 95.