

Medicaid in Education Alert

New York State Department of Health (DOH), Office of Health Insurance Programs (OHIP)
New York State Education Department (NYSED)
Preschool/School Supportive Health Services Program (SSHSP)
Medicaid in Education

Issue #16-02

TO: All SSHSP Medicaid Providers

FROM: NYS DOH OHIP Preschool/School Supportive Health Services Program (SSHSP) & NYSED Medicaid in Education Unit

DATE: March 1, 2016

SUBJECT: SSHSP Claim Processing to Change during 2016-17 School Year

This Alert is to notify SSHSP providers of an important Medicaid reimbursement processing change which will take place during the 2016-17 school year. For over two decades, the New York State Education Department (NYSED) has contracted with the Central New York Regional Information Center (CNYRIC) to provide a system for the submission of Local Education Agency (LEA) claims for Medicaid reimbursement under the Preschool/School Supportive Health Services Program (SSHSP). This contract will not be extended beyond 2016-17. Therefore, to avoid interruption of Medicaid reimbursement, it will be necessary for your LEA to plan for transition to direct claiming using the New York State Department of Health's (DOH) Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS).

It is anticipated that LEAs will be authorized to commence direct claiming this summer, with all participating LEAs required to complete the transition during the 2016-17 school year. Please be assured that NYSED, DOH, CNYRIC and your local RIC will be working closely with the LEAs during this transition. Information critical to the transition will be provided well in advance. 2016 Spring SSHSP Update training sessions will address the transition, training customized to SSHSP providers will be available, and support will be available to third party vendors that wish to continue providing claiming assistance to LEAs.

Direct claiming to the State Medicaid Agency

Submitting claims directly to the DOH Medicaid claims processing system, eMedNY, will have several benefits for LEAs:

- Direct claiming will enable LEAs to submit for reimbursement in “real time,” not restricted by the current monthly claiming calendar. Processing of the claim will begin immediately upon submission to eMedNY.
- Direct submission of claims will allow any necessary action on the part of the LEA to take place timely when or if the claim requires an adjustment. Timely claims processing will result in fewer claims being time barred. Edits and data checks used by CNYRIC to pre-adjudicate claims will no longer prevent a claim from being processed through the MMIS.
- LEAs will have access to the most current student eligibility information through the Electronic Provider Assisted Claim Entry System (ePACES), without lag time for matching student demographic information on a monthly basis.

LEAs will also have the ability to create/submit claims and other transactions in HIPAA format using ePACES, a web-based application. LEAs may also contract to use the services of an enrolled Medicaid Service Bureau to submit claims on their behalf. Special Education software vendors or other consultants may seek to expand their services to LEAs by becoming a Medicaid Service Bureau.

SED and DOH will issue additional guidance on this transition in the coming weeks.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this Alert, please contact the NYS Department of Health at (518) 473-2160 or SSHSP@health.ny.gov, your local Regional Information Center representative, or the NYS Education Department, Medicaid Unit at: medined@nysed.gov.