



SHELTON BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Freeman Burr
Superintendent of Schools

Elizabeth Hannaway, Ed.D.
Asst. Director of Special Education

September 1, 2015

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) allows certain services provided under an Individualized Education Program (IEP) to be covered by Medicaid. The State of Connecticut, effective March 18, 2013, has changed regulations related to providing written notification to parents whose children are currently eligible or may qualify in the future for Medicaid services.

The Shelton Public School System participates in the Connecticut School-Based Health Program and may receive reimbursement for related services that are provided in a child's IEP. School districts can only bill for health-related services that are outlined in the student's IEP. **Accessing reimbursement through Medicaid does not affect the child's Medicaid services received outside of school.**

This notification is being provided to all parents of students with disabilities in the district, since eligibility may change during the school year. Please read the attached notification and keep for future reference. In the future, this notification will be provided to you annually along with your procedural safeguards.

A one-time written consent must be obtained from you before the district can submit claims to the Medicaid agency. You have the right to withdraw your consent at any time. If you do not provide consent, the district will not be able to bill Medicaid. The district is required to provide all IEP services, at no cost to parents, even if the district cannot bill to Medicaid.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter. Please contact me at 203-924-1023, x340 or ehannaway@sheltonpublicschools.org with your questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Hannaway

Elizabeth Hannaway, Ed.D.
Assistant Director of Special Education
Shelton Public Schools



Billing Medicaid for Health-Related Services in Student's Individualized Education Program (IEP)

Information and Answers for Families

Why are school districts billing Medicaid?

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) allows certain services provided under an Individualized Education Program (IEP) to be covered by Medicaid. Medicaid funds help pay for the costs of providing these services.

What can school districts bill Medicaid for?

School districts can only bill for health-related services that are outlined in the student's IEP. In general, services for which school districts may bill Medicaid are: audiologist services, evaluation and testing, nursing services, occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy, psychological services and social work services.

Notification Form for the Use of Public Benefits or Insurance for School-Based Service

School: Shelton Public School System

Address: 382 Long Hill Ave.
Shelton, CT 06484

Phone: 203-924-1023 x350

Web Site: www.sheltonpublicschools.org

Do school districts need parental consent to bill Medicaid?

Yes. Before billing Medicaid for the first time, the school district must ask for your permission to bill your or your child's public benefits or insurance to pay for your child's related services under the IDEA. School districts are required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) to obtain parental consent before sharing information about a student. This includes sharing personally identifiable information about a student to Medicaid. To receive funding from Medicaid to help pay for the cost of services, the school district must have parental consent to bill Medicaid.

Can parents withdraw their consent to bill Medicaid?

Yes. Parents have the right to withdraw their consent at any time.

If consent is not given by parents to bill Medicaid, will their children still receive IEP services?

Yes. Districts are required to provide all IEP services, at no cost to parents, even if the district cannot bill Medicaid. A school district may not require parents to sign up for or enroll in public insurance programs in order for their child to receive a free, appropriate education under IDEA, Part B.

Continued ►

**If school districts bill Medicaid,
will Medicaid services that parents
or guardians receive outside
school be affected?**

No. Medicaid services received outside school and the child's IEP are authorized separately. The district may not use your child's benefits under a public benefits or insurance program if that use would result in a decrease of any other insured benefit; result in the family paying for services that would otherwise be covered by a public benefits or insurance program and that are required for the child outside of time the child is in school; result in discontinuation of coverage; or result in the risk of loss of eligibility for home and community based waivers based on aggregate health-related expenditures.

If medical service benefits are affected, families may contact **HUSKY Health** at 1-800-859-9889 (Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.).

If behavioral health service benefits have been affected, families may contact the **Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership** at 1-877-552-8247 (Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.).

**Are school districts required to notify
parents? If so, how often must parents
be notified?**

As the parent or guardian of a student who has or may have a disability, you have certain rights under federal and state law. Your child's school district must provide you with written notification of these rights regarding parental consent prior to accessing your public benefits or insurance for the first time and annually thereafter. This document serves as your written notification.

**Where can parents get more
information about this?**

The US Department of Education Web site at <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/speced/reg/idea/part-b/part-b-parental-consent.html>.



Written Consent and Parent Permission for Connecticut School-Based Child Health Program

Student Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

The Shelton Public School District participates in the Connecticut Medicaid School-Based Child Health Program (SBCH).

This program allows school districts to receive funding for services that are provided to eligible students who receive special education related services listed in their IEP and qualify for Medicaid benefits.

- Examples of these services are: Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Speech-Language, Hearing services, Psychological Services, Social Work, Nursing, and Assessment/Evaluation testing.
- If your child receives any of the above services and qualifies for Medicaid benefits at any time during the school year, **we request your permission to release information to access school-based Medicaid reimbursement for the school district.**
- Information to the Medicaid agency may include student's name, date of birth, Medicaid ID and dates and services provided.
- Any reimbursement received from the Medicaid program does not affect or impact other benefits to which your child is entitled, including any eligible services outside of school. **There is NO cost to the family, now or in the future.**
- The school district will provide all services to your child whether or not you grant written consent. Your consent is voluntary and you have the right to withdraw this consent at any time.
- I understand and agree that the school district may access my child's public benefits or insurance information (ex: Medicaid) in order to seek reimbursement for services rendered as listed on the Individualized Education Program (IEP).

Please check if you do or do not provide consent below.

_____ I provide consent

_____ I do not provide consent

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Date: _____

Please return to your child's school office or The Office of Instruction and Support Services, 382 Long Hill Ave., Shelton, CT 06484