



SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS

Brief Coverage Statement

School-Based Health Centers (SBHC) are clinics established and operated within public schools, including charter schools or State Sanctioned GED programs associated with a school district, or on public school property, by the school district. SBHCs are operated in school districts in cooperation with hospitals, public or private health care organizations, licensed medical providers, public health nurses, community health centers, and community mental health centers. The term “school-based health center” includes clinics or facilities authorized to provide clinic services under Section 26-4-513, C.R.S., or authorized to apply for and receive medical assistance payments under a contract entered into pursuant to section C.R.S. 25-20.5-502.

SBHCs provide primary and mental health services, and some may offer expanded behavioral and oral health services. These facilities employ a multidisciplinary team of providers to care for students.

Services Addressed in Other Benefit Coverage Standards

1. Mental Health Fee-For-Service
2. Office Visits
3. Immunization Services
4. Women’s Health Services
5. Family Planning Services

Note: All services provided at a SBHC must follow the clinical indications and guidelines published within the respective Benefit Coverage Standard.

Eligible Providers

The following providers are eligible to provide health care services according to Colorado practice laws and in school-based health centers within the scope of their practice, certification, and licensure:

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| 1. Physician | 2. Psychiatrist | 3. Dentist |
| 4. Licensed Professional Counselor | 5. Licensed Clinical Social Worker | 6. Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist |
| 7. Physician Assistant | 8. Registered Nurse | 9. Psychologist, Psy.D/Ph.D |
| 10. Dental Hygienist | 11. Licensed Practical Nurse | |



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12. Advanced Practice Nurse
 - 12.1. Certified Nurse Midwife,
 - 12.2. Clinical Nurse Specialist,
 - 12.3. Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist
 - 12.4. Nurse Practitioner
13. Registered Dietician (under supervision of on-site physician)

Note: Providers eligible to render services in accordance with Colorado practice laws and within the scope of their practice, certifications, or licensure, may or may not be the rendering provider on the claim form; as not all provider types are able to enroll as a Colorado Medicaid provider.

Eligible Place of Service

1. School (School-Based Health Centers)
2. Office
3. Home/Community

Eligible Clients

The child or youth must meet all of the following criteria to receive Medicaid services:

1. Be enrolled in Colorado Medicaid,
2. Be younger than 21, and
3. Be in accordance with State and Federal statutes on signed consent.

Note: Adolescents may be seen for confidential services in accordance with Colorado law without the consent of parents/guardians.

Covered Services and Limitations

The scope of services offered at each SBHC is determined by school officials, parents, and by the scope of professional licensure of the practitioners. Therefore, some services may not be offered at all facilities.

Note: When a child or youth is also receiving Colorado Medicaid services from healthcare providers outside of the SBHC, the center must demonstrate efforts to coordinate with those providers to prevent duplication of services. Coordination efforts include phone calls, meetings, and written communication (in paper or electronic format documented in the medical record).

CLINICAL SERVICES

1. Services that are intended to diagnose, determine the nature of, treat, or provide a referral to treat a child or youth's health-related condition.

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- 1.1. These services may be provided on a one-on-one basis.
2. Services to prevent disease and promote physical health.
 - 2.1. These services must be delivered in a face-to-face encounter

PSYCHOLOGICAL, COUNSELING, AND SOCIAL WORK SERVICES

1. Services covered in this category require the skills, knowledge and education of a physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, counselor, or social worker to treat or provide a referral to treat a child or youth's psychological or behavioral conditions.
 - 1.1. These services may be provided on a one-on-one basis or in a group.

DENTAL SERVICES

1. Services within the scope of the dentist or dental hygienist's professional practice that are intended to diagnose, determine the nature of, treat, or provide a referral to treat a student's oral health related condition.
 - 1.1. These services may be provided on a one-on-one basis only.
2. A school-based health center that offers oral health services through a contracted dentist or dental hygienist must abide by the same Medicaid policies applicable to all dentists and dental hygienists. Please refer to the Dental Provider Bulletin for more information regarding covered dental services, limitations, and exclusions. The Dental Provider Bulletin can be accessed here: Colorado.gov/hcpf. Click "Provider," click "Provider Services," click "Provider Bulletins."

NUTRITION SERVICES

1. Nutritional assessments as required under Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT)
2. Nutritional services that are determined to be medically necessary as a result of the nutritional assessment

Non-Covered Services and General Limitations

1. Services that are already covered under another program, such as School Health Services prescribed within a child or youth's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)
2. Activities that are an integral part of another service already reimbursed by Medicaid
3. Services that are not covered by Medicaid in other settings are also non-covered Medicaid services in SBHCs.



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Requirements

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION REQUIREMENTS

Prior authorization requirements for services at SBHCs are the same as those of the sponsoring medical provider and as outlined by Colorado Medicaid in Policy Statements and Provider Bulletins.

1. All specialized dental services must be prior authorized, except services to treat a condition found during an EPSDT screening
2. All nutritional services must be ordered as a result of an EPSDT nutritional assessment

PRIVACY REQUIREMENTS

Not all SBHCs' records are maintained by the school, most are maintained by the clinic's medical oversight and therefore are not under the regulations of FERPA, however, again, are under the regulations of HIPAA.

SBHCs are to maintain a written policy addressing the exchange of protected health information between the providers working in the school-based health center, provider staff, and school health staff, and school district employees in accordance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act and the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act.

Definitions

Term	Definition
Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT)	A program providing screening, diagnosis, and treatment services for children under the age of 21 who are Medicaid-eligible.
Individualized Education Plan (IEP)	A written statement of an educational program for a child or youth eligible for special education.
Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)	A written plan for a child or youth with a disability who is between the ages of zero and three years. The plan is developed jointly by the family and appropriate qualified personnel, and is based on multi-disciplinary evaluation and assessment of the child or youth's unique strengths and needs, as well as a family-directed assessment of the priorities, resources and concerns. Medicaid funds are available to reimburse for health and medical services that are a part of a child or youth's IFSP.



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Legal References

Federal Regulations

42 CFR § 440.130(d): - Diagnostic, Screening, Preventative and Rehabilitative Services

Colorado Code of Regulations

10 CCR 2505-10: Medical Assistance

10 CCR 2505-10, Section 8.061.23: Third Party Liability Rule

Colorado Revised Statutes

(CRS) 12-38-132: Colorado Nurse Practice Act

Additional References

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment: Quality Standards for Colorado School-Based Health Centers. October 2009

U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services and U.S. Dept of Education: Joint Guidance on the Application of the *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)* And the *Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA)* To Student Health Records. November 2008

U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services: Health Information Privacy Rule. Accessed 15 July 2010. <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/summary/index.html>

Michigan Department of Community Health. Medicaid Provider Manual: School Based Services. Effective 1 June 2008.

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services. Medical Nutrition Therapy Billing Instructions.
http://hrsa.dshs.wa.gov/download/BillingInstructions/MedicalNutritionTherapy_July2005_UpdatedMemo06_50.pdf

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Medicaid Dental Coverage.
<http://www.cms.gov/MedicaidDentalCoverage/>

Medicaid Director Signature

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