

SBAP



School-Based ACCESS Program

News for participants in the School-Based ACCESS Program

An early morning walk is a blessing for the whole day.
- Henry David Thoreau



John Tykosh joined the SBAP team Jan. 18 as its newest account manager. John is eager to assist our clients and to provide the best customer service possible.
Welcome aboard, John!

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DPW Reminds SBAP Providers: Medical Authorization is Required Prior to Providing IEP Services

In February, the PA Department of Public Welfare (DPW) issued a memorandum reminding SBAP providers that students' Medicaid services must be prescribed on a physician's prescription or be deemed medically necessary by an MD/CRNP on the *Medical Practitioner Authorization Form* before the service can be claimed for reimbursement. To read the memorandum, visit:

www.leaderservices.com/medauth

Services provided prior to the prescription or medical authorization date *are not* eligible for Medical Assistance (MA) reimbursement.

Medical authorization is *not* required for:

- psychological services when provided by a licensed or school psychologist;
- social work services when provided by a licensed social worker;
- evaluations that result in an IEP;
- IEP development.

Coming soon!

To help schools ensure they do not bill for services prior to the signature date of the medical authorization, Leader is adding a *Medical Authorization Signature Date* field on its Web Service Description Slip (WebSDS) system.

This feature will include a validation check that will notify users who enter a service date that is prior to the medical authorization date. More information will follow when this new feature is ready for release.



**PaTTAN Webinar Answers
your SBAP Questions!**

The PA Training and Technical Assistance Network (PaTTAN) invites you to join its upcoming SBAP webinar, which will cover more indepth many of the topics from this issue of *SBAP News*.

Date: **Wednesday, May 26**

Time: **1-2:30 p.m.**

Agenda: **1-1:45 p.m.**

1:45-2 p.m.

2-2:30 p.m.

Recent DPW/PDE memos

Quality assurance Q&A

To register, click <http://tiny.cc/cc228>

If you have trouble logging in, call Go To Webinar at **800.263.6317**

In addition to a computer, speakers or earphones are needed.

Please note that no credit is being offered for attending this webinar

E-Signatures Allowed on Logs

DPW will accept electronic signatures on SBAP provider logs. Based on a March 31 PDE memorandum, DPW will allow e-signatures provided they meet the following requirements:

- Identifies the individual signing the document by his/her name and title;
- Ensures that the document cannot be altered after the signature has been affixed by limiting access to the code or key sequence;
- Provides an audit trail that can validate the signer's identity.

Schools that have an e-signature process and web billing system in place won't have to print provider logs for signature; instead, they can affix their provider and (if necessary) supervisor signature online and store the logs electronically.

Leader is looking into developing a method for its schools to optionally utilize e-signatures in its Web Professional Services Logs (WebPSL) program. Look for more information in future issues of this newsletter and on WebPSL news.

To read PDE's memorandum, visit: www.leaderservices.com/esig

Memo Addresses Misconceptions Regarding Parental Consent

DPW has teamed with the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) in an effort to address parents' concerns that allowing their child's school to bill for SBAP services could negatively affect the MA services their child receives outside the school setting.

In some cases, parents are being advised that their child's outside MA services will be denied or limited if they allow the school to claim MA reimbursement for IEP services. For that reason, many parents are reluctant to sign the *Parent Consent Form* which would allow schools to claim this much-needed reimbursement.

A DPW memo released Dec. 28, 2009 explains that the SBAP health-related services children receive are separate from the MA services they receive outside of the school setting, so giving the school consent to bill has no impact on outside MA services their child receives.

Additionally, the memo explains that the MA program does not impose benefit caps or limits on covered services provided to MA-eligible students.

This memo should alleviate any concerns parents have regarding the idea that giving permission would have a negative impact on their child's outside MA services.

DPW's memorandum can be found at: www.leaderservices.com/paconsent

PA Medical Assistance (MA) Billing Parental Consent Form

Local Education Agencies (LEAs) are eligible to receive federal Medicaid reimbursement for medically necessary services provided to their special education students when the requirements of the state's Medicaid program are provided in accordance with the students' IEP.

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEA) and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) require schools to obtain written parental consent to share students' education and health-related records such as IEPs and Evaluation Reports. We are requesting your permission to share this information with the PA Department of Education, the PA Department of Public Welfare, and a physician or nurse practitioner in order to bill Medical Assistance.

In addition to the Medicaid-covered services your child receives as part of his/her IEP, MA will continue to pay for medically necessary, Medicaid-covered services that are provided to your child outside of school.

I understand that...

- if I give permission, I may withdraw it for future services at any time. However, it does not negate an action that has occurred after consent was given and before the consent was revoked.
- my refusal to give consent will not change the services my child receives under his/her IEP.
- whether I consent or refuse, I will not have to pay for these services.
- upon request, I may receive copies of my child's records that are disclosed as a result of this authorization.

DPW: Telepractice Cannot be Claimed

Telepractice refers to a professional providing interactive, long-distance service to a client in another location.

DPW informed PDE that PA Medicaid will not pay for this mode of therapy. Therefore, if telepractice is being used when providing a health-related SBAP service, the service time cannot be claimed for reimbursement.



Reminders

WebPSL Coordinators: Please approve your logs!

There has been a dramatic increase in the number of unapproved logs on WebPSL over the past few months.

All WebPSL logs must be checked for accuracy and approved prior to processing. If you have unapproved logs in the system, please review and approve them as soon as possible. To review your number of unapproved logs, check the unapproved logs section in WebPSL.

Reconcile Special Transportation Reports

A number of schools have not yet returned their 2008-2009 *Special Transportation Claims Reports*.

Schools received two reports: the first, dated 7/28/09, represented special transportation claims posted prior to that date. The second, dated 12/28/09, represented special transportation claims posted after 7/28/09. You must reconcile these reports to your 2008-2009 bus attendance logs and return the reports to Leader promptly.