

3231/Medicaid Reimbursement for Special Education Students

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
POLICY MANUAL

SECTION: **3000**
CATEGORY: **Business & Non-Instructional
Operations**
POLICY CODE: **3231/Medicaid
Reimbursement for Special
Education Students**

MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS

Policy Statement

The Board of Education will seek Medicaid reimbursement for eligible medically related services provided to Medicaid-eligible special education students in accordance with federal and state law. The services for which the Board may bill Medicaid include audiologist services, evaluation and testing, nursing services, occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy, psychological services, and social work services.

Adopted: 9/18/1990
Revised: 3/15/2002, 7/11/2017

References

- 42 C.F.R. Parts 431, 433, & 440
- The Medicare, Medicaid, & SCHIP Extension Act of 2007 (MMSEA)
- 34 C.F.R. §300.154(d)
- Connecticut Public Act 99-279, “An Act Concerning Programs and Modifications Necessary to Implement the Budget Relative to the Department of Social Services”
- Connecticut General Statutes §10-76d
- Trumbull Board of Education Policy Code 5125.11: Health/Medical Records

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Regulations

The following procedures will be utilized by the Board of Education to seek Medicaid reimbursement for eligible medically related services provided to Medicaid-eligible special education students in accordance with federal and state law:

1. The Board will determine, for each student who requires special education services and for each student who is referred to special education, that child's Medicaid enrollment status.
2. The Board will provide written notification to the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) before accessing the student's or the parent's/guardian's public benefits or insurance for the first time and prior to obtaining the one-time parent/guardian consent described in #3 below, and annually thereafter. The written notification must explain all of the protections available to parents/guardians under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), as described in 34 C.F.R. §300.154(d)(2)(v), to ensure that parents/guardians are fully informed of their rights before the District can access their or their child's public benefits or insurance to pay for services under the IDEA. The notice must be written in language understandable to the general public and in the native language of the parent/guardian or other mode of communication used by the parent/guardian, unless it is clearly not feasible to do so. The written notification shall be provided prior to the student's Planning and Placement Team (PPT) meeting.
3. The Board will obtain a one-time written consent from the student's parent or guardian, after providing the written notification described in #2 above, before accessing the student's or the parent's/guardian's public benefits or insurance for the first time. The consent must specify the following:
 - a. the personally identifiable information that may be disclosed (such as records or information about the services that may be provided to a particular student);
 - b. the purpose of the disclosure (such as billing for services);
 - c. the agency to which the disclosure may be made (such as Medicaid); and
 - d. that the parent or guardian understands and agrees that the District may access the student's, or the parent's/guardian's, public benefits or insurance to pay for the services.

Completion and signature of the consent form by the parent/guardian should be at the student's PPT meeting. Once the Board obtains this one-time consent, it is not required to obtain any further parent/guardian consent in the future.

4. If any child is eligible for Medicaid, but not a current Medicaid recipient, the Board will request that the parent(s)/guardian(s) of that child apply for Medicaid, and will assist the parent(s)/guardian(s) in so doing.

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5. If any child is eligible for Medicaid, the Board will request that the parent(s)/guardian(s) of that child give written permission to allow the Board to request Medicaid reimbursements for eligible health-related special education costs.
 - A. If written permission is received, the Board will submit claims to Medicaid through the State Department of Administrative Services for reimbursement of any health-related cost.
 - B. If written permission is denied, the Board will terminate its efforts to secure Medicaid reimbursements otherwise applicable to the child.
6. Whether the parent(s)/guardian(s) refuses or gives consent to the Board to access Medicaid, reimbursement is strictly optional.
7. Whether the parent(s)/guardian(s) refuses or gives consent to the Board to access Medicaid reimbursement, the child will receive all special education services to which he/she is entitled, without delay, at no cost to the parent(s)/guardian(s).