

May 22, 2023

<Provider Name>
<Provider Address 1>
<Provider Address 2>
<City> <State> zipcode5-zipcode4

Dear Therapy Provider:

RE: Therapy for School-Aged Beneficiaries

The purpose of this letter is to remind therapy providers that Medicaid covers medically based occupational therapy (OT), physical therapy (PT), and speech and language pathology (SLP) therapy services performed in the community for school-aged beneficiaries when the primary objective for treatment is to optimize the child's/youth's maximum functional performance in the home or community setting. Medicaid does not require a school-aged beneficiary to be referred to or access therapy services through the school-based services (SBS) benefit prior to, or in lieu of, accessing medically based OT, PT, or SLP services in the community.

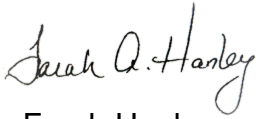
The SBS benefit allows beneficiaries eligible under the provisions of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) of 1990 as amended in 2004 and those enrolled in programs that require an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) to receive health care services, including OT, PT, and SLP, to support the student in the classroom environment and focus on the student's educational goals. School-aged beneficiaries may require therapy services in both community-based and school-based settings out of medical necessity. Participation in OT, PT, and SLP services in one setting is not intended to replace services in the other setting. Decisions about service delivery should not be influenced by Medicaid cost recovery or reimbursement. If therapy is provided in both the community and school, the goals and purpose for each must be distinct. Collaboration between the school and community therapists is required to coordinate therapy and prevent direct duplication of services.

Refer to the Therapy Services and the School Based Services chapters in the MDHHS Medicaid Provider Manual at www.michigan.gov/medicaidproviders >> Policy, Letters & Forms for additional information regarding Medicaid's therapy policy.

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An electronic version of this document is available at www.michigan.gov/medicaidproviders
>> Policy, Letters & Forms.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sarah Q. Hanley".

Farah Hanley
Senior Chief Deputy Director for Health