



# Local Educational Agency Medi-Cal Billing Option Program

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## **PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

The Local Educational Agency Medi-Cal Billing Option Program (LEA BOP) was established in 1993, in collaboration with the California Department of Education (CDE), to fund Healthy Start Programs. It is authorized under California's Welfare and Institutions Code section 14132.06, and reimbursement is based upon a "fee-for-service" model.

The LEA BOP provides reimbursement to LEAs (school districts, county offices of education, charter schools, community colleges, and university campuses) for health-related services provided by qualified health service practitioners to Medi-Cal eligible students under the age of 22. Eligible services include:

- Audiology Services
- Health and Mental Health Evaluation and Education Assessments
- Medical Transportation
- Nursing Services
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Psychology and Counseling
- School Health Aide Services
- Speech Therapy
- Targeted Case Management

## **GOAL**

To allow LEAs to become Medi-Cal providers and bill the Medi-Cal program for certain health related assessments and services provided by qualified health service professionals to Medi-Cal eligible students.

## **TARGET POPULATION**

Medi-Cal eligible individuals under the age of 22 and primarily attending Public School, Charter Schools, Community Colleges, and Universities.

## **WHO PROVIDES SERVICES**

The services are delivered through the LEAs. The LEAs either employ practitioners who provide the services on site, or use practitioners under contract with the LEA.

## **FUNDING**

The LEA BOP is funded with a combination of local and federal Title XIX (Medicaid) funds. Claims are filed using the traditional Medi-Cal fee-for-service system through the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) fiscal intermediary. LEAs pay for the services and are reimbursed the federal funds, at 50% of cost, for each individual service; therefore, there is no State General Fund expense for this program.

## **COST SETTLEMENT**

LEAs must annually certify that the public funds expended for LEA services provided are eligible for Federal Financial Participation pursuant to Code of Federal Regulations, Title 42, Section 433.51. DHCS must reconcile the interim Medi-Cal reimbursements to LEAs with the costs to provide the Medi-Cal services. The Cost and Reimbursement Comparison Schedule is used to compare each LEA's total actual costs for LEA services to interim Medi-Cal reimbursement for the preceding fiscal year.

## **STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

The LEA BOP Advisory Workgroup meets bi-monthly and is comprised of large, medium and small LEAs, community colleges, Local Governmental Agencies (LGAs), Local Educational Consortia (LECs), DHCS, CDE, and professional associations with the purpose to enhance Medi-Cal services on school sites, increase access of care for students, and increase Medi-Cal reimbursement for LEAs.

DHCS offers technical assistance to LEAs in need of support regarding the LEA BOP. Interested LEAs may complete the Site Visit/Technical Assistance Request Form found on the LEA BOP website, under the 'Getting Started' section.

For more information on the LEA BOP, please visit our web site at:

<http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/Pages/LEA.aspx>