

ProviderAlert

To: Select Health of South Carolina Primary Care Providers
From: Select Health Provider Network Management
Date: August 17, 2022
Subject: School-based Mental Health Services Initiative

Summary: In accordance with the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) School-based Mental Health Initiative, effective July 1, 2022: Rehabilitative Behavioral Health Services (RBHS) are allowed to be delivered in school settings by Select Health of South Carolina master's level behavioral health providers who are contracted by the school district.

Select Health wants to ensure that our PCP providers are aware of the services that are available to our members, your patients, through this initiative.

Medicaid reimbursement is available for the following school-based services:

- Rehabilitative Therapy Services
 - Audiological
 - Physical therapy
 - Occupational therapy
 - Speech and language pathology
 - Orientation and Mobility Services (O&M)
- Nursing services for children under 21 years
- Medicaid Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Services (MAPPS)
- Special Needs Transportation Program

In order to be eligible for school-based rehabilitative therapy services, a Medicaid-eligible individual must:

- Be under the age of 21 years.
- Have a current and valid IEP, IFSP or an Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) examination that identifies the need for rehabilitative therapy services.

To be eligible to receive Medicaid-reimbursable O&M services, an individual must meet all of the following requirements:

- Be under the age of 21 years and the need for services is identified through a current and valid IEP or IFSP.
- Have a vision report completed by an optometrist or ophthalmologist that verifies visual impairment or blindness.

Reimbursement is available for school-based rehabilitative therapy services when referred by or under the direction of the qualified rehabilitative therapy provider. Referrals must be made by a physician or other licensed practitioner of the healing arts (LPHA).

For more details about this initiative, visit the [School-based Mental Health Initiative webpage](#) on the Select Health website or see the SCDHHS [Local Education Agencies \(LEA\) Services Provider Manual](#).

Please direct any questions or concerns regarding the policy changes to the SCDHHS Office of Behavioral Health at: behavioralhealth004@scdhhs.gov.

For questions or concerns related to Select Health guidelines, please contact Kathy McLaurin at kmclaurin@selecthealthofsc.com.

As always, we appreciate the valuable services you provide and your partnership in this initiative to improve access to quality mental health services for children in South Carolina's schools.