



Maryland
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

School-Based Services and Medicaid Update

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Agenda

- 2024 Legislative Update - Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act
- Background on MDH and Consortium Partnership for Medicaid School-Based Services
- Envisioned Approach
- Next Steps

2024 Legislative Update

- The fiscal 2025 budget bill (SB360) and the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act (BRFA)(SB360) made several changes that impact the Consortium.
- The BRFA creates a new allowable use for Consortium funds that aligns with its authorizing statute to maximize public funding via Medicaid.
- For fiscal year 2025 only, **up to \$12.0 million** in Consortium funds may be used for **school-based** behavioral health services, and to be used to reimburse Medicaid for school-based behavioral health services provided through Medicaid.
- The fiscal 2025 budget for Medicaid **recognizes \$14.7 million in federal funds** that will match consortium dollars under this new allowable use.

MDH and Consortium Partnership

- **May 2023:** Federal Guidance from CMS on School Based Services Guidance
- **November 2023:** Presented plan for implementation to full Consortium
- **January 2024:** Reviewed plan for implementation and request for technical assistance at Best Practices Subcommittee of Consortium
- **March 2024:** MDH submits federal grant proposal to support technical assistance; funding announcement is July 2024
- **April 2024:** FY25 Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act includes flexible use of Consortium funds to be used for school-based behavioral health services for FY25 only

Primary Behavioral Health School Services

Vision

- In partnership with the Consortium on Coordinated Community Supports, implement a multi-tiered system of behavioral health supports in all public schools

Opportunities

- Maximize Medicaid funding to support school-based behavioral health services, including payment for non-IEP related services.

Current Activities

- Preschool mental health consultation services in partnership with University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB)
- Partnerships with preschool programming (e.g., Lourie Center, PACT)
- Partnership with UMB on Center for School Mental Health
- MDH School Based Health Center (SBHC) development of enhanced service standards

Envisioned Phased Implementation Strategy

Phase One

FFS Reimbursement of LEAs/Other Provider Types



Phase Two

Phase One, Plus Administrative Claiming

- Adopting a phased approach will allow additional planning time to develop methodology and compliance processes for administrative claiming
- Permitting Fee-for-Service (FFS) billing in the interim will allow local education agencies (LEAs)/schools to benefit in near term prior to implementation of reimbursement for administrative costs

Next Steps

- Federal Authorities: Timing and submission of CMS authorities and CMS review of cost report templates, etc.
 - All will be **subject to public comment** period as Medicaid updates its state plan to include this expansion
- State Implementation
 - **Phase I - January 2025:** Development of regulations and guidance; reimbursement and billing model, provider enrollment requirements
 - **Phase II - TBD:** Secure technical assistance contractor for Phase II

FY25 Joint Chairmen's Report of Implementation Progress by December 2024