

Parent Consent

Parents must provide written consent before an AEA or local school district can submit a claim for Medicaid reimbursement.

A Medicaid claim is considered an “educational record”. In accordance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) such records cannot be disclosed to a third party without the written approval of a parent or guardian.

In Iowa, this consent is obtained a minimum of once per year. This consent allows both the AEA and local districts to bill Medicaid for services provided. This consent may be withdrawn at any time.



For Information Please Contact

Department of Education

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Heartland Area Education Agency

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Vision and Mission

Heartland Area Education Agency is dedicated to enriching people's lives.

We are partners for learning who provide cutting-edge services for children and youth, families, schools and communities. Heartland AEA is a proactive and caring organization fueled by a passion for excellence in all we do. We are committed, every day, to helping people grow, develop and learn.

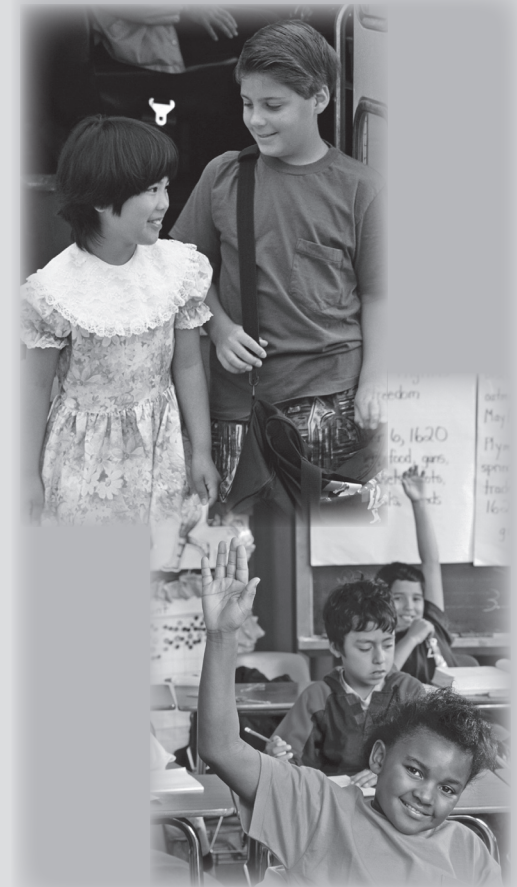
Heartland Area Education Agency 11 does not discriminate based on gender, race, national/ethnic origin, creed, age, marital status, sexual orientation, or disability. Direct inquiries to the Affirmative Action Coordinator, 6500 Corporate Dr., Johnston, IA 50131-1603, or Director, Office for Civil Rights, Chicago, IL 60606-7204.

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Medicaid Billing

for *Early ACCESS* and
Special Education Services



Medicaid & Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

State and federal regulations allow local school districts and area



education agencies to seek partial reimbursement for medically related special education and early intervention services. In fact, AEAs are required by the Iowa legislature to bill Medicaid for services provided in the implementation of an eligible child's Individualized Education Program (IEP).

In many areas Medicaid funds have become an essential means of maintaining the quality of special education and Early ACCESS services.



Medicaid funds are often used to:

- ... Help support teacher and service provider salaries
- ... Purchase assistive technology and adaptive equipment
- ... Cover some of the costs of school nursing services

Medicaid reimbursements are NOT a means of generating additional revenue. They are used to offset the expense of special health related services that generally exceed budget allocations and state appropriations. Without Medicaid reimbursements it would be difficult to fund these services.

Medicaid Reimbursements Have No Bearing on Services

Medicaid reimbursements to AEAs or local districts have no impact on benefits or services received outside of school. To avoid potential conflicts, Heartland delays billing to allow private providers to submit their claims first. And, Heartland will not bill for services that are offered along with private care providers, such as home nurses. State Medicaid officials may forward claims to private insurance companies, but it is expected that these claims will be denied. Medicaid then reimburses the AEA or school district. This practice has no impact on premiums or lifetime family insurance benefits.

As an entitlement program there is no limit on Medicaid benefits.

Consent for Medicaid billing has no impact on the level or quality of services a child receives. AEAs and schools are obligated to provide all the services outlined in an IEP or IFSP, regardless of whether parents agree to allow agencies to file for Medicaid reimbursement.



Approved Services

AEAs and local school districts may only bill for eligible services that are outlined in a child's IEP or IFSP:

- Physical Therapy Services
- Occupational Therapy Services
- Speech-Language Services
- Audiology Services
- Nursing Services
- Psychological Services
- Social Work Services
- Vision Services
- Service Coordination & Case Management Services
- Screening and Assessment Services

All staff employed by the AEA are certified or licensed to practice in Iowa and thus meet Medicaid provider qualifications.