

EC Division Weekly Update
February 9, 2022

News!

Psychological and counseling evaluation services:

Division of Health Benefits (DHB) LEA Policy 10-C was updated on February 1, 2022, to expand the list of practitioners considered qualified by Medicaid/DHB to be reimbursed for psychological and counseling evaluation services.

Section 6.0 *Provider(s) Eligible to Bill for the Procedure, Product, or Service* (page 20) now reads that all providers of psychological and counseling services “shall provide documentation of appropriate training and experience, which qualifies them to work with students in an educational setting. All providers shall function within the scope of practice of their state license and certification.”

Charter Schools enrolling as Medicaid Providers, pursuant to *SL-2021-180.105 9D.21*:

On Feb. 3, 2022, DHB posted a bulletin outlining enrollment requirements to begin participation in the LEA reimbursement program. This bulletin should be read carefully to understand DHB requirements and ensure efficient procedures for Charters who participate in Medicaid reimbursement programs. To support charter school representatives as they begin, NCDPI will host:

- Four Medicaid overview webinars. Building administrators, EC coordinators, and school business/finance officers for charters should attend:
 - Region 3 on March 9 @ 3:30-5p
<https://ncgov.webex.com/ncgov/j.php?MTID=m495534e35c7f1a28b37ff07c617b74e3>,
Password - DHB22
 - Regions 5 & 7 on March 14 @ 3-4:30p
<https://ncgov.webex.com/ncgov/j.php?MTID=md1645312ffb4ea8d62e2b1d133bd0b76>,
Password - DHB22
 - Regions 6 & 8 on March 16 @ 3-4:30p
<https://ncgov.webex.com/ncgov/j.php?MTID=m3fa9952326a8ec02cc8ffbb9c7a8c4b9>,
Password - DHB22
 - Regions 1, 2 & 4 on March 17 @ 3-4:30p
<https://ncgov.webex.com/ncgov/j.php?MTID=m4b6c7afe64b642874442a5a409be9077>,
Password - DHB22
- Medicaid office hours (open time for anyone to come and ask questions) will held on April 7, 11, 18, 25 from 3-4p at <https://ncgov.webex.com/meet/lauren.holahan>
Please submit your questions for that time [here](#)
- A Medicaid in Education CANVAS course will be available in early March

Meanwhile, charter schools are encouraged to investigate the resources at: <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/classroom-resources/exceptional-children/program-and-fiscal-monitoring/medicaid-education>. On-going technical assistance is available from Bill Hussey at william.hussey@dpi.nc.gov and Laurie Ray laurie.ray@dpi.nc.gov

Courtesy Alert: Homebound/Hospital Attendance Code for 2022-2023

The Exceptional Children Division and Home Base team have partnered to create a Homebound/Hospital attendance code (1S) for use in PowerSchool for the 2022-2023 School Year and going forward. This code is to be used for “Homebound/Hospital” or “Homebound Instruction” which are terms used interchangeably to describe *educational services* that are provided outside of school. Educational services that are provided

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outside of school must be documented in a written homebound plan, a Section 504 Plan, or Individualized Education Program (IEP).

In preparation for the roll-out of this attendance code, the following activities and timelines are proposed:

- February 2022 - Courtesy Alert to PSUs
- Spring 2022 - Technical Assistance Webinars/Resources/Implementation Guide
- July 2022 - Homebound/Hospital Attendance Code live in PowerSchool
- Fall 2022 - Update included in Student Attendance and Student Accounting Manual

Technical assistance will include examples of how to appropriately document the specifics of the educational services to be provided based on whether the student is disabled (IEP/504 Plan) or nondisabled. Differences between this code (1S) and existing codes with examples of appropriate use cases will be provided.

Please continue to watch for updates on this topic through your regular communication loops. If there are questions or concerns, please submit them using this link: <https://bit.ly/HBAttCode2022>. Questions and concerns will be accepted through the link provided during the month of February. Staff will then use the submissions to develop the technical assistance materials and FAQs that will be provided later in the Spring of 2022.

<u>Items of Interest</u>

Federal Reporting

- **Federal Personnel Survey**

The Federal Personnel data collection for the 2021-22 school year will be submitted via a revised survey that combines the Related Service Workforce survey with the federally required personnel data. The link to access the survey is listed below: https://ncdpi.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_dmBbNr5ycvtPrq6.

You may need to copy and paste this link into your browser to access the survey. The due date for the Federal Personnel Survey is by close of business on March 14, 2022. See the memorandum for more information. **(ATTACHED)**

- **Important Federal Reporting Reminder: Submission Timeliness**

If your district does not certify the data required for Indicators by the due date, your data may be certified by state staff. The integrity of the data is always at risk when the Department of Public Instruction must finalize the data for your district.

- **Information from Monday Message – 02/07/2022**

[Monday Message 2.7.22.pdf \(govdelivery.com\)](#)

Grant Information

- **Special Grants**

Special grants, with the status of Chief Administrator Approved, are reviewed monthly after the 15th. (If the 15th falls on a weekend or holiday, the review will start of the next business day after the 15th). Notification of

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review is made through NC CCIP. For your review, the Special Grants Training recording, along with the PowerPoint are available on the EC Website [here](#) under the Special Grants section.

- **IDEA/ American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP)**

American Rescue Plan budgets should be submitted as soon as possible.

The American Rescue Plan funds have been allotted under the following Program Report Codes. The budgets will be submitted the same way as the IDEA budgets. A new application is not required.

PRC 185 and PRC 186 Budgets and Allotments

At the current time, those with approved budgets for PRC 185 and PRC 186 have been allotted 75% of their total funds. The additional 25% will be included in a futures allotment. PSUs do not need to make a change in the approved budget. When the additional 25% is allotted, the budget will be reviewed for alignment with the final allotment. Funds.

Additional Information from School Business Newsletter – 02/04/22

[School Business Newsletter 02.04.22](#)

Free Webinar on Supported Decision Making for Learners with DeafBlindness

The Southeast DeafBlind Project Webinar Series presents the *Path to Supported Decision Making: Triumphs, Challenges, and Strategies* on February 24, 2022, from 2:30-4:30 PM. Please see the flyer for more details or visit the [registration website](#). (ATTACHED)

NC Annual Legally Blind Registration: Closes February 14, 2022

The Annual Registration of Legally Blind Students is CLOSING on February 14, 2022. Please remember, if your PSU has NO students to submit, that must be indicated in the [2022 Legally Blind Registration](#) data collection survey before the deadline.

Autism Spectrum Disorder in Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

The Division of Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is hosting a workshop entitled, *Autism Spectrum Disorder in Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children* on February 22, 2022, from 4:00-5:30 PM via Zoom. See the flyer for information on how to RSVP for this workshop and please share with parents and professionals. (ATTACHED)

PK EC Items of Interest

2022 International Early Childhood Inclusion Institute Save the Date: April 26-28, 2022 with a Hybrid format. Join in Chapel Hill or virtually! Information is in the flyer. (ATTACHED)

UNC-CH School of Education Master of Education for Experienced Teachers

Through the Master of Education for Experienced Teachers — in the Early Childhood Intervention & Family Support (ECIFS) specialty area — you can continue to work while enrolled in this part-time program in which you gain the knowledge and skills needed to be a leader and researcher serving children and their families. A Hyflex option will be offered for students to attend in traditional remote/in-person combination OR attend fully remotely. This should allow for more access to the program across the state. Please share the attached

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flier and the program info session dates below with anyone whom you think may be interested. Applications are due April 12th. **(ATTACHED)**

Feb 16th 6-7pm EST: <https://applynow.unc.edu/register/MEDXFeb2022>

March 9th 6-7pm EST: <https://applynow.unc.edu/register/MEDXMarch2022>

Action Items/What's New?

REMINDER: February EC Directors' Webinar

The February Director's webinar will be held **Tuesday, February 15th**, from **10:00-11:00 am**. Registration is required and can be found at this [link](#). Registration will be open until COB on **Monday, February 14th**.

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