



#129-21

Commonwealth of Virginia
Virginia Department of Education
Superintendent's Memo #129-21

DATE: May 14, 2021
TO: Division Superintendents
FROM: James F. Lane, Ed.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction
SUBJECT: **Expansion of School-Based Medicaid Program**

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) is working in collaboration with the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) to expand the school-based Medicaid program to allow for cost-based reimbursement of covered services delivered to Medicaid-eligible students when such services qualify for payment by the Virginia Medicaid school-based program, regardless of whether the student receiving care has an Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

The expansion will emphasize reimbursement of mental/behavioral health services and nursing services for eligible students but will include the services currently allowed for students with an IEP (physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech and language pathology, and personal care services).

The VDOE and DMAS, with guidance from local educational agency (LEA) representatives, continue to be engaged in defining the specific services and school provider qualifications to be included in this expansion. There are several actions to be taken in preparation for this expansion, including the submittal of an amendment to the current state plan for medical assistance to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), and its approval by this federal agency.

As work continues in the expansion of the school-based Medicaid program, the VDOE will continue to provide updates to school division Medicaid contacts through Medicaid

coordinators' meetings. Additionally, the VDOE is planning to offer training on changes to the school-based Medicaid program to Medicaid coordinators, service providers, finance officers, and other relevant personnel prior to the implementation of the expanded services. The anticipated start date to bill for these services is July 1, 2022.

For more information

If you have any additional questions, please contact Amy Edwards, Medicaid Specialist, by email at Amy.Edwards@doe.virginia.gov, or by telephone at (804) 692-0150.

JFL/AE/rge