Medi-Cal Billing Overview
Santa Clara School-Based Billing
Professional Learning Network

Alicia Pimentel, MHA
Anthem Blue Cross
Program Director

March 28, 2023
Those eligible for Med-Cal Include (not limited to):

- Adults and families with children
- Disabled persons
- Pregnant women
- Those under 26, regardless of immigration status who meet specific income requirements
- Foster youth
- A parent or caretaker of an eligible child

Families can apply for Medi-Cal services through Covered CA, over the phone or by mail, and through their County Social Services Agency.

Medi-Cal Enrollees can choose their MCP when they enroll and may switch their MCP (if there are multiple MCP’s) at anytime throughout the year.
Models of Billing Connected to Schools

- Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA)
- Community Based Orgs (CBO)
- County Health Authority (MHP/DPH)
- School District (LEA)
- County Office of Education (COE)

Blending any of the 5 Models above

From the Practical Guide for Financing Social, Emotional, Mental Health in Schools:
**Current Billing Requirements**

- Providers must be licensed in their field and obtain DHCS approval to provide services (PAVE)
- Obtain an NPI number
- Contract with the MCP to identify reimbursement rates for services
- Go through the MCP credentialing process and provide the following information:
  - NPI
  - Tax ID and W-9
  - Provider Type
  - Practice Address
  - License number
  - Degree
  - CAQH number
  - Billing address
- Maintain a CAQH account
- Check eligibility of each member prior to providing services to identify their MCP in which the claim will be sent:
  - It is the responsibility of the service provider to ensure the student is eligible for services and identify which MCP they belong to prior to providing services (Availity)
- Train internal staff on billing requirements or work with a third-party vendor to bill MCP’s for services:
  - Schools can use a third-party vendor or have internal staff bill the MCP directly either electronically or by mail
- Bill for the MCP for eligible contracted services for reimbursement
Providers can bill their Medi-Cal MCP for mild/moderate behavioral health services which include things like:

- Psychotherapy
- Group therapy
- ACEs screenings

Rates are typically 100% of the Medi-Cal Fee Schedule which can be found through DHCS and are determined by the provider type administering the service

- Ex: Licensed Psychologist (LP) would have different reimbursement than a Licensed Marriage Family Therapist (LMFT)
Benefits to Schools

2024 DHCS contracting requirements for MCP’s:

- DHCS will be releasing new requirements for MCP’s to offer reimbursement to schools for services.
- DHCS is updating their billable services and rates to include additional services that are not currently eligible (peer-to-peer, community health workers, etc.)
- Expanding the scope of billable services and eligible provider types to include non-clinical providers that will focus on early intervention

Reimbursement for services you are already providing on or near campus

Additional communication with MCP’s and coordination of care for students
Next Steps

1. Identify providers in your schools that qualify to participate in the reimbursement process.
2. Work with providers who need to complete the previous steps in order to qualify to bill MCP’s (CAQH, NPI, PAVE, etc.).
3. Identify a process for determining student eligibility. A good tool for this would be Availity.
4. Identify a process for submitting claims to the MCP (through a 3rd party vendor or internal staff).
5. Work with your MCP to begin contracting process.
Questions