



## Privacy Notice - School Health and Related Services (SHARS) and Medicaid Administrative Claiming (MAC)

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Medicaid services provided by school districts in Texas to Medicaid-eligible students are known as School Health and Related Services (SHARS). SHARS allows local school districts, including public charter schools, to obtain Medicaid reimbursement for certain designated health-related services documented in a student's Individualized Education Program (IEP). The following is a complete list of services covered by SHARS:

- Audiology & Hearing, including evaluations and therapy sessions
- Counseling Services
- Nursing Services, including routine medication administration services
- Occupational Therapy, including evaluations and therapy sessions
- Personal Care Services
- Physical Therapy
- Physician Services
- Psychological Services, including evaluations and therapy sessions
- Speech & Language Services, including evaluations and therapy sessions
- Transportation in a school setting

The main objective of the SHARS program is to reduce the cost of delivering health-care services in the school setting. Services received at school do not affect or compromise the type or amount of Medicaid services received outside of school. Further, Bellville Independent School District:

- A. Will not require parents to sign up for or enroll in public benefits or insurance programs in order for their child to receive a free and appropriate education (FAPE);
- B. Will not require parents to incur an out-of-pocket expense such as the payment of a deductible or co-pay amount incurred in filing a claim for services provided;

TX Medicaid has instituted TPL (Third Party Liability) policy requirement using the "pay and recover" method. Using the pay and recover TPL (Third Party Liability) process for SHARS means that Medicaid pays the school district for services before third party reimbursement is sought. If the third party insurance denies a claim for an acceptable reason, no further action is taken. Lifetime benefits of private insurance could be affected depending on the policy or agreement parents or guardians have with the Insurance Company.

Personal identifiable information will be provided to the agency responsible for the administration of the State's public benefits or insurance program (e.g., Medicaid) for reimbursement under the SHARS program. This information includes but is not limited to name, date of birth, Social Security number, Medicaid number, date of service, service type and service duration.

You can choose not to provide your consent, or later decide to withdraw your consent anytime.

### Our Responsibilities

- We are required by law to maintain the privacy and security of your protected health information.
- We must let you know quickly if a breach occurs that may have compromised the privacy or security of your information.
- We must follow the duties and privacy practices described in this notice and give you written initial notification as well as written annual notification.
- We must not use or share your information other than as described here, unless you tell us in writing we can. You may change your mind at any time. You must let us know in writing, if you change your mind.

Please feel free to contact Megan Pape, Director of Special Education at 979-865-3133 with any questions about the SHARS program or if you need to file a complaint because you feel your rights are violated. You may also contact the State's Medicaid program at 1-800-252-8263.