

School Health Services Program

Department of Health Care Policy and Financing
and
Colorado Department of Education

Program Updates
Mid-Year Training 2024

Olga Gintchin
Department of Health Care Policy and Financing

Omar Estrada
Colorado Department of Education



COLORADO
School Health Services Program

Acronyms

| Acronym | Full Name |
|---------|--|
| BOCES | Boards of Cooperative Education Services |
| CDE | Colorado Department of Education |
| CMS | Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services |
| FAQs | Frequently Asked Questions |
| FY | Fiscal Year |
| HCPF | Department of Health Care Policy and Financing |
| IEP | Individual Education Program |
| IFSP | Individualized Family Services Plan |
| LSP | Local Services Plan |
| NAME | National Alliance for Medicaid in Education |
| NPI | National Provider Identifier |
| OPR | Ordering, Prescribing, and Referring |
| PHE | Public Health Emergency |
| SHS | School Health Services |



Agenda

Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF)

- New CMS Guidance
- NPI OPR resources
- SHS Stakeholder Program
- NAME Conference
- Program Resources
- PHE Updates

Colorado Department of Education (CDE)

- CDE SHS Learning Tool
- Local Services Plan (LSP)
- Reimbursement Spending Report
- Parental Consent



HCPF Updates



COLORADO

School Health Services Program

New CMS guidance

- [Delivering Services in School Based Settings: A Comprehensive Guide to Medicaid Services and Administrative Claiming](#) issued May 18, 2023
- Participants will be notified prior to any program changes
- Review and direct questions to HCPF
- No anticipated changes around direct service billing

Colorado already has:

- 1/12 Interim Payments
- Free Care
- Expanded provider qualifications

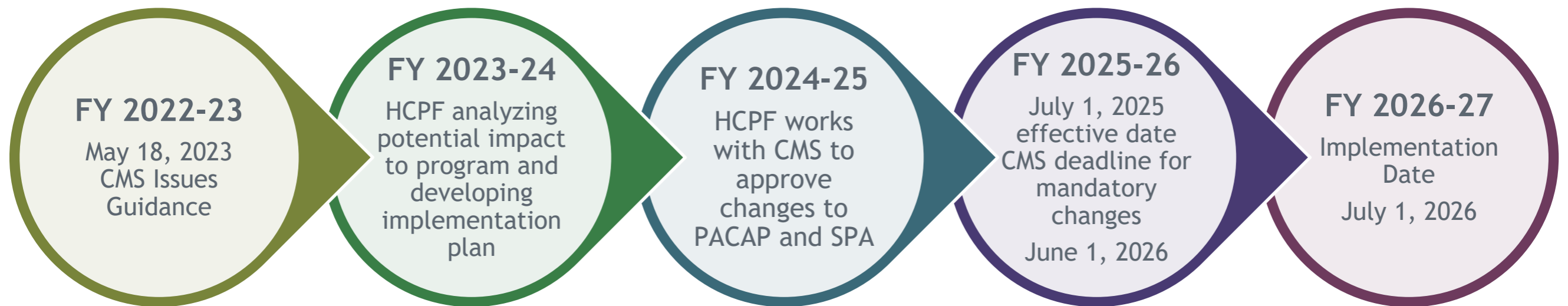
Currently analyzing:

- Potential impact of bus aides not qualifying specialized transportation
- Potential time study impact of fewer moments and longer time study



New CMS guidance

Estimated Timeline



The SHS program will operate according to current rules and regulations in the program manual until changes have been approved by CMS.



National Provider Identifier (NPI) Requirement – Check In

- ✓ Phase 1 - District/BOCES NPI used for all Physical Therapy (PT), Occupational Therapy (OT), and Speech, Language, and Hearing Services with a date of service of January 1, 2022 or later in the ordering, prescribing, and referring (OPR) field
- Phase 2 – Individual providers must obtain an NPI and register as a Medicaid provider by June 30, 2024



We are here

<https://hcpf.colorado.gov/opr-claims>



National Provider Identifier (NPI) Requirement – Tips

Work with Gainwell to troubleshoot specific issues

Contact Olga directly with an Application Tracking Number (ATN) to escalate unresolved issues or for general questions

Step by step directions and FAQs are included in the [NPI OPR Guide](#)

Monitor claims in [Interchange](#) to ensure program compliance

Use NPI after steps are completed to identify issues early

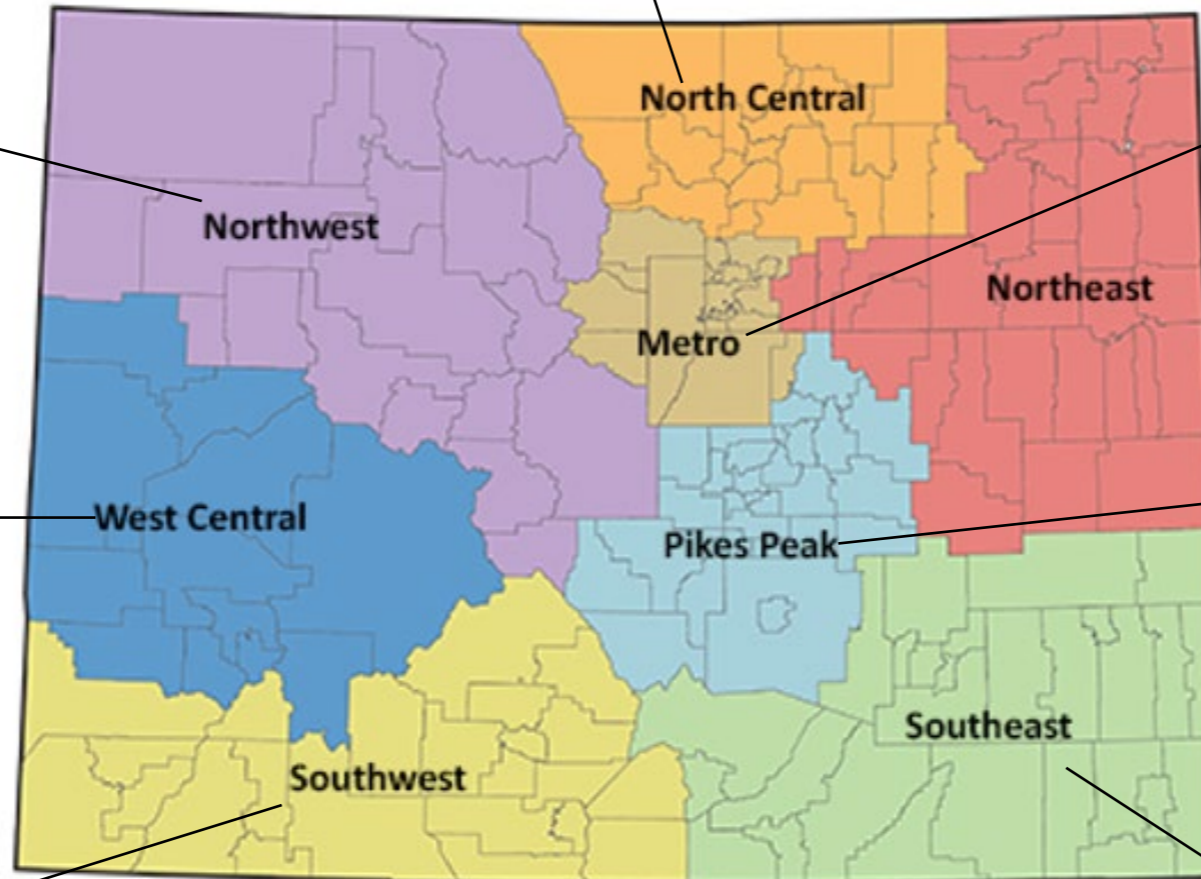
Invalid NPIs in this field currently being paid but flagged. Eventually claims with invalid OPR NPIs will be denied.



SHS Program Stakeholders



Who is your Stakeholder?



Gary Galvin, Weld 6

Lynda Keeley, Cherry Creek
Marie LeBlanc, Englewood Schools
Nancy Bunjes, Adams 12

Eva Geske, Mesa County Valley
Hattie Pinkston, La Plata 9-R

Sheryl Pixley, El Paso 49
Leslie Burdekin, Pikes Peak BOCES
Michelle Camille, Pueblo School District

Eva Geske, Mesa County Valley

Marlee Hart,
Archuleta/Dolores/Montezuma-Cortez, San
Juan BOCES

Community Partners
Aurora Ramsden, Frontline
Jason Ambrose, The Consortium
Joe Kinney, Kinney & Associates

Jessie Wallace, East Otero

National Alliance for Medicaid in Education (NAME)

- Conference held in Dallas in October 2023
- Discussed:
 - CMS Comprehensive Claiming Guide
 - General sessions by CMS, OIG, OSERS
- Colorado stats:
 - Presented two breakout sessions
 - Four members of NAME leadership
 - 32 attendees
- Colorado will host next year - opportunity for more to attend



www.medicaidforeducation.org



Program Resources

Office
Hours

Newsletters

InterChange
billing
system

SHS Program
Website and
Manual

Contract
with HCPF



Public Health Emergency

Continuous Coverage

Unwinding

Alison Ledden
PHE Communications Specialist, HCPF

Medicaid Redeterminations Return to Normal

- Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid program) and Child Health Plan *Plus* (CHP+) eligibility redeterminations have resumed after a multi-year pause during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE).
- During the pandemic, membership increased from 1.2 million to 1.75 million as unemployment rates rose and people signed up for safety net health coverage.
- All member's eligibility is being reviewed between May 2023 and April 2024 to determine if they are eligible for coverage.
- Health Care Policy & Financing (HCPF) is working closely with partners and sister agencies to raise awareness about Medicaid renewals.

PHE Planning Resource Center

Links to Toolkits, FAQs, Reporting & more!

Public Health Emergency Planning



Toolkits

Update Your Address

Keep Coloradans
Covered

Take Action on Your
Renewal

Medicaid Scam
Warning

Transcreated Toolkit Materials

Materials in the following campaigns have been transcreated into the top 11 languages spoken by members: **Amharic, Arabic, Burmese, Chinese, Dari, Pashto, Russian, Somali, Swahili, Ukrainian, and Vietnamese**

- [Take Action on Your Renewal](#)
- [Keep CO Covered](#)

PHE Resource Center: <https://hcpf.colorado.gov/covid-19-phe-planning>

Raising Awareness of Medicaid Renewals

This half sheet flyer can be printed and handed out to help remind Health First Colorado or CHP+ members to prepare and take action when it's their time to renew

Take Action Toolkit/flyers

You can help #KeepCOCovered



Do You Have Medicaid or CHP+? Get Ready to Renew!



Update your contact information and sign up for notifications in the Health First Colorado app or your PEAK account.



When it's your time to renew, complete, sign and return your paperwork right away.



Return documentation through the Health First Colorado app, online at co.gov/PEAK, or by mail.



Need help? Scan the QR code to find your County Department of Human Services or visit hfcgo.com/renewals



What if I no longer qualify?

Other health coverage options include:

- Employer coverage, check with your employer to learn about options, rules and deadlines.
- Coverage through a family member's health insurance.
- Coverage through Connect for Health Colorado (Colorado's official health insurance marketplace).
- Coverage through Medicare, for people age 65 or older or people under 65 with certain disabilities.
- Coverage for active or former military, naval, or air service through Tricare (active) or VA (veterans).

If you have questions or need help visit hfcgo.com/options to learn more.

Health First Colorado Renewals Page

High-level information for members about the renewal process
Available in English and Spanish



[Log in to PEAK](#) | [En Español](#)

Select Language

[Apply Now](#)

[Find a Doctor](#)

[Benefits & Services](#)

[News & Resources](#)

[About](#)

[Get Help](#)

Renewals

FAQs

Renewals: What you need to know

If you get health coverage through Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid program) or Child Health Plan *Plus* (CHP+), your eligibility is reviewed annually.

Some members will be automatically renewed based on the most recent information already on file with the state. Other members will need to go through the renewal process.

If you are auto-renewed

- You will get a letter about 60-70 days before your renewal deadline saying your health coverage has been renewed.
- No additional information is needed.
- Health coverage will be renewed for twelve months.

<https://www.healthfirstcolorado.com/renewals/>

Redesigned Renewal Packet

- It's shorter- no extra blank spaces and fewer pages
- Less pages to fill in financial information.
- Additional emphasis on signing
- Color CO seal added to envelope window to help prevent it from being mistaken for junk mail



Medicaid Renewal Escalation

- If a member is having an issue with their renewal, they should first [contact their local county](#)
 - Counties have 30 days to complete renewals they've received (This is why it's important for members to **take action right away** when they receive their renewal packet)
- If the issue persists, members can complete the online complaint form via the Health First Colorado webpage: <https://www.healthfirstcolorado.com/countyfeedback/>

Extension vs. Reconsideration vs Appeal

Extensions Delay Disenrollment

- Members with long-term care (LTC), waived services, and buy-in recipients have a 60-day extension to act on their renewals
- If a member meets this criteria, they would have an additional 60 days to complete their renewal without it being considered late
- Effective through June 2024

90-day Reconsideration Period for Late Renewals

- After a procedural decision
- Members who miss the renewal deadline can turn in an existing renewal packet and supporting documents within 90 days of their renewal date to see if they still qualify
- Members must ask to be enrolled retroactively if there is a gap in coverage

60-Day Appeal Window

- After an eligibility decision
- Individuals have 60 days from the date on the notice of action to appeal their eligibility decision (the exact deadline date is printed on the notice)
- Coverage will be automatically continued during the appeal for individuals who appeal timely.



**An extra hand
for parents with
their hands full**

Now, you have one less thing to worry about. Health First Colorado offers free or low-cost health insurance for kids and teens. Children can get regular check-ups, immunizations, doctor and dentist visits, hospital care, mental health services, prescriptions and more. Families of four earning up to nearly \$39,000 annually or more may qualify.

Go to **HealthFirstColorado.com**
or call **1-800-221-3943**
to learn more about affordable health coverage for your family.

 
InsureKidsNow.gov

 **Health First
COLORADO**
Colorado's Medicaid Program

General Awareness About Kids Coverage

Flyers can be printed and handed out to alert parents about Health First Colorado health insurance coverage for their kids.

You can help [#KeepCOCovered](#)

How can you help #KeepCOCovered?

- ❖ Use the renewal messaging and materials in our toolkits:
 - Add messaging about renewals in emails, newsletters and on websites
 - Share social media messages and graphics
 - Post flyers in public areas and hand out to members
- ❖ Familiarize yourself with the Partner Education Toolkit to help members who may need assistance and/or direct them to someone who can help.
- ❖ Check the regularly updated FAQs <https://hcpf.colorado.gov/covid-19-public-health-emergency-faqs>
- ❖ Sign up for the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Updates Newsletter to receive important updates and new tools as they are released.

<https://hcpf.colorado.gov/covid-19-phe-planning>

Questions?



Alison Ledden

PHE Unwind Communications Specialist

alison.ledden@state.co.us

Colorado Department of Education Updates

*Omar Estrada
School Health Services Consultant
Colorado Department of Education (CDE), Health Services Office*



COLORADO
School Health Services Program

CDE Updates Agenda

- ❖ CDE SHS Learning Tool
- ❖ Local Services Plan
- ❖ Reimbursement Spending Report
- ❖ Parental Consent



CDE SHS Learning Tool

New information and updated videos as of January 1st, 2024!
Visit the [CDE SHS website](#) and click on the link shown below.

CDE School Health Services (SHS) Program Learning Tool

Use the link below to access the CDE SHS Program Learning Tool. Topics in this Moodle course include the basics of the Local Services Plan (LSP) and the Reimbursement Spending Report (RSR), LSP development and implementation, and support tools available to program participants. This course offers valuable insights and practical tools to program participants, whether they are new to the program or looking to refresh their knowledge.

- [Click here to access the CDE School Health Services \(SHS\) Program Learning Tool](#)

Use the embedded feedback form in the tool to provide your feedback or to submit best practices for the program.



Program Rules and Information

Program Resources



Local Services Plan

By July 1st, 2024, 86% of Local Services Plans (LSPs) will use the updated health service categories.

- By 2025, all districts/BOCES participating in the program will be using the new health service categories
- Updated LSP templates are on the CDE School Health Services (SHS) website
- Districts/BOCES using the previous health categories can update their LSPs early via an LSP revision by contacting Omar (Estrada_O@cde.state.co.us)



LSP Reminders

LSP Revisions

- Can be initiated at any time during the 5-year plan period
- Must align with community health assessment
- Must include (1) a revised LSP and (2) an LSP companion form

LSP Renewals

- CDE recommends ten months to complete a new LSP submission
- If you don't know when your LSP will end, check the CDE SHS website to find your cohort group.



Reimbursement Spending Report to CDE

Update to the current report form (FY 2022-23):

- **A narrative labels textbox is now included in the form. It will populate as subcategories are selected.**

Note: If you are currently working on your report, this should not affect your data.



Narrative Labels Example

Select the Health Service Category(s) in which your district/BOCES spent money: *

Nursing Mental Health Student Health
 Special Service Providers Outreach & Enrollment Transportation
 NA/No reimbursement dollars were spent

Nursing

Nursing Category Expenditures * ⓘ

FTE/Contracted Personnel Equipment/Material/Supplies Professional Development/Trainings
 Assistance/Emergency Funds Screenings/Assessments

FTE/Contracted Personnel Expenditure * ⓘ # of FTE * ⓘ

Total Nursing Expenditure ⓘ
\$0

Please include narratives for each selected subcategory. Copy and paste the following labels for organization:

FTE/Contracted Personnel:

Category-Specific Narrative information * ⓘ
Enter category-specific narrative information in this space. Hover over the question mark for help.

Choose a subcategory to generate labels. Copy & paste these into the main category's narrative (see left screenshot for guidance).



Data Flyers Update

A new data flyer template used for the FY 2022-23 reporting period.

Changes we are looking to make:

- Optional “Proud Achievements” section
- More alignment with state-level flyer
- New ways to present reimbursement spending data



Parental Consent Forms

Prior to accessing a child's or parent's public benefits for the first time, a public agency must:

- Obtain written parental consent informing parents of what Personally Identifiable Information (PII) may be disclosed, why, and with whom the information will be shared. This is required under the Family Education Rights Privacy Act (FERPA).
- Provide notice to parents of their rights under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), including their right to:
 - Not be required to enroll in Medicaid to receive special education services
 - Not Incur out-of-pocket expenses, or otherwise negatively affect their Medicaid coverage
 - Not have their child's services affected if consent is refused.
 - Withdraw or refuse consent at any time



Parental Consent Reminder

Remember:

- **These parental consent forms concern the disclosure of PII necessary for billing purposes. It is not consent to bill Medicaid.**

Note: Connect with your legal team with any questions regarding your district/BOCES consent processes.



Proposed Rule Update



Update to the CDE SHS Program:

➤ <replace with changes to program from final action>



Reminder

If under comprehensive review, parental consent forms are due Thursday, February 29, 2024.

Reimbursement Spending Reports to CDE:

- **Report due:** Thursday, February 29, 2024

For Local Services Plans ending in June of 2024:

- **Initial review draft:** Monday, June 17, 2024
- **Final submission:** Monday, July 1, 2024



Need additional support?

There are many direct support options available:

Schedule a 1-1 Meeting with Omar:

- <https://doodle.com/bp/omarestrada/1-1-with-omar>

Email your question(s):

- Estrada_O@cde.state.co.us

Call with your question(s):

- 303-815-0745

For all CDE SHS documents, guides, and other supports:

- cde.state.co.us/healthandwellness/medicaid_home
- OR search "Medicaid" on CDE's website search bar



Questions or Comments?



Thank You

Omar Estrada
School Health Services Consultant
Colorado Department of Education
Health and Wellness Unit
Estrada_O@cde.state.co.us
303-815-0745

Olga Gintchin
School Health Services Administrator
Department of Health Care Policy and Financing
Special Financing Office
Olga.Gintchin@state.co.us
303-866-4234



COLORADO
School Health Services Program