



COLORADO

Department of Health Care Policy & Financing

School Health Services Program News

Our newsletter is a Department of Health Care Policy & Financing (the Department) publication which provides information on the School Health Services (SHS) Program. The Colorado SHS Program is administered by the Department in collaboration with the Colorado Department of Education. Providers participating in the program may receive federal matching funds for amounts spent in providing health services through the public schools to students who are receiving Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid program) benefits.

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Save the Date

Mid-Year Trainings

Please mark your calendars! Dates and locations have been determined for the School Health Services (SHS) mid-year refresher trainings.

Jan. 31, 2023 - Fountain Nature Center
320 Peppergrass Lane
Fountain, CO 80817
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Feb. 2, 2023 – Jefferson County School District
1829 Denver West Drive
Golden, CO 80401
9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Feb. 7, 2023 – Mesa County School District
596 W. Westgate Dr.
Grand Junction, CO 81505
9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Similar to past trainings, there will also be a virtual option offered. Registration links and the virtual information will be emailed and posted to the Department website in the coming weeks.

Program Components

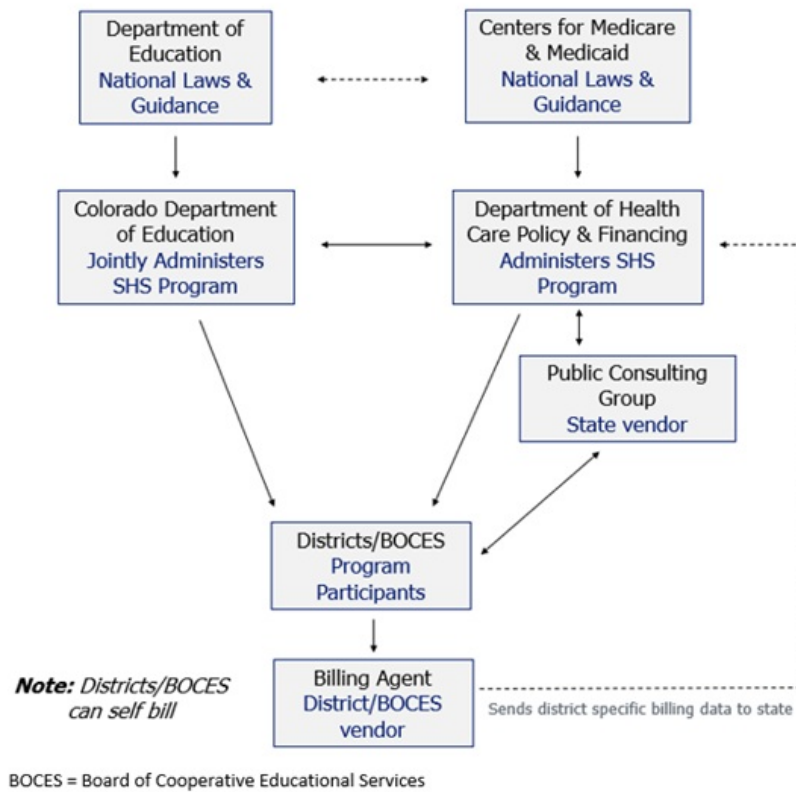
Public Consulting Group (PCG) Claiming System Random Moment Time Study (RMTS) Follow-Up Notifications

In October, program stakeholders met to discuss a variety of topics. A request was made of PCG to include hyperlinks in the initial follow-up moment email notifications. The

Department and PCG heard this request and will be implementing the update starting in January. Currently, when participants receive requests to provide additional details in a response, the email does not include a hyperlink to the moment. Starting in January – March 2023 (JM23), the hyperlink will be included in the initial follow up request to participants. Coordinators will not be copied on this notification since the moment hyperlink is included. However, overdue follow-up reminders that are issued when participants don't answer initial follow-ups timely, will include the coordinator but will not include a hyperlink.

School Health Services (SHS) Organizational Chart

There are many relationships among entities that help make up the SHS Program. The organizational chart illustrated below has been designed to help program participants and stakeholders better understand those relationships:



Welcome Matthew Giles

Matthew Gilles recently joined the PCG Colorado SHS team and is based out of Chicago, Illinois. Matthew has worked as a contractor for PCG for two years prior to accepting a full-time position and moving on to the Colorado SHS team. As part of this team Matthew will be helping to lead Medicaid Administrative Claiming (MAC) operational tasks such as quarterly cost reporting, claiming, and Certified Public Expenditure (CPE) collection as well as assisting with trainings and district support.

Matthew has a background in accounting and finance and received his Bachelor of Business Administration from Saint Xavier University majoring in both fields. Matthew continued his schooling at Saint Xavier University in pursuit of an MBA focused on accounting which he received in 2021.

Stakeholder Updates

Thank you to everyone who provides our stakeholders with feedback and topics for discussion. We welcome your input and appreciate stakeholders for bringing these items to the table.

Our October stakeholder meeting discussion centered around the National Provider Identifier (NPI) requirement, annual cost reporting common questions, as well as topics to be included in mid-year training. Our FY 2022-23 mid-year training will now include new coordinator training as well as many of items we discussed during our stakeholder meeting.

All stakeholder vacancies have now been filled. The [website](#) and the [Stakeholder Areas of Knowledge Grid](#) have both been updated.

Colorado Society of School Psychologists (CSSP) Fall Conference

Olga Gintchin and Omar Estrada presented at the CSSP Fall Conference on Friday, Nov. 4, 2022, on behalf of the SHS Program. They outlined the licensure qualification changes that went into effect Oct. 1, 2022, for School Psychologists. As part of the presentation, they explained the importance of billing for direct services, answering the RMTS, as well as the potential impact of this change to the RMTS. The Local Services Plan (LSP) process was also explained and highlighted mental health as one of the top two spending categories for reimbursement dollars. Following their presentation, they answered questions from the attendees.

Colorado-Based Organization Ambassador Program

The Colorado Department of Health Care Policy & Financing (Department), which administers Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program), is working with Colorado communities to start an Ambassador Program. The goal of the Ambassador Program is to work with Health First Colorado members and people who might be eligible for services to improve the letters and other written information the Department uses to communicate with Coloradans about Health First Colorado. The Department is focusing first on Spanish- and Vietnamese-speaking communities.

Ambassadors are people who will help us understand the needs of the communities they live in. They will partner with community organizations that work with Health First Colorado members to help make the information members and people who may be eligible get easy to understand in their native languages and in culturally responsive ways.

Ambassadors will help Health First Colorado with:

- Leading interviews, focus groups, and listening sessions
- Getting feedback about the best ways to communicate with members and potential members
- Sharing guidance for policies and programs
- Providing important information to Health First Colorado members and potential members

Ambassadors will be paid an hourly wage and get training and support from the Department.

We are asking for trusted community organizations to contact our subcontractor, Health Management Associates (HMA), if they are interested in supporting the Ambassador Program. This could include hosting an Ambassador or providing information about potential Ambassadors in their community. The program will be run by the Department's Member Experience team.

Please contact Lee Repasch (Lrepasch@healthmanagement.com) or Kelsey Moore (KelseyMoore@healthmanagement.com) for more information about the program and how to participate.

Public Health Emergency Planning (PHE)

Preparing for Renewals Partner Toolkit

The Department has launched a partner communications toolkit to aid in preparing for the end of the PHE - Preparing for Renewals. This new toolkit includes a section on renewal process education that explains key terms and provides sample notices so partners can see exactly what the member will see when they go through the renewal process. In addition, both partners and members can view short videos in English and Spanish on key actions: updating an address, completing the renewal process, and transitioning to other coverage if a member no longer qualifies.

Update Your Address Campaign

*Now available in the top 11 languages for Health First Colorado members

Please continue to help us spread the word to Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid program) and Child Health Plan *Plus* (CHP+) members to update their contact information.

We know that many members have moved over the past few years. It is crucial that we have correct addresses so that members get the information they need to keep or change their coverage.

Upcoming Webinar

The Department of Health Care Policy & Financing (HCPF) will be hosting an informational session on preparing for the end of the Public Health Emergency. This webinar is geared toward community partners such as advocacy organizations, providers, and community organizations who may provide other assistance to Health First Colorado or CHP+ members (housing, social services, etc). The content includes an overview of communication resources for partners to assist members in preparing for and taking part in the renewal process. We'll also discuss transitions in coverage for members who may no longer qualify for state-administered programs.

When: Jan. 25, 2023, 1 - 2:30 p.m. Mountain Time
Topic: PHE Unwind Webinar | Community Partners & Advocates
Register in advance for this webinar: [Zoom registration](#)

For the latest information on PHE Planning, visit our webpage: hcpf.colorado.gov/phe-planning.

National Alliance for Medicaid in Education (NAME)

NAME Conference

The 20th NAME Conference took place Oct. 24-27 in Baltimore, Maryland. Colorado brought a fantastic delegation with over 25 attendees!

Overwhelmingly, the unofficial theme of this conference was about collaboration between our federal partners, state agencies, local education groups, vendors, and supporting organizations. Attendees were able to select from a variety of breakout sessions with topics involving Free Care expansion, cross-agency collaboration, school-

based Medicaid best practices, and audit guidance. Colorado's own Olga Gintchin (HCPF), Omar Estrada (CDE), Nancy Bunjes (Adams 12), and Michelle Camille (Pueblo 60) led two breakout sessions with their presentation "It Takes A Crew! Collaboration for Success"!

General sessions heavily featured speakers and presentations from federal agencies including Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Education, Office of Inspector General, and other strategic partners. Healthy Schools Campaign discussed the much-anticipated updated guidance, Technical Assistance center, and emerging topics in school-based Medicaid. In addition to the breakout and general sessions, attendees were moved and entertained by keynote speaker, Dr. Adolph Brown and participated in practitioner panels and Town Hall meetings throughout the conference.

Each year, NAME picks a local charity that will receive the proceeds from the silent auction. We are thrilled to announce that the 2022 auction raised \$4,000 for [The Children's Home](#) in Baltimore, MD.

All conference attendees received a NAME membership with their registration, and will be able to view this and previous year's conference materials [on the NAME website](#). If you would like to join NAME, [please visit their webpage](#).

All roads lead to Texas for the 21st NAME Conference in 2023; official location announcement coming soon.

NAME is looking for student spotlights to feature in upcoming editions of Jenny's Journal, a special member's only NAME newsletter. Each month, the newsletter will feature stories of how school-based Medicaid has had meaningful impacts on children. In September, we learned about Arielle, a third-grade student from Houston County, GA who has been able to move from small group special education classes to all general education courses thanks to assistive devices and adaptive equipment. If you would like to submit a Student Spotlight for the newsletter, it's easy! Just email your spotlight to info@medicaidforeducation.org.

Colorado Department of Education (CDE) Updates

CDE Parental Consent Review

Part of the comprehensive review process includes a review of parental consent. If your organization is under a comprehensive review, here is a quick reminder of the process to review parental consent forms:

- 1) Districts/BOCES under comprehensive review will receive two emails on Jan. 2.
 - One will be from Omar Estrada (Estrada_O@cde.state.co.us) with instructions
 - the other will come from CDE's secure file transfer system (Notify@transfer.cde.state.co.us).
- 2) Districts/BOCES can then collect and submit parental consent forms for the sample of students they received and submit them via the secure file transfer system.
- 3) Districts/BOCES have until Feb. 28 of the same year to submit their parental consent forms.

Secure emails are automatically deleted every 30 days. Districts/BOCES who have not submitted the requested documents by Feb. 1 may need to be resent a new secure email. Reach out to Omar for any questions or comments.

Upcoming Deadlines

Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2023

- FY 2021-22 Reimbursement Spending Report to CDE due
- Parental consent files due (for districts/BOCES under comprehensive review)

Need to meet?

If you would like 1-1 support on reimbursement spending, the Local Services Plan (LSP) or the reimbursement spending report, feel free to [schedule a help session](#) or email [Omar Estrada](#)

All CDE School Health Services Program support documents, as well as links to LSP documents and reimbursement spending report, can be found on the [CDE School Health Services Website](#).

Key Dates

FY 2022-2023 Stakeholder Dates

Jan. 12, 2023

9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Location: Hybrid via Zoom & In-person

1570 Grant St.

Denver, CO 80203

April 13, 2023

9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Location: Hybrid via Zoom & In-person

1570 Grant St.

Denver, CO 80203

Quarterly Cost Reporting

Jan. 2, 2023

Oct. – Dec. 2022 (OD22) cost report opens for district reporting

Jan. 31, 2023

OD22 certification is due

Random Moment Time Study

Feb. 1, 2023

April - June 2023 (AJ23) staff pool lists (SPL) and calendars open to districts

March 1, 2023

AJ23 certification is due

The School Health Services Program is a joint effort between the Colorado Department of Education and the Department of Health Care Policy & Financing.

If you have any suggestions for the newsletter please email the School Health Services

Administrator [Olga Gintchin](#), SHS Program Assistant [Tracy Gonzales](#) or [Public Consulting Group](#) (PCG).

Additional SHS Program Contacts:

[Omar Estrada](#), CDE School Health Services Consultant

[RMTS Help Desk](#)

[Cost Report Help Desk](#)

Links

[School Health Services](#)

[Colorado Department of Education](#)

[Public Consulting Group - Claiming System](#)

[Health First Colorado](#)

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