

TASB School Medicaid Services

SHARS 2025
CONFERENCE



TASB
SCHOOL MEDICAID
SERVICES

The SLP Saga: Individual vs. ORP

Presented by Dario Avila, TASB School Medicaid Services



ST & Audiology Referrals

- On August 13, 2021, it was announced that effective October 1, 2021, a referral would be required for all Speech Therapy (ST) and Audiology services to receive SHARS reimbursement.
 - The referral must be updated a minimum of once every three calendar years.
 - All referring and prescribing providers, including Speech Language Pathologists (SLPs) and audiologists whose evaluations serve as the referral, regardless of direct employment with school districts, **must obtain a National Provider Identifier (NPI) and must be enrolled in Medicaid as individual practitioners.**
- On September 14, 2021, TMHP announced the changes announced the month prior would now become effective on November 1, 2021. In addition, it would accept SHARS claims for PT, OT, ST, or audiology services for processing without a referring or prescribing provider NPI on the claim during a year-long grace period, through October 31, 2022.
- Beginning November 1, 2022, claims were rejected if the referring or prescribing provider NPI was not on the claim.



Individual vs. ORP

- Originally, SLPs could only enroll in Texas Medicaid as Individual Performing Providers.
- Effective July 3, 2023, SHARS SLPs were allowed to enroll as ordering, referring, or prescribing (ORP) providers.
- Each referring (SHARS) SLP should consider the options and determine what provider type best suits their personal needs, as well as those of their employer/district.



Individual vs. ORP

Individual

- Must revalidate every 5 years
- No application fee required
- Requires enrollment through the Acute Care – Comprehensive Care Program
- Allows provider to issue orders, referrals and/or prescriptions
- Allows providers to bill for services provided to Medicaid eligible patients
- Requires regular billing to remain active
- Enrollment process is long and complicated
- SHARS billing will not impact provider's personal tax returns/information

ORP

- Must revalidate every 5 years
- No application fee required
- Requires enrollment through the Acute Care – Fee for Service Program
- Allows provider to issue orders, referrals and/or prescriptions
- Does not require billing to remain active
- Enrollment process is shorter and takes less time to approve
- SHARS billing will not impact provider's personal tax returns/information



Individual vs. ORP

- Unless you provide services outside of the school setting, the billing requirement of an individual enrollment can be problematic for SHARS SLPs since all SHARS billing is done using the district's NPI.
 - [Workaround announced for individual SHARS SLPs with no billing activity](#) in danger of being inactivated.
 - Requires sending a letter to TMHP to explain your situation, as well as information on the SHARS participating district(s) at which the you provide services.
- There is only one provider enrollment application for all provider types.
 - Individual performing provider enrollment requires completion of all sections/forms, but there is no surety bond requirement or application fee.
 - ORP applications do not require completion of the following sections/forms:
 - Services Provided
 - Accounting/Billing Information
 - Ownership/Controlling Interest
 - Application Fee
 - Attachments



Provider Enrollment Reminders

- Obtaining an NPI is only half of the process. To be able to provide referrals you must also enroll in Texas Medicaid as an Individual SLP or as an ORP.
- Not every SLP needs to obtain an NPI and enroll in Texas Medicaid, only needed to provide a referral (or evaluation that serves as the referral).
- Licensure information will need to be updated periodically to prevent inactivation.
- You are not locked into one enrollment type for life. You can convert from Individual to ORP or vice versa.

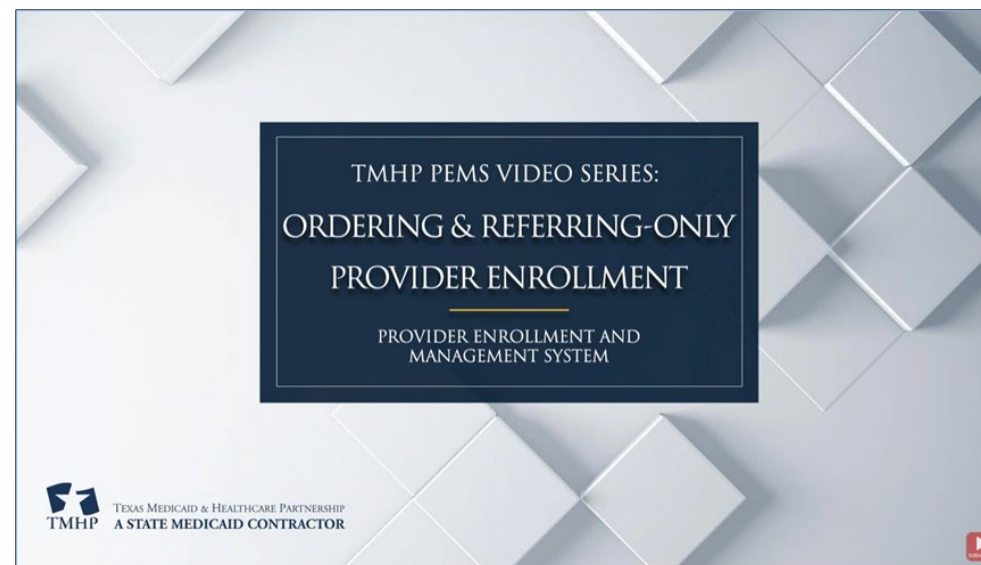


Provider Enrollment

All provider enrollment applications are submitted via [PEMS](#). Assistance is available:

- Schedule a walkthrough with TMHP Provider Enrollment at 800-925-9126, Option 3
- [PEMS Provider Enrollment Instructions for SHARS SLPs \(Individual Enrollment Only\)](#)
- [TMHP Ordering and Referring Only Provider Enrollment Demo – YouTube Video](#)

- [Schedule a provider enrollment walkthrough with TASB.](#)





Contact Information:

Dario Avila, Senior Consultant

Email: dario.avila@tasb.org

Phone: 737-708-1117

TASB School Medicaid Services

SHARS 2025

CONFERENCE



TASB
SCHOOL MEDICAID
SERVICES