

SHARS Matters Webinar Series

April 2023 – Third Party Liability

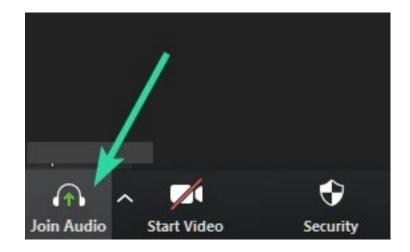
Presented by Dario Avila, TASB Special Education Solutions



April 2023 – Third Party Liability



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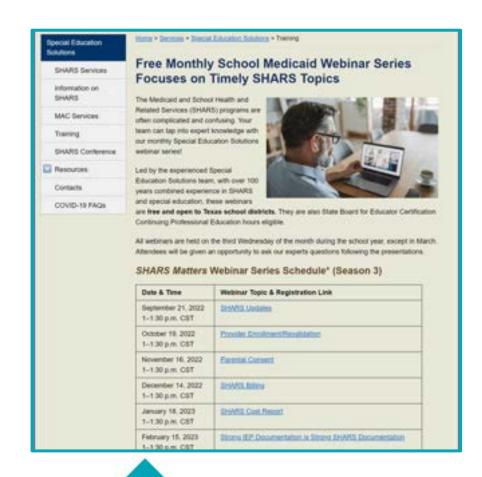
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This information is provided for educational purposes only to facilitate a general understanding of the law or other regulatory matter. This information is neither an exhaustive treatment on the subject nor is this intended to substitute for the advice of an attorney or other professional advisor. Consult with your attorney or professional advisor to apply these principles to specific fact situations.



Agenda

- SHARS Overview
- What is Third Party Liability?
- Pay and Recover Later
- Why Does TPL Matter to Me?
- Resources / Contact Info / Reminders





- Medicaid provides health coverage to millions of Americans, including eligible low-income adults, children, pregnant women, elderly adults and people with disabilities.
- Medicaid is administered by states, according to federal requirements.
- The program is funded jointly by states and the federal government.



The School Health and Related Services (SHARS) program is Texas' school-based Medicaid program. It gives local school districts and public charter schools the opportunity to obtain Medicaid reimbursement for certain health-related services provided to students that:

- Are Medicaid eligible;
- Are 20 years of age and younger;
- Meet eligibility requirements for special education as described in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA); and
- Have an Individualized Education Program (IEP) that documents the needed services.







The services reimbursable by SHARS include:

- Audiology Services
- Counseling Services
- Nursing Services
- Occupational Therapy
- Personal Care Services
- Physical Therapy
- Physician Services
- Psychological Services
- Speech Therapy
- Specialized Transportation





What is Third Party Liability?



What is Third Party Liability (TPL)?

- TPL refers to the obligation of third parties, such as a client's other insurance, to pay part or all of the expenditures for medical assistance provided under a state's Medicaid plan.
- Medicaid is the payor of last resort.

 Texas uses the Pay and Recover Later method for all SHARS claims submitted for payment.



Pay and Recover



Pay and Recover Later

- Medicaid providers (districts) bill Texas Medicaid & Healthcare Partnership (TMHP) for services provided to eligible clients.
- TMHP pays claims that meet all requirements (eligibility, provider licensure/credentials, documentation, etc.).
- TMHP determines if a client has another healthcare provider (insurance). If another insurance plan is found, it is billed for the services provided to the client that it has already paid.
- Whether or not payment is remitted to TMHP from the other insurance, no action is ever taken to collect payment from the provider (district) or the client (student and parent(s)/guardian(s)).





- Parents need to be informed of TPL because there is a possibility that their insurance benefits could be impacted by this policy.
- Nothing will be billed to a client as a result of TPL. If a co-pay or deductible is charged as a result of a SHARS claim submitted to a client's other insurance, that amount will be paid by the Health and Human Services Commission.
- When a TPL claim is submitted (regardless of whether it is paid) to a client's other insurance, the insurance agency will typically send the client an Explanation of Benefits (EOB).
 - The EOB is for the client's records but should not be considered a bill.





- TPL is required of all Medicaid programs.
- Districts must obtain parental consent from a student's parent/guardian before billing for Medicaid/SHARS services provided to their student.
- Once consent is provided, any services billed to TMHP by the district will be subject to TPL.





- TPL is not optional, but parental consent is.
- If a parent/guardian is concerned about the implications the TPL policy can have on their other insurance, they can deny/withdraw consent.
- If consent is denied/withdrawn by a student's parent/guardian, no (SHARS) claims will be billed to TMHP for services provided to the student and so TPL will have no impact on the client's other insurance.

- We have yet to see TPL impact a client's other insurance, but it is always a possibility.
- Denial/withdrawal of consent does not free a district from providing services to a student.
- By law, school districts must provide IEP prescribed services for special education students to receive a free and appropriate public education.



Resources / Contact Info / Reminders



Resources

- SHARS Handbook (Section 2.6 Third Party Liability): http://www.tmhp.com/sites/default/files/file-library/resources/provider-manuals/tmppm/pdf-chapters/2023/2023-04-april/2_SHARS.pdf
- TEA Update to HHSC Third Party Liability for SHARS Interim Claims: <u>https://tea.texas.gov/about-tea/news-and-multimedia/correspondence/taa-letters/update-to-hhsc-third-party-liability-for-shars-interim-claims</u>
- Medicaid.gov Coordination of Benefits & Third Party Liability: https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/eligibility/coordination-of-benefits-third-party-liability/index.html



Get the latest School Health and Related Services (SHARS) news and trends!



September 2020

SHARS Amidst

COVID-19

All of us have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic in some way, shape, or form. Even the School Health and Related Services ISHARS) program has been temporarily modified to accommodate for the changes school districts have had to implement to ensure the health and safety of their students and communities. Throughout the ongoing global pandemic, we have



emained in constant contact with state and federal agencies to stay informed of all the latest

SHARS Matters quarterly e-newsletter



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Contact Information

