

# The SBAP Monthly

School-Based ACCESS Program Monthly Bulletin

October 2024



## **Grant-Related Feedback - Surveys available now!**

As you are hopefully aware now, PA was awarded a technical assistance grant by CMS to support PA's ongoing compliance efforts and to work toward expansion of SBAP beyond students with IEPs. (If you missed the October 2<sup>nd</sup> presentation about the grant, the [slides](#) are posted on the SBAP website.) DHS and PDE have partnered through the process of applying for and kicking off the grant. This partnership is important to the success of the SBAP and that includes the input and feedback of our Local Education Agencies.

Surveys will be used to gather information that will support the decisions about SBAP that are made in the coming months/years. Every provider included on the Oct-Dec2024 Direct Service Cost Pool will receive a link to the survey targeted to direct service providers. If you have new providers or know someone who didn't receive it - please forward [this link](#)! A separate survey for other staff of our participating LEAs is now [available here](#), and a [survey designed for the IUs](#) was sent out via the BSE and PAIU. We are looking forward to the constructive and creative ideas that our LEAs share with us! **Please be sure to provide your responses no later than October 25, 2024. Your voice matters!**

## **Monthly Management Reports - Paid Claims Data**

A new MAXCapture report, PAH-108 - Paid Claims RA Month, was released on September 21<sup>st</sup>. Developed in response to LEA requests for detailed data about paid claims, this report provides paid claims data for the prior month. SSG has posted the first reports, providing data for July and August 2024. This report can be used to assist with the reporting needs of Intermediate Units in determining responsible district data.

It continues to be the responsibility of the LEAs to maintain their own documentation. Please note that once a monthly PAH-108 is posted, it will remain available for a period of 3 months. LEAs should download reports on a monthly basis before this data is gone!

## **Specialized Transportation**

While some students need specially adapted transportation every day that they attend school, that transportation is NOT always a Medicaid-allowable service. LEAs are responsible for the cost of transporting students for educational purposes, even when students require an accommodation due to a disability. Medicaid may reimburse the cost of travel when the purpose of the transportation is the delivery of a health-related service. As a result, specialized transportation claims are always contingent upon a paid health service on the same date.

Federal oversight agencies have identified transportation as a service where waste, fraud, and abuse often occur. DHS updated the MPAF to provide space to document the need for the specialized transportation and the specific accommodation. This is to assist in developing an audit trail so that if/when the LEA is selected for a review or audit, they are prepared with the documentation needed to avoid a recoupment.

While DHS cannot direct an LEA in how to write an IEP, there are a couple of things PDE asks LEAs to keep in mind. The present levels should familiarize anyone reviewing the IEP with the student and his/her needs. Special considerations may also include details relevant to the need for transportation. MPAF statements may include: "requires vehicle with A/C (asthma)", "vehicle with no more than # students/elopement risk", "vehicle with restraints (harness, wheelchair lift, etc.)". Some of the specific questions you've raised have been sent to CMS for input - we will share responses as soon as we receive them!