

Distribution: Practitioner 99-03
Qualified Health Plans 99-04

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Subject: School Based/School Linked Health Centers (SBSLHCs)
Reimbursement under Contracts with Qualified Health Plans
(QHP) or Special Health Plans (SHPs)

Effective Date: January 1, 2000

Program Affected: Medicaid

Centers may continue to provide services to Qualified Health Plan enrollees under policy published in the MSA 97-14 bulletin. Under this existing policy, Medicaid beneficiaries may choose to obtain services from a School Based/School Linked Health Center (SBSLHC) without prior authorization from the Qualified Health Plan (QHP). If the SBSLHC does not have a contract with the QHP, then the QHP is still responsible for payment to the SBSLHC at Medicaid fee-for-service rates in effect on the date of service. Please note that the Children's Special Health Care Services Special Health Plans (SHP) are not required to reimburse centers for Medicaid services provided to SHP enrollees.

Once the SBSLHC and the QHP negotiates and signs a contract, then the SBSLHC is reimbursed according to the provisions of the contractual agreement. Contracts between the SBSLHC and the QHP or SHP should include policies and procedures relative to maintaining the confidentiality of information.

Do not confuse SBSLHCs with Medicaid's School Based Program for students enrolled in special education or who receive outreach services through school districts enrolled in the School Based Services Program. SBSLHCs provide access to preventive and primary care services for low-income children that live in communities that tend to be served by fewer providers.

A list of the approved SBSLHCs is attached.

Manual Maintenance

Retain this bulletin for future reference.