

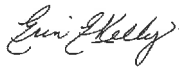
August 20, 2024

Wanda Pontoo
Administrative Coordinator
South Carolina Department of Education
Room A371-2
428 Wholesale Lane
West Columbia, SC 29172

To Whom it May Concern:

In response to the letter dated July 8, 2024 (attached), while MedBen does have a Certificate of Authority in the state of South Carolina, there are no in force policies at this time.

Thank you,



Erin Kelly
Director of Compliance

MedBen 2024 – This document is not intended to be a substitute for the review and advice of the Plan Administrator's own legal counsel, does not constitute legal counsel or advice, does not create a lawyer-client relationship, and cannot be used or substituted for legal or tax advice.

Self-funding Saves. MedBen Delivers.

Rec'd 7/29/24



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

July 8, 2024

Medben
PO Box 1009
Newark, OH 43058

To Whom It May Concern:

The State of South Carolina's Department of Education (SCDE) is requesting information from healthcare insurance companies providing healthcare insurance coverage to students ages 3-21 throughout South Carolina, and your organization has been identified as a primary insurance company currently providing health insurance coverage to students in South Carolina.

The following services are rendered in school-based settings by providers who are licensed, certified, or supervised and work within their scope of practice based on the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation requirements and guidelines established by the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services' Medicaid policy:

1. Physical therapy
2. Occupational therapy
3. Audiology services
4. Rehabilitative Behavioral Health Services (RBHS)/Mental health or addiction counseling services (e.g., psychotherapy, crisis management, etc.)
5. Speech services
6. Psychological testing and evaluation
7. COVID-19 Testing
8. COVID- 19 Vaccine Administration

The SCDE would like to know if your company's healthcare plan(s) cover any of the services listed above. Included you will find SCDE's School-Based Service Sheet which identifies the procedure codes, procedure descriptions, and modifiers that will be/are utilized in school-based settings for academic year 2024-2025. If your plan reimburses for any of the procedure codes listed when the service is rendered

ELLEN E. WEAVER · STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION
428 WHOLESALE LANE · WEST COLUMBIA, SC 29172
PHONE: 803-734-8500 · FAX: 803-734-3389 · ED.SC.GOV

in a school-based setting, please communicate this within the School-Based Service Sheet by placing a check mark within the column that says “Yes” or typing the word ‘Yes.’ Enter the word ‘No’ or place a check mark in the column that says “No” if your company does not provide reimbursement for the services when rendered in a school- based setting.

Responding to this letter is beneficial to both the school districts throughout South Carolina and your organization. In 2017, Medicaid began to require that school districts submit claims to primary/third-party insurers prior to billing Medicaid when a student receives services in a school-based setting and has health insurance coverage by a primary/third-party insurer.

Currently, school districts in South Carolina must submit a claim to a student’s primary insurance company, receive a denial from the primary insurance company, and then bill Medicaid after the denial is received from the primary insurance company (documentation of the denial from the primary/third-party insurer must be attached to the Medicaid claim) for each service rendered by the school district. This is both, time consuming and burdensome for school districts, particularly when the school district knows that they will receive a denial from the third-party due to non-coverage, and the school district does not have the bandwidth or capacity to carry out the task (i.e., rural school districts). To alleviate this burden, the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) will allow districts to bypass the process of submitting the claim to the primary/third-party insurer (just to receive a denial), if there is a letter from the primary/third-party insurer (on the third-party/primary insurer’s company letterhead) which states that they do not cover the services identified in the School-Based Service Sheet when provided in a school-based setting. Therefore, the school districts throughout SC need your organization to respond to this letter. Your response is imperative, and districts are relying on you to alleviate the administrative burden of submitting unnecessary claims to your organization if you do not cover the services identified in the School-Based Service Sheet included with this letter.

Responding to this letter also benefits your organization as your organization can avoid receiving and processing claims from up to 74 school districts for up to approximately 200,000 students within the state of South Carolina (Note: it is unknown how many students your organization provides coverage to at this time).

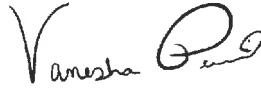
The SCDE’s Office of Medicaid Services (OMS) appreciates your response to this letter, as school districts continue to provide medically necessary services to students throughout South Carolina and the OMS continues to assist school districts throughout South Carolina in streamlining the third- party billing process.

Please forward your information/response using your company’s letterhead which ensures authenticity to Wanda Pontoo, Administrative Coordinator, South Carolina Department of Education, Room A371-2, 428 Wholesale Lane, West Columbia, SC 29172 via email wpontoo@ed.sc.gov. If you have questions regarding this survey, please contact Wanda Pontoo at (803) 734-8371 or email wpontoo@ed.sc.gov.

Page 3
July 8, 2024

Thank you in advance for your time and assistance with this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vanesha Perrin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "V" and a distinct "P" for the last name.

Vanesha Perrin
Director, Office of Medicaid Services

Enclosure: School-Based Service Sheet