



Medical Assistance Letter (MAL) No. 609

TO: Eligible Providers of Medicaid School Program (MSP) Services

FROM: Barbara R. Sears
Director, Department of Medicaid (ODM)

SUBJECT: House Bill 89: Ohio Medicaid School Program requirements regarding referring practitioners

Summary

House Bill (HB) 89 enacted a new section of the Ohio Revised Code that authorizes occupational therapists, physical therapists, speech-language pathologists, and audiologists to make referrals, within their specific discipline, for medically necessary physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech language therapy, and audiology services when the services are provided to Medicaid eligible children who receive such services in a school environment under the Ohio Medicaid School Program and in accordance with each child's Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

The provision to the law will not alter the scope of practice of the physical therapist, occupational therapist, speech-language pathologist or audiologist, nor will it alter services rendered by such practitioners when the service is provided outside the Medicaid School Program.

The legislation, effective March 21, 2017, is intended to address the referring requirements for school based services as found under Section 6401(a) of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA), and under certain provisions of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) (citations provided below).

Additional Provider Information

The Ohio Department of Medicaid will amend administrative rules for the Ohio Medicaid School program to include the changes enacted by HB 89.

ODM has also created the attached document which offers therapists step-by step instructions on how to enroll as an Independent MSP provider. Likewise, the guidance can be accessed on ODM's provider enrollment website: <http://medicaid.ohio.gov/PROVIDERS/EnrollmentandSupport/ProviderEnrollment.aspx>

Additional Information

Citations regarding the ordering, referring, and prescribing requirements are as follows.

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- 42 CFR 440.110: Requires certification of physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech language therapy and audiology services by a physician or other licensed practitioner of the healing arts.
- 42 CFR 455.410(b): Requires providers to be enrolled in state Medicaid programs if they order, refer, or prescribe services.
- 42 CFR 455.440: Requires provider's National Provider Identification (NPI) number and name be reported on claims submitted for reimbursement to the Medicaid Program.

Questions pertaining to this letter should be addressed to:

Ohio Department of Medicaid
Bureau of Provider Services
P.O. Box 1461
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