

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**  
**SBCH PROGRAM - REIMBURSEMENT AND CON**  
55 FARMINGTON AVENUE · HARTFORD, CT 06105-3725  
CONTACT: DSS.SBCH@CT.GOV

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## **Bulletin-SBCH Expansion Updates**

The State is expanding the School Based Child Health Program (SBCH) to include coverage of medical services provided to any Medicaid eligible student in Medicaid enrolled districts for services pursuant to an Individual Education plan, 504 plan, **Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP), or other plan of care or are otherwise medically necessary**. This bulletin highlights Medicaid coverage updates as well as required changes for federal compliance, to be effective July 1, 2026.

The high-level changes are as follows:

- Coverage of Medicaid-eligible students for all EPSDT screenings, evaluations and assessments, behavioral health services and nursing that are medically necessary or subject to a plan of care.
- New requirement to bill services using modifiers to denote special education or general education services
- Year-round random moment time studies starting July 1, 2026
- Updated Medicaid eligibility ratios (MERs) to support SBCH Cost Report reconciliation and settlements
- MER snapshot date changes to third month of the quarter instead of the first month
- Transition of specialized transportation to quarterly Medicaid administrative claiming instead of fee for service.
- Revised SBCH cost report starting for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2027 cost report period

### **What you need to know:**

- Provider Enrollment SBCH Addendum will be issued by **April 30, 2026**. School districts must submit signed addendums by **June 30, 2026** to continue participation in SBCH. All SFY 2027 claims will be held until the signed Provider Addendum is received.
- Claims for dates of services on or after 7/1/26 require appropriate new modifier.
  - TM Modifier is required for IEP/504 Plan services and
  - TR is required for all other general student population services.

Services submitted without these modifiers will be denied. Modifiers to distinguish occupational and physical therapy services are still required.

- Per the CMS federal guidance, year-round time studies are required. The SBCH will initiate its first summer quarter this July 1, 2026.

- Medicaid eligibility statistics or snapshots will be no longer be averaged but applied quarterly. The snapshot date will move from the first day of first month to first day of third month (i.e. July 1<sup>st</sup> will now be September 1<sup>st</sup> collection date).
- Parental consent and Medicaid supporting documentation details remain unchanged for all student populations.

**What's next:**

- The SBCH Provider Manual will be updated and released by **May 15, 2026**.
- Training on the following topics will be forthcoming:
  - RMTS updates
  - Medicaid Eligibility statistics/snapshots
  - Specialized Transportation and Medicaid Administrative Claiming
  - Interim claiming
  - Cost Report training