

Next SMAA LEA Call is Thursday, May 28th at 1:30pm.

SMAA LEA Workgroup Call Minutes

5/7/15

RMTS: (Report from call with DHCS 7 May)

TSP funding sources. DHCS sent email.

- This issue involves if a funding source changes in mid-term and the person no longer can claim MAA (they are no longer eligible). The moment would be allowed, but the individual would not be counted as part of the cost pool. DHCS has been asked to put this in writing.

Codes

- DHCS believes they can finalize codes before October. Still have issues with code 16 and paid time off.

These codes need to be finalized so the moments can be coded.

Paid Invoices

- DHCS is hesitant to set an actual date for when invoices will be finalized. Hopefully by June 30th. DHCS is still finishing up the process. The rules with Accounting have not been finalized. They must be finalized before invoices can be sent to accounting, let alone paid. DHCS hopes to send them to the LEC's and LGA's. It could take them up to 3 weeks, maybe by the end of July, before LEAs will receive payment.
- One other problem is books will be closed at end of June so this could further delay payment to the LEAs. DHCS is not clear as to which quarters will be included. Though it was stated that the entire deferral would be covered by it. However, backcasting may make it so that LEA's could owe money. Particularly for those districts receiving 75% back. This is a concern for spending the money. The hope from DHCS is that the reimbursement will be higher under RMTS and so as a result LEAs will get money coming in moving forward, not necessarily, moving back. They may be including reimbursement from 13-14 in the check so the loss won't look as big to districts.

DHCS was asked to put the time period and included quarters in writing so that I can be discussed on a future Monday call meeting.

John Mendoza at DHCS was sent questions asked about why claiming is done the way it currently is. His reply will be sent to the workgroup.

LEA "Wish list" Meeting on 4/20/15

LEA representatives met with DHCS on 4/20 to go through a list of items. A request was made at the meeting to get back to DHCS with responses on what items should be on a calendar that would be posted on the DHCS website, items that need clarification in the training materials for TSPs, and some direction on the paper moments issue. These items are highlighted in blue below. Let us know if there are other items that should be listed.

Item 1) Establish and Post on Website a Calendar or Deadlines

- Timeline on payment of deferrals. When will the accounting instructions be finalized and invoices sent for payment. When will checks go to LECs/LGAs for payment? When can school districts begin to see their interim payment
- List of the identified software issues: when they are being discussed and when a resolution is being planned.
- Jan. – March. April – June. List of software changes proposed during these periods.
- What is the timeline for when LEAs must provide information back to the LECs/LGAs and when must information expected by DHCS be received. (this is general so you can add in what DHCS expectations are so these can be posted)
- When will districts be able to see lists, coding? When will consortium and statewide data be shared back with the LEA's?
- Timeline for the changes in the manual. When will review period start for the LEAs

Item 5) Work with LEC/LGAs on PCG mailers and communications to create effective notifications and use familiar language that makes sense to LEAs

Items that needed clarification for TSP's.

- Training videos. LEA's have not seen training videos and so suggesting clarifications is difficult to do.
- Resending the moments. TSP's are unclear of dates and what they mean. Is the date of expiration of the moments on what is sent to the TSPs on there? If not, it should be added.
- E-mail with link needs to include date.
- There is vocabulary that is not clear. Allow some LEA representatives to review the training slides and make recommendations. What do TSP's see? Coordinators don't have access so it is hard to answer questions from the TSPs
- Time deadlines needs to be emphasized and clarified: When the moment is going to come or when to reply.
- Third question in moment asks "why were you doing this?" TSP's not sure how to answer. This question could be reworded as, "What was the purpose..."
- Moments have been sent out with no video. Even when screens are included they only have brief directions.
- A small group should be asked to review these issues and provide feedback.

Item 7) Paper moments

Paper moments are when a moment is sent to a TSP who has no access to a computer. At this time the policy is not clear. The district having this issue is trying to compile the issues that exist. This information will be sent to DHCS.

One observation is that an aide would not do the action to satisfy the moment so that there is reimbursement. What is there opportunity for outreach? Assumption from this district participants need to be in both programs. It is also a small district and so it could be that outreach is not only done by the teacher. This could be due to the aide being of bilingual assistance to the school.

Paper moments may not be a big issue, however, it is an issue that stems from districts reaching out to their LGA for policy clarification and LGA does not know what to do. The manual does mention the hard copy moment, but no real direction. The section will need to be defined.

Other items discussed with DHCS:

Appeals

LEA's would like to avoid appeals and instead would like to work things out before things go to appeal. DHCS was unable to give a real answer on this.

New PPL

LEA's should avoid doing duplicate billing. PPL says if there is other revenue designed to cover cost use that first. Medicaid should be the revenue of last resort.

This section was modified; however, not much has changed than what was stated previously

IEP's

What can claim in terms of IEPs has been addressed. Modifications may need to be made based on the 2003 manual as to when and if the referral made in the initial IEP is educational or considered MAA time.

Issue presented: There should be no MAA moments attached to IEP activity. The PPL clarifies existing policy, which is in the 2003 guide on specific IEP's. Once service is identified as okay. Previous activities, previously billed to MAA would not be included.

Will these moments need to be reviewed and redone if the moments are included? How would these moments be caught if it had happened in the past? This is concerning 13/14 claims.

This change would take out what has been coded as a code 8. Code 8- Continual referral coordination. Medi-cal referrals happen in IEP meetings. Now this will not be coded as a code 8, you can do any discussion prior or after the meeting can be included, but not during the IEP. A lot of MAA time comes from IEP meeting.

RMTS will not give us a higher return with this information (code 8) being pulled out.

The CDE perspective, initiated this conversation. This is their take on IEP's. IDEA is where the guidance is going, and it is not clear how the reimbursement will stand.

The main purpose is for education. Medi-Cal and health related concerns are only for them to access information from their schools. The assumption is that education is the only issue, not that there is concern about their medical needs. Therefore any referral would no longer qualify as a Medicaid expense.

Another interpretation of the 2003 guide is that the initial IEP is not MAA qualified, but any other after is okay. This could be bill under the LEA.

The LEA workgroup will look to get further clarification on this issue.

The next LEA Billing Option Workgroup Meeting will be May 20th. The Workgroup consists of LEA reps, DHCS, and a consultant Navigant. They are reviewing different aspects of LEA billing, RMTS, and addressing concerns and roadblocks. The workgroup is also reviewing other states policies. There is a strict timeline to address presented concerns. Topics also include the manual, rollout, training, in hopes to make a smoother process for each.

Please relay review updates from the Workgroup meetings on the LEA billing website under New Random Moment Time-study. Summary from meetings are posted and a Stakeholder feedback tool for big concerns to be addressed.

Next SMAA LEA Call is Thursday, May 28th at 1:30pm.

Call Number: 1-800-914-8405, Code: 1785191#

We will be muting all lines for this call: to contribute to the conversation and un-mute, please press *

