

SMAA LEA Workgroup Minutes

Thursday, April 20th

1. Recent PPLs

PPL 15 -012

OT's receiving salaries that are less than 100% federally funded may be added to a TSP list. During the year if they are changed to being 100% federally funded the moments completed are still valid. However, the salary and benefits are removed at the end of the year, LEA's cannot claim their cost. The moment is counted because when it was received the OT was valid.

PPL 17-XXX

This PPL is a clarification or addition to PPL 15-012. In the case of an OT being added to a TSP list though they are 100% federally funded their moment is counted as invalid and must be recoded to 17. Funding sources must be checked carefully to avoid issues during an audit. Language may be suggested to DHCS regarding PPL 17 to help make the policy clearer.

New dates from the SMAA invoices– Attached
15/16 Q1 – need to get reviewed due to PPL 17.

2. Deferral Issues

The federal government is working with DHCS to get money back for different programs. There is between 13-15 million dollars owed back for the MAA program- this is not the backcasting deferral.

Backcasting may affect smaller districts with robust programs in a negative way. DHCS requested policy examples to better explain the outcomes for these districts, but have yet to respond to what was sent. Districts are also encouraged to send outcome information to THK who can help with what could be submitted to your congress member. This would be in a form for them to contact CMS about the impact this will have for their school district. The backcasting methodology agreed to by DHCS in 2014 plans for the reimbursement from new RMTS to be higher thereby limiting the negative impact. This may not be the case for districts who have already received payment from DHCS.

It is still unclear how LECs/LGAs will pay backcasting money back to DHCS for districts that are no longer a part of the SMAA program. LEAs are encouraged to speak to their LECs/LGAs to review how your district will pay back money owed.

New dates from the SMAA invoices new – Attached
15/16 Q1 – need to be reviewed due to PPL 17.

3. Medicaid Funding

This issue will continue to be monitored. States will see many programs cut if the Federal government make significant changes. This will hopefully help in delaying or removing the threat to Medicaid funding.

4. Legislation

AB 481 – Thurmond. Dropped the bill in part due to pressure from CCESA

AB 882 – School nurse bill – See attached Bill Fact Sheet

AB834 – Office of School Based Health. This bill would provide a voice for LEA's. School health alliance is official sponsor of the bill.

Currently the issue of funding for AB 834 is under discussion. The funding would go towards setting up an Office that would oversee school based health and have dialog with both CDE and DHCS. Other states funding procedure is being reviewed. DHCS' office could be used as an example for a funding plan.

- A funding source could come from MAA reimbursement CDE could apply for MAA funding for current staff and for new staff for the Office.
- Funding could be set up like LEABOP in where LEAs commit to a certain percentage like .025% with a cap at one million dollars. . As free care is now being added, the amount reimbursed could rise for districts.

5. Grant Opportunity – School District Participation

School Districts have the opportunity to work with THK by participating in grant project regarding Domestic Violence and its effects on student mental health. This project would incorporate McKinney Vento data along with Medi-Cal enrollment/retention data. Please contact ngarcia@teachersforhealthykids.org if you would like more information.

Next SMAA LEA Workgroup call

Thursday, May 11th at 9:30am

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