Oklahoma Rural Health Transformation Program

Project 695 –

Promoting School Health Services Through Medicaid Billing

Why is Project 695 needed?

Oklahoma school districts, particularly in rural areas, provide Medicaid-reimbursable health services but lack the staff, infrastructure, and training needed to bill effectively. As a result, these districts are left absorbing the cost of essential services instead of receiving the reimbursement that is available.

Helping school districts maximize Medicaid reimbursement through health services staffing and a robust electronic health record system.

Project 695 helps districts:

- Increase Medicaid reimbursement
- Strengthen school health and mental health services
- Reduce administrative burden
- Improve documentation and compliance
- Build long-term sustainability of student health services

Why does this matter?

- Nearly 40% of residents live in rural areas
- 75 of 77 counties are designated health professional shortage areas
- Oklahoma ranks among the lowest states for healthcare access and affordability
- Schools serve as a critical access point for health and mental health services
- Schools are doing the work either way. Reimbursement puts those funds back where they are needed

What does Project 695 provide?

Personnel Recruitment for Implementing Medicaid Services (PRIMS) Grant

Funding for all counties in Oklahoma (excluding Oklahoma and Tulsa counties) to recruit and hire credentialed personnel who can provide and bill Medicaid-covered services. This includes but is not limited to:

- School nurses
- Licensed counselors
- Speech-language pathologists
- Physical therapists
- Occupational therapists

Electronic Health Record

To coincide with EdPlan, EdPlan Health will be available to districts at no cost from time of implementation for the duration of the grant.

Benefits Include:

- Standardized documentation
- Improved compliance
- Medicaid billing support
- Increased reimbursement opportunities
- Ongoing training and technical support

Frequently Asked Questions

How will this project be implemented?

The electronic health records section of the grant will be implemented using a phased rollout. Here are the initial steps:

- Complete a readiness assessment
- Assigned an implementation wave for EdPlan Health
- Receive training and technical assistance throughout implementation

The PRIMS application will open July 9, 2026 and will last until September 11, 2026.

- Applications can be located under **Competitive** in the Grants Management System (GMS).
- Funding is limited to up to 90% of the total salary/benefits of the requested position
- Funds cannot be used for existing personnel
- Funds can also be used to purchase supplies to set up health offices for new personnel (*contact shawna.blackburn@sde.ok.gov for supplies that are allowable*).

Are there district or site-level responsibilities under this initiative?

Yes. Districts and school sites receiving FTE funding are responsible for ensuring appropriate implementation, documentation, and compliance related to funded positions and Medicaid-reimbursable services.

What happens if the credentialed staff hired leaves the district?
Districts are responsible for maintaining service continuity and making reasonable efforts to fill vacancies. Staffing changes must be documented according to grant requirements.

Are districts allowed to submit multiple requests for resources if funding is still available?
Notices will be sent out if additional funding is available. Priority will be given to districts who apply and have not yet received funding.

How does PRIMS funding work throughout the duration of the grant?
All districts who receive PRIMS funding are automatically renewed for the next fiscal year. Funding for subsequent years is prioritized for districts who have previously received funding and have active credentialed personnel hired.

For questions about Project 695, contact

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