**Guidance for** **Psychology and Counseling Services in the Wyoming School-Based Services Program**

**PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

The Wyoming School-Based Services (SBS) Program was authorized through the [School-Based Services Act (SF0079).](https://www.wyoleg.gov/Legislation/2021/SF0079) The Program was implemented in July 2022 in collaboration with the Wyoming Department of Health (WDH) and the Wyoming Department of Education (WDE). This program authorizes Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to receive Medicaid reimbursement for certain health-related services provided by qualified practitioners to Medicaid enrolled students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP).

To be eligible for Medicaid reimbursement, services must be referred by a physician or other licensed practitioner of the healing arts within the scope of their practice under state law and must be medically necessary. One of the service categories eligible for reimbursement in the SBS Program is psychology and counseling services.

This document is a resource guide to support the psychology and counseling providers who deliver services through the Wyoming SBS Program. Additional information regarding the Wyoming SBS Program can be found in the [Wyoming SBS Program Provider Manual](https://www.wyomingmedicaid.com/portal/sites/default/files/inline-files/Manuals_and_Bulletins/School_Based_Services_Manual_12_30.pdf). Additional resources for psychology and counseling providers are highlighted below.

**PSCYHOLOGY AND COUNSELING SERVICES**

Psychology and counseling services must be prescribed by a physician or other licensed practitioner of the healing arts within the scope of their practice under state law. So long as the prescribing physician or other licensed practitioner of the healing arts is part of the IEP team and signs the IEP, the IEP can be considered the necessary authorization for all psychology and counseling services. Psychology and counseling services involve the application of psychological principles, methods, and procedures of understanding, predicting, and influencing behavior, such as the principles pertaining to learning, perception, motivation, emotion, and interpersonal relationships. It includes diagnosis, prevention, treatment and amelioration of psychological problems and emotional and mental disorders. Services may include, but are not limited to the following areas of functioning:

* Cognitive assessment;
* Emotional assessment;
* Behavior assessment;
* Cognitive-behavioral therapy;
* Individual interactive psychotherapy; and
* Sensory integrative therapy.

**ELIGIBLE PROVIDERS FOR** **PSYCHOLOGY AND COUNSELING SERVICES**

For the SBS Program, psychology and counseling services may be provided by the following Medicaid providers:

* Clinical Psychologists: Must be licensed by the Wyoming Board of Psychology and meet the requirements of the Psychology Practice Act, found in [Wyoming Statute § 33-27-113 through 33-27-123](https://wyoleg.gov/statutes/compress/title33.pdf).
* Credentialed School Psychologists with a Specialist in School Psychology: Must be credentialed by the Wyoming Professional Teaching Standards Board and meet the requirements of the Psychology Practice Act, found in [Wyoming Statute § 33-27-113 through 33-27-123](https://wyoleg.gov/statutes/compress/title33.pdf).
* Social Workers: Must be licensed by the Wyoming Mental Health Professions Licensing Board and meet the requirements of the Mental Health Professions Practice Act, found in [Wyoming Statute § 33-38-101 through 33-38-113](https://wyoleg.gov/statutes/compress/title33.pdf).
* School Social Workers: Must meet the requirements in [Wyoming Statute § 33-38-102 (a)(xi)](https://wyoleg.gov/statutes/compress/title33.pdf).The school social worker must obtain the Professional Services Endorsement for School Social Worker from the Professional Teaching Standards Board. A school social worker must practice under the supervision of a qualified clinical supervisor licensed in the state of Wyoming per [Wyoming Statute § 33-28-102](https://wyoleg.gov/statutes/compress/title33.pdf).
* Marriage and Family Therapists: Must be licensed by the Wyoming Mental Health Professions Licensing Board and meet the requirements of the Mental Health Professions Practice Act, found in [Wyoming Statute § 33-38-101 through 33-38-113](https://wyoleg.gov/statutes/compress/title33.pdf).
* Licensed Professional Counselors: Must be licensed by the Wyoming Board of Psychology and meet the requirements in [Wyoming Statute § 33-38-101 through 33-38-113](https://wyoleg.gov/statutes/compress/title33.pdf).
* School Counselors: Must meet the requirements in [Wyoming Statute § 33-38-101 through 33- 38-113](https://wyoleg.gov/statutes/compress/title33.pdf). The counselor must obtain a Professional Services Endorsement for a School Counselor through the Professional Teaching Standards Board. A counselor must practice under the supervision of a qualified clinical supervisor licensed in the state of Wyoming per [Wyoming Statute § 33-38-102](https://wyoleg.gov/statutes/compress/title33.pdf).
* Certified Mental Health Workers (CMHW): Must be certified and meet the requirements in [Wyoming Statute § 33-38-102 (a)(xii)](https://wyoleg.gov/statutes/compress/title33.pdf)v. A CMHW must practice under the supervision of a qualified clinical supervisor licensed in the State of Wyoming.
* Licensed Behavior Analysts: Must be licensed by the Wyoming Board of Psychology and meet the requirements in [Wyoming Statute § 33-27-113 through 33-27-124](https://wyoleg.gov/statutes/compress/title33.pdf).
* Licensed Assistant Behavior Analysts: Must provide services under the supervision of a Board Licensed Behavior Analyst, be licensed by the Wyoming Board of Psychology, and meet the requirements in [Wyoming Statute § 33-27-113 through 33-27-124](https://wyoleg.gov/statutes/compress/title33.pdf).
* Registered Behavior Technicians: Must provide services under the supervision of a Board Licensed Behavior Analyst, be licensed by the Wyoming Board of Psychology, and meet the requirements in [Wyoming Statute § 33-27-113 through 33-27-125](https://wyoleg.gov/statutes/compress/title33.pdf).

To receive reimbursement for the SBS Program, services must be ordered, referred, or prescribed by a physician or other licensed Provider within the Provider’s scope of practice under state law. Wyoming Medicaid requires that ordering, referring, or prescribing (ORP) Providers be documented on claims. All ORP Providers and attending Providers must be enrolled with Wyoming Medicaid. This applies to all in state and out-of-state Providers, even if they do not submit claims to Wyoming Medicaid. All Medicaid SBS Program claims resulting from an order, referral, or prescription must include the NPI of the ORP Provider.

Psychology and counseling providers that are not eligible to act as an ORP Provider include school counselors, certified mental health workers, assistant licensed behavior analysts, and registered behavior technicians. Table 1 below displays the allowable psychology and counseling provider types with associated taxonomy codes and ORP eligibility.

|  |
| --- |
| **Table 1. Provider Type, Taxonomy Code, and ORP Eligibility** |
| **Individual Provider**  | **Taxonomy**  | **Eligible ORP** |
| Licensed Clinical Psychologist | 103TC0700X | Yes |
| Credentialed School Psychologist[[1]](#footnote-1)\* | 103TS0200X | Yes |
| Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) | 1041C0700X | Yes |
| School Social Worker | 1041S0200X | Yes |
| Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT) | 106H00000X | Yes |
| Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) | 101YP2500X | Yes |
| School Counselor | 101YS0200X | No |
| Certified Mental Health Worker | 101Y00000X | No |
| Licensed Behavior Analyst | 103K00000X | Yes |
| Assistant Licensed Behavior Analyst | 106E00000X | No |
| Registered Behavior Technician | 106S00000X | No |

**COMMON CPT/HCPCS CODES FOR PSYCHOLOGY AND COUNSELING SERVICES**

The Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) / Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) Codes are a collection of codes that represent procedures, supplies, products, and services which may be provided to Medicaid beneficiaries. SBS Program providers must use the appropriate billing CPT or HCPCS code based on the student’s plan of care or assessment needs. Psychology and counseling services are a mix of encounter and time-based CPT codes. Table 2 below displays common billing codes for psychology and counseling services for the SBS Program.

|  |
| --- |
| **Table 2. Psychology and Counseling Services** |
| **CPT Codes** | **Short Description** |
| 90791  | Psych Diagnostic Evaluation |
| 90832 | Psychotherapy, Individual; Per session (typically 30 min) |
| 90834  | Psychotherapy, Individual; Per session (typically 45 min) |
| 90837 | Psychotherapy, Individual; Per session (typically 60 min) |
| H0046 | Mental Health Services, Group Therapy; Per 15 min |
| H2019 | Therapeutic Behavioral Services; Per 15 min |

**GROUP SERVICES**

Certain allowable services, such as the service listed below, are group services. Group services must include at least two children and no more than five children in order to be billable to Medicaid. Group services are only reimbursable if delivered face-to-face. Telehealth is not an approved modality for group services. Table 3 below displays the most common billing code for psychology and counseling group services for the SBS Program.

|  |
| --- |
| **Table 3. Group Services** |
| **CPT Codes** | **Short Description** |
| H0046 | Mental Health Services, Group Therapy; Per 15 min |

 **DIAGNOSIS CODES**

ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes are identified in the *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification* (ICD-10-CM) code book that was developed to create international uniformity in diagnosing health conditions.*Note***:** ICD-10-CM codes must be included on the claim or the claim will be denied.

**MODIFERS**

Modifiers are codes added on a claim line with the procedure code to supply further information about a CPT or HCPCS code, such as who performs the service or how a service is delivered. Modifiers are always two characters and are added to the end of a HCPCS or CPT code with a hyphen. Table 4 below displays a modifier pertaining to the psychology and counseling services for the SBS Program. Providers must use this modifier if the service they delivered was delivered via telehealth.

|  |
| --- |
| **Table 4. Modifiers**  |
| **Modifier** | **Description**  |
| GT | Telehealth: Via interactive audio and video telecommunications systems. |

**RESOURCES**

The American Psychological Association (APA) is the leading scientific and professional organization representing psychology in the United States, with more than 146,000 researchers, educators, clinicians, consultants, and students as its members. The APA website is a great resource for psychology and counseling providers.

1. APA’s Homepage: <https://www.apa.org/>
2. APA’s CPT & Diagnostic Codes: <https://www.apaservices.org/practice/reimbursement/health-codes>
3. APA’s School Psychology homepage: <https://www.apa.org/ed/graduate/specialize/school>

The National Association for School Psychologists (NASP) is a professional association representing more than 25,000 school psychologists, graduate students, and related professionals throughout the United States and an additional 25 countries worldwide. As the world's largest organization of school psychologists, NASP works to advance effective practices to improve students' learning, behavior, and mental health. The NASP website is a great resource for school psychologists.

1. NASP’s Homepage: <https://www.nasponline.org/>

If you have additional questions regarding the SBS Program, please contact the Wyoming Department of Health via email at wdh-schoolbasedservices@wyo.gov or justin.browning1@wyo.gov or by phone at (307) 777-7491.

For more information on Wyoming’s SBS Program visit: <https://health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/medicaid/school-based-services/>

1. \* With a Specialist in School Psychology credential. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)