

The Louisiana Medicaid program allows schools to bill for certain services, including behavioral health services. The allowable services have expanded in the last several years, but support to LEAs has not expanded with them. While it is difficult to get an exact number, LEAs have not taken full advantage of federal Medicaid reimbursement dollars. Additional funds can be spent providing additional health services in schools.

The LDOE has taken significant steps to increase this funding. The first phase of this work (completed by December 2021) has included:

- Developing a new resource library for LEAs with supports for billing Medicaid.
- Working with the licensing boards that have providers in the school systems to better support those providers.
- Hiring a full-time staff member to provide on-going support to LEAs.
- Working with LDH to provide clarity around the program.

In the next phase (beginning January 2022)

- Work towards a unified documentation system
- Add additional program elements that will be beneficial to LEAs
- Increase provider support systems