



## Texas Medicaid Provider Procedure Manual School Health and Related Services (SHARS)

SHARS is a Medicaid service. SHARS allows local school districts or shared services arrangements to obtain Medicaid reimbursement for certain health-related services included in the student's IEP. SHARS providers are reimbursed the federal share of the payment when services are provided to students who meet all of the following requirements:

- Are Medicaid eligible and under 21 years of age
- Meet eligibility requirements for special education
- Have IEPs that prescribe the needed services

### ***3.3.4 Nursing Services***

Nursing services are skilled nursing tasks as defined by the Texas Board of Nursing (BON), which are included in the student's IEP. Nursing services may be direct nursing care or medication administration. Examples of reimbursable nursing services include, but are not limited to: inhalation therapy, ventilator monitoring, nonroutine medication administration, tracheostomy care, gastrostomy care, ileostomy care, catheterization, tube feeding, suctioning, client training, and assessment of the student's nursing and personal care services needs.

Direct nursing care services are billed in 15-minute increments and medication administration is reimbursed on a per-visit increment. The RN or APRN determines whether these services must be billed as direct nursing care or medication administration.

Nursing services must be provided by an RN or APRN (including nurse practitioners (NPs) and clinical nurse specialists (CNSs), licensed vocational nurse/licensed practical nurse (LVN/LPN) or a school health aide or other trained, unlicensed assistive person delegated by an RN or APRN.

Nursing services are billable on an individual or group basis. Only direct time with the student present is billable. Time spent without the student present is not billable. Session notes are not required for nursing services; however, documentation must include billable start time, billable stop time, total billable minutes, and must note the type of nursing service performed.

All of the nursing services minutes that are delivered to a student during a calendar day must be added together before they are converted to units of service. Do not convert minutes of nursing services separately for each nursing task that was performed throughout the calendar day.

Minutes of nursing services cannot be accumulated over multiple days. Minutes of nursing services can only be billed per calendar day. If the total number of minutes of nursing services is less than eight minutes for a calendar day, then no unit of service can be billed for that day and that day's minutes cannot be added to minutes of nursing services from any previous or subsequent days for billing purposes.

**IMPORTANT:** The recommended maximum billable time for direct nursing services is four hours per day. The recommended maximum billable units for routine oral medication administration are four visits per day. Providers must maintain documentation as to the reasons for the additional time if more than the recommended maximum time is billed.