



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

3.3.7 Physical Therapy

In order for a student to receive Physical Therapy (PT) through SHARS, the name and complete address or the provider identifier of the licensed physician who prescribes the PT must be provided on the referral.

PT must be provided by a professional who is licensed by the Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners or a licensed physical therapist assistant (LPTA) acting under the supervision or direction of a qualified physical therapist (PT).

PT services are provided for the purpose of preventing or alleviating movement dysfunction and related functional problems.

PT evaluation services include evaluating the student's ability to move throughout the school and to participate in classroom activities, and the identification of movement dysfunction and related functional problems. Evaluation is billable on an individual basis only. If an evaluation is performed over several days, the provider must submit the same evaluation procedure code for each evaluation session. The procedure code submitted must reflect the complexity level of the entire evaluation. The therapist who performs the evaluation should use professional clinical judgment to decide which evaluation code to use. The selection of low, moderate, or high complexity evaluation codes must be based on professional clinical judgment and may not be made by staff other than the rendering therapist. Session notes are not required for evaluation, however, the following documentation must include the billable start time, billable stop time, and total billable minutes with a notation as to the activity performed (i.e., PT evaluation).

PT is billable on an individual or group basis. The physical therapist can only bill for direct time with the student, including time spent helping the student use adaptive equipment and assistive technology. Time spent without the student present, such as in training teachers or aides to work with the student (unless the student is present during the training time) and report writing is not billable. Session notes are required for therapy. Session notes must include billable start time, billable stop time, total billable minutes, activity performed during the session, student observation and the related IEP objective.

Providers must use a 15 minutes unit of service for billing.

IMPORTANT: The recommended maximum billable time for evaluation is three hours, which may be billed within a 30-day period. The recommended maximum billable time for direct therapy (group and/or individual) is a total of one hour per day. Providers must submit documentation as to the reasons for the additional time if more than the recommended maximum time is billed.