

2021-2022 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

2.3.5 Physical Therapy (PT) Services

Physical therapy services include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Rehabilitative treatment concerned with restoring function or preventing disability caused by illness, injury, or birth defect
- Evaluation of the purpose of determining the nature, extent, and degree of the need for physical therapy services
- Physical therapy services provided for the purpose of preventing or alleviating movement dysfunction and related functional problems
- A PT evaluation includes evaluating the student's ability to move throughout the school and participate in classroom activities and the identification of movement dysfunction and related functional problems.

A prescription is required for PT services. The prescription must be updated a minimum of one time every three calendar years.

Physical therapy services must be prescribed by a physician or other eligible prescribing provider. A prescription for PT services must be signed and dated within three calendar years before the initiation of services.

PT services may be reimbursed up to (but not to exceed) the amount designated in the prescription.

In order for PT services to be reimbursed through SHARS, the name and national provider identifier (NPI) of the licensed physician, or other eligible prescribing provider, must be listed on the claim and kept in the medical record.

IDEA requires that a student receiving SHARS services must have a re-evaluation every three years, which requires current information; unless the parent and the LEA agree that a re-evaluation is unnecessary (IDEA §1414 (a)(2)(B)).

A physician's order is not required for a re-evaluation.

The need for a re-evaluation should be determined by the student's ARD committee.

The LEA must maintain the prescription in the client's record.

Physical therapy must be provided by a professional who is licensed by the Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners to provide PT within his or her licensed scope of practice. A licensed physical therapist assistant (PTA) must act under the supervision of a licensed physical therapist.

If the nature of a service is such that it can safely and effectively be performed by the average nonmedical person without direct supervision of a licensed therapist, the services cannot be regarded as skilled therapy.

PT evaluation is billable on an individual basis only.

The selection of low, moderate, or high complexity evaluation code must be based on professional clinical judgment and may not be made by staff other than the rendering therapist.

The physical therapist can only bill time spent with the student present, including time spent helping the student to use adaptive equipment and assistive technology.

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Time spent without the student present, such as training teachers or aides to work with the student (unless the student is present during the training time) and report writing, is not billable and session notes are required.