



# Understanding Parental Consent

## *and the School-Based ACCESS Program*

### **What is the School-Based ACCESS Program, and how does it involve my child's school?**

The School-Based ACCESS Program (SBAP) allows Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to receive Medical Assistance (MA) reimbursement for IEP medically necessary health-related services provided to students who are eligible for Medical Assistance. The Medicaid program is a joint federal/state program; however, LEAs only receive the federal Medicaid share for school-based services.



The Medicare Catastrophic Coverage Act of 1988 clarified the issue of federal funding for Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) services. Through this statute, education entities are eligible to receive reimbursement for health and related services rendered to students enrolled in the Medicaid Program.

### **What type of services are eligible for reimbursement?**

Eligible services include:

- Audiology
- Assistive Devices
- IEP development
- Nursing (RN and LPN)
- Occupational therapy
- Orientation and Mobility
- Personal Care Assistant
- Physical therapy
- Physician
- Psychiatric
- Psychology
- Social Work
- Speech and language
- Teacher of the Hearing Impaired
- Special transportation
- Vision (limited)



### **What do schools do with the reimbursement funds they receive?**

SBAP reimbursement funds are used within the special education program to enhance or augment special education services and programs.

### **As a parent, what do I need to do with regard to the program?**

IDEA and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) regulations require that schools obtain written parental permission to disclose personally identifiable information about students in order to bill MA.

Refusal to allow your child's school to bill MA does not relieve your child's school district of its responsibility to ensure that all required services are provided to your child at no cost to parents. Please review the attached form and indicate whether or not you give permission for your child's school to bill MA.

