SHS Coordinator Grant Program

School Health Services Overview

The Medicaid School Health Services (SHS) Program, administered by Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing and Colorado Department of Education, permits school districts and Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) to receive reimbursement for Medicaid allowable school health services provided to students.

The program requires school district or BOCES staff involvement from many departments including Human Resources, Finance, Transportation and Special Education. Best practice is to have a dedicated staff member, or *Coordinator*, employed year-round, who is responsible for the overall management of the program. A successful Coordinator must fully understand all aspects of the program and possess the ability to collaborate with school district leadership, staff, and stakeholders.

Opportunity

There is opportunity for collaboration both in rural areas in Colorado and small school districts in urban areas that have smaller student populations and greater needs. With initial investment for personnel expenses, multiple small school districts or a BOCES would have the ability to participate or grow their SHS Program. The benefits to using one qualified staff person to coordinate the program across multiple school districts or a BOCES include:

- Staff member capacity to focus on program coordination, rather than adding the job to an existing staff's responsibility
- Reduced administrative costs associated with program management and maximized resources used for health-related services for students
- Efficient and effective coordination of the program across multiple school districts
- Collaboration and sharing of best practices between school districts
- Involvement of district staff in a team environment
- Increased commitment through multiple districts working together
- Resources to expand and enhance health services for students
- Increased federal dollars in Colorado for health services

Strategy

The Consortium wishes to increase and maintain school district and BOCES participation in the SHS Program, as well as expand and enhance health-related services for all students in Colorado. The Coordinator Grant Program provides initial funding to employ an SHS Program Coordinator that is responsible for the program across two or more school districts or is involved in a collaborative relationship with other district(s) or BOCES participating in the program. Taking advantage of collaboration, a single staff member will be able to coordinate the SHS Program efficiently and effectively between neighboring school districts. The model allows smaller school districts to reduce program administration expenses and maximize reimbursement for health-related services for students.

This Grant Program includes funding over a three-year period, which allows the school district(s) to build reimbursement revenue over time, successfully implement processes and procedures to establish program efficiencies, and realize full reimbursement potential. Following the grant funding, the school district(s) or BOCES should expect to have a self-sustaining SHS Program.

In addition, the Coordinator will gain the potential to support additional neighboring school districts with administration of the Medicaid SHS Program, thereby increasing and sustaining the number of school districts participating, expanding health service funds, and building capacity to sustain the program in to the future.

Grant Details

The Consortium is responsible for the administration of the Coordinator Grant Program and the grant award is contingent on completing or having an existing Service Agreement with The Consortium.

The Consortium will be involved in the hiring process and/or approval of the SHS Coordinator; including input for the job description, candidate selection, and training. The SHS Coordinator is required to be available for follow-up training, support, consultation and any Consortium Member Trainings or Meetings. The Consortium will be instrumental in providing tools and resources to the Coordinator for successful program implementation.

Funds are provided over a three-year period to allow the school district(s) or BOCES adequate time to build the program to self-sufficiency. The first year of funding will provide 100% of personnel cost, the second year will provide 65% and the last year will provide 35%. Funding is dependent on school district size and the amount of time required to coordinate the program for all school districts/BOCES involved. There are additional funds available for any travel expenses related to attending Consortium trainings or meetings.

Based on this step-down funding model, the school districts/BOCES will be required to make a three-year commitment to the program. Following the grant funding, the school district(s) or BOCES is expected to be self-sustaining with the SHS Program. The three-year time period allows the school district(s)/BOCES to build reimbursement revenue over time, successfully establish program efficiencies and realize full reimbursement potential.

The SHS Coordinator and participating school districts/BOCES will be required to share cost reporting data, RMTS rosters and other related information with The Consortium to ensure the districts are maximizing reimbursement potential. Routine meetings and reports may also be required.

Timeline

The timeline outlined below is for the first grant award(s) scheduled for the 2026-2027 school year.

June – August 2026

- SHS Coordinator Grant Application Available
- Question & Answer Conference Calls

September – November 2026

- **Grant Application Due September 30, 2026**
- Grant Application Interviews
- Selection and Announcement of Grantee(s)
- Schedule kick-off & planning meeting with Grantee(s)

More Information

For further information please contact:

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