

ACADEMY OF PEDIATRIC PHYSICAL THERAPY

Resources on Reimbursement for Pediatric Physical Therapy Services and Durable Medical Equipment

American Physical Therapy Association (APTA)

(www.apta.org)

Our national professional organization serves as a major resource for disseminating information related to reimbursement. The [Payment](#) tab on APTA's home page provides links to topics such as reimbursement, CPT codes, and working with insurers and other payers. Key highlights include:

- The [Coding & Billing](#) link provides introductory information on codes, documentation and compliance.
- The [Private Insurance](#) link provides information on a variety of topics including documentation, treatment setting, and other useful information related to billing private insurance.
- The [Medicaid](#) link provides a variety of links related to a wide variety of Medicaid topics.
- [Information for Payers](#) provides links to state practice acts, resource documents, and a link to APTA's State Chapters.
- Under Related Resources is a link called [Glossary of Payment Terms](#). This page provides helpful definitions and explanations of terminology used in medical billing.

APTA State Chapters

<http://aptaapps.apta.org/componentconnection/chaptersandsections.aspx>

APTA's State Chapters have committees on reimbursement/insurance relations and often have an identified reimbursement contact. To access your state chapter, click on "About Us", then "Chapters & Sections", or just click on the link above. Each state website is set up differently. Some will have a dedicated page to reimbursement and others may have timely news feeds related to reimbursement. If you click "Profile" next to your state you will also find contact information for your state officers and possibly a contact dedicated to reimbursement in your state.

Academy of Pediatric Physical Therapy of the APTA

<https://pediatricapta.org/>

The Academy of Pediatric Physical Therapy (APPT) has a Payment, Policy and Advocacy Committee that is active at the national level and is available to answer your specific questions. The Academy of Pediatric Physical Therapy State Representatives are available to serve as a resource for state-specific issues on pediatric physical therapy and may be able to assist therapists with accessing information on reimbursement. To contact the Payment, Policy & Advocacy Committee on the APPT website go to the link "About Us", then "Leadership".

US Department of Health and Human Services

www.cms.hhs.gov/home/medicaid.asp

The federal Department of Health and Human Services website provides an overview of the Medicaid program and a link to information on each state Medicaid plan. Medicaid is a state-administered program that pays for medical care for families with low income as well as other eligibility groups, including children with disabilities in some states. Since it is a state-administered program, there are individual state variations in what services and equipment are covered as well as the amount of support. In addition to basic health care services, some states have policies that allow Medicaid funds to be used for certain services provided under IDEA.

IDEA 2004 Federal Regulations

<https://sites.ed.gov/idea/statuteregulations/>

Part B access to public benefits or health insurance <https://sites.ed.gov/idea/regs/b>

Part C access to public benefits or health insurance <https://sites.ed.gov/idea/regs/c>

The federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act requires parental consent to access the child's or parent's public benefits or health insurance to provide or pay for services required with a free appropriate public education to an eligible child. Parental consent is also required for access to these benefits for Part C services. Each state has the authority to determine if and how these benefits may be used for special education services and early intervention services under IDEA.

State IDEA Part C Rules, Regulations and Policies

<http://ectacenter.org/partc/statepolicies.asp>

Early Intervention services are provided under Part C of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; however, the legislation is implemented at the state level. The Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center website provides links to many of the state Part C policies, which should include your state's policy on payment for early intervention services.

State Education Agencies and State Directors of Special Education

<https://www2.ed.gov/about/contacts/state/index.html>

School-based related services are provided under Part B of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. However, the legislation is implemented at the state level. The US Department of Education website provides links to state education agencies as well as state directors of special education services. Your state agency's website can be searched for information on reimbursement for related services in a school setting as well as information on fiscal guidelines and contact information.

Other Philanthropic and Professional Organizations

Organizations that address children with special needs often have information on their web sites that help parents to request *pro bono* durable medical equipment and therapy services that may not be covered through medical insurance. There are organizations at the national level that are diagnosis specific, such as: 1) United Cerebral Palsy, 2) Muscular Dystrophy Association, and 3) Juvenile Arthritis Association that offer helpful information.

Other philanthropic organizations may be more specific to your specific geographical region. Some well-known organizations include 1) The Rotary Club, 2) Kiwanis Club, 3) Knights of Columbus, 4) Civitan International (national organization dedicated to helping people with developmental disabilities) <https://civitan.org/>, 5) Shriners Hospital for Children (free orthopedic & burn care to children) <https://www.shrinershospitalsforchildren.org/shc>, and 6) Easter Seals. Local charities; community organizations; and churches, synagogues, or mosques also may be involved with granting funds for durable medical equipment for children.

Please note: Many of the resources summarized in this document are maintained by outside agencies. Reimbursement information is constantly changing and content should be confirmed for accuracy.

For More Information

If you have additional questions, would like to order additional copies of this fact sheet, or would like to join the Academy of Pediatric Physical Therapy, please contact the Executive Office of the Academy of Pediatric Physical Therapy at:

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Or visit the Section's Web site at www.pediatricapta.org

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