

Draft Language To Expand Medicaid Billable Services Provided By A Local Education Agency

Special Rehabilitation Services

A. Eligible Providers

A provider of special rehabilitation services is as defined herein and agrees in writing with the single State agency as follows:

- 1) To provide special rehabilitation services as prescribed by professionals acting within their scope of practice as defined by State law; and
- 2) To provide special rehabilitation services in the least restrictive environment; and
- 3) To comply with the provisions for quality assurance specified in this Attachment of the State plan; and
- 4) To maintain and submit all records and reports to ensure compliance with the Illinois State Board of Education's and Illinois Department of Public Aid's administrative rules; and
- 5) To assure that claiming for special rehabilitation services does not duplicate claiming for EPSDT Administrative Outreach services.

A provider of special rehabilitation services must be approved for participation and enrolled the Illinois Medical Assistance Program. Services are provided directly by the special rehabilitation service provider or through subcontractors.

B. Benefits and Limitations

Special rehabilitation services are evaluative, diagnostic and treatment services to correct any defects or conditions or to teach compensatory skills for deficits that directly result from a medical condition. These services include obtaining, interpreting and integrating the above evaluative, diagnostic and treatment information appropriate to an individual's coordinated plan of care. A coordinated plan of care may include an Individual Education Plan, an Individualized Family Service Plan, or other formal documentation of medical necessity consistent with the requirements of this section.

Special rehabilitation services include the following:

- 1) **Speech, Language and Hearing:** These are services for individuals with speech, language and hearing disorders. The services are provided by or under the direction of a speech pathologist or audiologist, as the result of a referral by a physician or other licensed practitioner of the healing arts within the scope of his or her practice under law as defined in 42 *CFR* 440.110(c). These services mean evaluations to determine an individual's need for these services and recommendations for a course of treatment; and treatments to an individual with a diagnosed speech, language or hearing disorder adversely affecting the functioning of the individual.
- 2) **Occupational Therapy:** These services are prescribed by a physician and provided by or under the direction of a qualified occupational therapist as defined in 42 *CFR* 440.110(b). These services mean evaluations of problems interfering with an

individual's functional performance and therapies, which are rehabilitative, active or restorative, and designed to correct or compensate for a medical problem interfering with age appropriate functional performance.

- 3) **Physical Therapy:** These services are prescribed by a physician or other licensed practitioner of the healing arts within the scope of his or her practice under law and provided by or under the direction of a qualified physical therapist as defined in 42 CFR 440.110(a). These services mean evaluations to determine an individual's need for physical therapy and therapies, which are rehabilitative, active or restorative, and designed to correct or compensate for a medical problem.
- 4) **Nursing:** These services are performed by a registered nurse within the scope of his/her practice relevant to the medical and rehabilitative needs of the individual. Services include medication administration/monitoring, catheterization, tube feeding, suctioning, screening and referral for health needs and explanations of treatments, therapies, and physical or mental conditions with family or other professional staff.
- 5) **Medical Services:** These services are provided by a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches for the purpose of evaluation, testing, diagnosis, and consultative services with the individual. Services include diagnostic, evaluative and consultative services for the purposes of identifying or determining the nature and extent of an individual's medical or other health-related condition.
- 6) **Psychological, Counseling and Social Work:** These services mean diagnostic or active treatments with the intent to reasonably improve the individual's physical or mental condition. They are provided to individuals whose condition or functioning can be expected to improve with these interventions. These services are performed by a licensed physician or psychiatrist or other licensed or equivalent psychological counseling and social work staff acting within their scope of practice. These services include but are not limited to testing and evaluation that appraise cognitive, emotional and social functioning and self concept; therapy and treatment that is planning, managing, and providing a program of psychological services to individuals with diagnosed psychological problems; and unscheduled activities for the purpose of resolving an immediate crisis situation.
- 7) **Developmental Testing:** These services mean testing performed to determine if motor, speech, language and psychological problems exist or to detect the presence of any developmental lags. These services are performed by or under the supervision of a licensed physician or other provider acting within their scope of practice.
- 8) **Optometric services:** These services include evaluation and assessment of visual functioning including the diagnosis and appraisal of specific disorder, delay and abilities. It includes the dispensing of eyeglasses and other optical materials. These services are performed by a licensed optometrist.
- 9) **Developmental Rehabilitative Therapy** means treatment provided, through the Early Intervention Program, to a child identified as having a developmental delay of not less than 30% in order to promote normal development by correcting deficits in the child's cognitive, social or emotional, adaptive, communication, psychomotor development or physical functioning, including visual and hearing. These treatments are recommended by a physician or other licensed practitioner of the healing arts, within their scope of practice, under State law for maximum reduction of physical or mental disability and restoration to the child's best possible functional level. Deficits are revealed through comprehensive screening, examination and evaluation.

Developmental rehabilitative therapy is the provision of direct hands-on treatment with the child in accordance with the individualized family services plan (IFSP) to ameliorate deficits; provision of instruction to parents and to caregivers in assisting them in maintaining a daily therapeutic regimen related to regaining the child's progress. Children diagnosed as mentally retarded or developmentally disabled may receive this service only through an approved waiver.

Developmental Rehabilitative Therapy is provided by professionals who are credentialed by the Department of Human Services as a Part C EI Service System Developmental Therapists. Medicaid reimburses on an hourly basis determined in accordance with the methods described in Attachment 4.19-B , pages 42 and 43.

C. Frequency, Duration and Scope

Special rehabilitation services, as medically necessary services subject to the limitations of the State plan, are provided to assist eligible individuals in the identification of their illnesses or disabilities regarding their capacity to function.

IDPA has the responsibility to monitor the operation of the programs and services covered by Medicaid including provider certification. Ongoing certification of providers includes the following elements:

- 1) Monitoring of providers' staff qualifications and validating providers' listing of staff providing special rehabilitation services;
- 2) Performance of site survey(s) to verify the ability of an agency to be a qualified provider;
- 3) Monitoring of providers to ensure that special rehabilitation services are appropriate, effective and delivered in a cost effective manner consistent with the reduction of physical or mental disabilities; and
- 4) Policies and procedures to address provider noncompliance with applicable Federal and State laws and regulations and policies of the Illinois Medical Assistance Program.