

## Parent/Guardian Notification to Access Public Insurance

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

Under the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), school districts are permitted to seek payment from public insurance programs such as Medicaid (MO HealthNet in Missouri) for some IEP services provided at school. Medicaid School-Based Services, a Federal Program, helps school districts by providing partial reimbursement for some medically-related services listed in a student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

In 2013, the IDEA changed its requirements with regards to Parental Consent to alleviate the burden on parents/guardians and school districts. School districts are now required to provide parents with written notification before accessing your or your child's public insurance for the first time and then every year following until the school district is no longer responsible for providing IEP services to your child.

The following information is to notify you of the requirements under the IDEA regarding written notification and consent to access public insurance, such as Medicaid (known in Missouri as MO HealthNet).

- **Do I need to do anything?**

You will be asked to provide a one-time written parental consent to release information from your child's educational records or information about the services your child receives through his or her IEP. This information is needed for the purpose of billing MO HealthNet and seeking partial reimbursement for some IEP services.

- **What type of information will be in the consent form?**

The consent form must tell you:

1. The personally identifiable information that may be disclosed (including your child's name, birth date, Medicaid, Social Security, or other ID number, disability, IEP and evaluations, type of services, times and dates of services, and progress notes)
2. The purpose of the disclosure (such as payment from MO HealthNet)
3. The agency that will receive the information

- **What does it mean to give my consent?**

Your consent states that you understand and agree that your MO HealthNet insurance will be billed to partially pay the cost of IEP services that your child receives and that necessary information about your child and his or her IEP services may be shared with MO HealthNet Division, a contracted billing agent, and/or a physician to obtain necessary supporting documentation (physician scripts or referrals). There will be no cost to you for the services.

- **Can I be required to enroll with MO HealthNet Division (MHD) for public insurance?**

No, you cannot be required to sign up for or enroll in public insurance for your child to receive free appropriate public education (FAPE) which includes IEP services.

- **Will my consent affect my family's MO HealthNet benefits?**

No, reimbursed services provided by your school district do not limit or reduce your lifetime coverage or benefits, change your eligibility, affect your benefits, count against visit or funding limits in MO HealthNet programs, or increase your costs.

- **What if I change my mind?**

You have the right to withdraw your consent to disclose your child's personally identifiable information to MHD for billing purposes at any time.

- **Will my consent or refusal to give consent affect my child's IEP services?**

No, your school district must provide all required IEP services to your child at no cost to you whether you give consent to allow the district to access your MO HealthNet benefits or refuse to do so.

- **What if I have additional questions?**

Your school district's Special Education Department contact information is listed below. Feel free to contact them at any time if you have additional questions.

Reeds Spring R-IV School District  
Department of Special Services  
Liz Smith, Director  
257 Elementary Road  
Reeds Spring, MO 65737  
Phone: 417-272-8173 ext. 4020