



Medicaid/FAMIS Parental Consent Frequently Asked Questions

If your child is now or later becomes eligible for Medicaid or FAMIS and is evaluated for, receives, or is considered for, covered services written in the individualized education program (IEP), the federal government can reimburse Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) for those services. Your consent is needed in order to allow our school division to receive funding to enhance FCPS special education programs.

What services does the FCPS Medicaid/FAMIS program seek reimbursement for?

FCPS can seek reimbursement for services outlined in the IEP which may include: evaluation and testing services requested by the IEP team along with physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech-language, psychological, audiology and skilled nursing services.

How is FCPS able to bill Medicaid/FAMIS for covered services my child receives at school?

The Social Security Act allows financial coverage of health and related services for students who are Medicaid/FAMIS eligible. Based on this, states are allowed to access federal funds to pay for school-based health and related services that are outlined in the IEP.

How does FCPS use the reimbursement money received from Medicaid/FAMIS?

FCPS uses the funds received to enhance programs for students with special needs by providing more resources for staff, equipment, and supplies.

Why do schools need parental consent to bill for Medicaid/FAMIS claims?

FCPS is required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) to obtain parent consent before disclosing information about a student with a disability. This includes providing information to the Medicaid agency.

How often does FCPS need to get my consent to bill Medicaid/FAMIS for the services outlined in my child's IEP?

Parental consent is only required one time. Consent is valid while your child is enrolled in FCPS, until your child no longer receives billable services per the IEP, or until you revoke consent.

What if I give consent and change my mind?

Parent consent is voluntary and can be revoked at any time. If you grant consent and revoke it at a later time, the revocation will not be retroactive and the services performed during the time your consent was in place will still be billed to the Medicaid agency. Please contact the Medicaid Office at 571-423-4098 if you want to change your consent decision.

What happens if I do not give consent?

Your child's educational program is based on his/her educational needs as defined by the IEP. Your consent decision will in no way impact his/her services regardless of the Medicaid/FAMIS consent status. However, denial of consent affects FCPS's ability to access funds that benefit the education of students with disabilities.

What if my child loses Medicaid/FAMIS benefits?

FCPS can only bill for services if a child is identified as receiving Medicaid/FAMIS benefits. Losing Medicaid/FAMIS benefits will not impact the services your child receives.

Is there a cost to me or will I have any financial loss?

No, special education services are provided to students with disabilities at no cost to the parent/guardian or adult student. Your child is entitled to a free appropriate public education (FAPE) under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). You will not suffer any financial loss as a result of consenting to the billing for Medicaid/FAMIS services.



Medicaid/FAMIS Parental Consent Frequently Asked Questions

If FCPS bills Medicaid/FAMIS, will services my child receives outside of school be affected?

Services received outside the school setting will not be affected. Medicaid/FAMIS services received from an outside practitioner are authorized separately from services provided in the school setting. If you feel that your outside services are being impacted, you are encouraged to contact the Medicaid Office at 571-423-4098. The Medicaid Office will follow-up with the state's Medicaid agency.

Will my private insurance be affected?

Medicaid will not bill your private insurance for IEP related services. It is important for you to know that signing the consent form does not reduce your private insurance benefits other Medicaid/FAMIS services that you or your family receive.

Will the school billing count towards the maximum number of sessions I am allowed for private services?

Reimbursement for sessions at school will not impact the maximum amount of sessions allowed when receiving private services.

What if my private service provider tells me not to sign the consent because my private services will not be reimbursed if the school seeks reimbursement?

If you receive this information from your private service provider, please have them contact the Medicaid agency at 804-371-8857 for clarity. Billing for school services will not impact the billing of private services.

Does school billing have an impact on services received under the Medicaid Waiver program?

Enrollment in the school billing program and the Medicaid Waiver program will not impact services received under the Medicaid Waiver program.

Is my Medicaid/FAMIS information protected?

We understand that your medical and health information is personal. Protecting your health information is important. FCPS follows strict federal and state laws that require us to maintain the confidentiality of your health information.

What information is shared with the Medicaid agency?

The only information that is shared with the Medicaid agency to access this funding is your child's last name, first name, date of birth, Medicaid/FAMIS ID number, date of service, service being provided, diagnosis information, and any supporting documentation.

Who will receive this information?

In order to process claims for reimbursement of Medicaid/FAMIS covered services outlined in the IEP, information about your child's participation in services may be provided to participating physicians, other health care providers, the Medicaid agency, any Medicaid agency billing agents, and any FCPS billing agents.

How do I revoke my consent?

You have the right to revoke your consent at any time. To revoke consent please contact the FCPS Medicaid Office at 571-423-4098 to request that your consent be revoked.

Contact the FCPS Medicaid Office at 571-423-4098 if you have additional questions or concerns.