

MEDICAID-COMPLIANT WRITTEN ORDERS

November 9, 2020 & November 10, 2020

Questions & Answers

Topic/Category	
TIMING OF THE PRESCRIPTION	
Q	Can a therapist treat a child if the script date entered by the ordering practitioner is later than the IEP service start date? (Example: IEP Service Dates: 9/9/20 to 06/25/21; Script Date: 10/20/20.)
A	If the service starts on 9/9/20 and you do not receive a prescription from the doctor until 10/20/20, the service should not be provided until you receive the prescription. The first provided session for this example would be 10/20/20.
Q	If the SLP treated the child previously, can the SLP write the script on or before the first session with the child?
A	Yes.
Q	Can a speech prescription be written the same day that an evaluation is completed?
A	Yes, but the prescription should be written “prior” to the evaluation session or the evaluation would not be Medicaid reimbursable.
Q	How can the SLP write/upload the prescription if the school district has not entered the enrollment?
A	The Portal has a process that the therapist/agency can use to enter temporary records (<i>Unmatched Children & Enrollments</i>) that will later be “matched” (by the agency) after the county/school district creates the official enrollment. Documents can be uploaded to the temporary/unmatched enrollment and session notes can be completed contemporaneously until the official enrollment is created. There are articles in the Portal Knowledge Base for these processes.
WHEN IS A NEW PRESCRIPTION REQUIRED?	
Q	If the duration changes from 30 to 45 minutes within the school year, is a new prescription needed?
A	Yes. A new prescription is required for “any” change of service (frequency, duration, class setting - Individual/Group).
Q	Is a new prescription required if the goals or location changes?
A	No.
Q	Is a new prescription required if the child’s mandate is increased or decreased?
A	Yes. A new prescription is required for “any” change to the child’s mandate.

Q	If a child has a new service added to their IEP, is a prescription required for the newly added service or all of the services?
A	A prescription would be required for any new service(s) added to the IEP or any mandate(s) that have changed. Nothing is required for the previous services if the mandate did not change.
COMPLIANCE QUESTIONS	
Q	Is a prescription required for each session (summer and winter)?
A	If the summer and winter services are included on the same IEP, one prescription that indicates 7/1 – 6/30 – “As per IEP”, is acceptable; even if the frequencies for each session are different. You could also provide one prescription (for both sessions) that delineates the specific mandate for each session (e.g., 7/1 – 8/30 Speech 1x30; 9/1 – 6/30 Speech 2x30 on one prescription). If the summer session is on a separate IEP document, an additional prescription would be required for the summer session.
Q	Can an NPI number be written on the prescription if it was not included on the original prescription or is a new prescription required?
A	A prescription cannot be amended after it is written. If the <u>NPI or License number</u> is not written on the prescription, a new prescription should be requested. One thing to note, if the NPI # is missing on the prescription, but the license number is delineated on the prescription, the prescription is still valid. If you need the NPI # to enter the prescription into the Portal, you can look up the NPI # in the NPI Registry so you can include the NPI # in the prescription details for the Portal (because that is not altering the prescription). Medicaid only requires one of these numbers on the prescription (either NPI or License). Having both is best practice, but the prescription will meet Medicaid requirements with only one.
Q	Who is responsible for determining the ICD code on a prescription?
A	The ordering practitioner (doctor, physician assistant, nurse practitioner or SLP).
Q	Is it acceptable/valid if the SLP writes a prescription on the date of the initial session but does not upload it to the Portal on the same day?
A	The date that the prescription was signed determines the first date that Medicaid can be claimed. The date that the prescription is uploaded to the Portal does not factor into the validity of the prescription. Obviously the prescription should be uploaded as soon as possible after it is completed.
Q	Can a correction be made to a prescription by crossing out and initialing the error after the date the prescription was written?
A	No. Prescriptions cannot be altered “after-the-fact.” If a change to the prescription is required, a new prescription should be requested from the ordering practitioner. In addition, the only person that can alter/modify the prescription is the ordering practitioner.
Q	If there is a speech referral that has been completed by a SLP for a child and then there is a change in therapist, is a new prescription required if it still valid?
A	No. If the previous prescription is still valid for the current school year a new prescription would not be required. If the prescription expires before the conclusion of the school year, the current SLP would need to write a prescription to cover the rest of the school year.

Q	If the initial CPSE evaluation is completed and the SLP that conducted the evaluation writes the recommendation for services, is that okay?
A	Yes. If the prescription expires before the conclusion of the school year, the speech therapist providing the service would need to write a prescription to cover the rest of the school year.
Q	Where do I find the script template in the Portal?
A	You will receive the template along with the recording and presentation slides following the presentation. Otherwise you can type in <u>Medicaid compliant template</u> into the search field in the Knowledge Base.
Q	Is there a spot on the Portal prescription template for the SLP's address and phone number?
A	Yes. That is one of the eight required elements for a Medicaid prescription.
MICSCCELLANEOUS	
Q	Is it possible for the agency to view/save/print the prescription after it has been uploaded to the Portal?
A	The prescription can be viewed and/or printed from Lookup>Child Lookup or Medicaid>Prescriptions>Prescription Entry Maintenance . Therapists can also view/save/print from Caseload Maintenance>Prescriptions for Caseload .
Q	Treatment under New York's Direct Access Law: Under this law a PT can treat without a prescription. Does this apply to preschool or school age?
A	No. The SSHSP Program requires a prescription that meets Medicaid requirements [as defined in the Medicaid Provider Policy & Billing Handbook (Update 9)] in order to bill Medicaid. The county cannot bill Medicaid for any provided services without a Medicaid-compliant prescription.