July 8, 2008

TO: Local Educational Consortia (LEC), and
Local Governmental Agency (LGA) Coordinators for
School-Based Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (SMAA)

SUBJECT: 2008/2009 SMAA Annual Participant Trainings

This Policy and Procedure Letter (PPL) is to notify all LEC/LGA Coordinators for the SMAA program that the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is waiving the State-mandated requirement that all LEA SMAA Participants must annually attend a training session on the SMAA time survey for FY 2008/2009.

LECs, LEAs, and LGAs must continue to provide training for staff new to SMAA, prior to the first completed time surveys. Experienced staff may be provided refresher trainings if a need is indicated. Other than these changes, the 2007/2008 DHCS SMAA Manual will be the guide for the 2008/2009 year.

As you know, when federal rulemaking CMS-2287-F, Elimination of School-Based Administrative Claims, goes into effect, it will prevent LECs/LEAs/LGAs from receiving federal reimbursement of their costs incurred for conducting SMAA. This is currently scheduled to take effect on April 1, 2009.

If you have questions regarding this PPL, please contact Barbara Schultz at Barbara.Schultz@DHCS.ca.gov or by telephone at (916) 552-9616.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY ELIZABETH TOUHEY

Elizabeth Touhey, Chief
Administrative Claiming Local and
Schools Services Branch