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State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Care Services
LEA Medi-Cal Billing Option Program
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)



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Rendering Practitioner Qualifications

****PLEASE REVIEW THE LEA MEDI-CAL BILLING OPTION PROVIDER MANUAL FOR COMPLETE LEA PROGRAM AND POLICY INFORMATION****

Q1. If one of my special education teachers has the educational and credentialing requirements of a direct-care practitioner, can I bill Medi-Cal for direct health services provided by this person? For example, can my special education teacher who meets the requirements of a Program Specialist bill for Targeted Case Management (TCM) services?

- A. The job title does not need to match the LEA qualified rendering practitioner title, so long as the person providing a direct health service meets the educational and program credentialing requirements for billing under the LEA Medi-Cal Billing Option. In this example, your LEA may bill for TCM services rendered by a special education teacher who meets the qualifications of a Program Specialist. Additional information is located in the [loc ed serv targ](#) section in the LEA Provider Manual.

Q2. Can a practitioner with a Preliminary School Nurse Services Credential be a qualified rendering practitioner under the LEA Medi-Cal Billing Option Program?

- A. Yes. A Registered Credentialed School Nurse includes the Preliminary School Nurse Services Credential and the Professional Clear School Nurse Services Credential. A Preliminary School Nurse Services Credential is considered a valid school nurse services credential and does not require supervision to provide nursing services. Additional information is located in the [loc ed serv nurs](#) section in the LEA Provider Manual.

Q3. If a person is currently in a credential program and teaching as an intern, are they eligible to bill for TCM services?

- A. If this person meets the following qualifications of a program specialist, they may be qualified to bill under the LEA Medi-Cal Billing Option Program. However, if they do not, they cannot bill for TCM services under the LEA Medi-Cal Billing Option Program. Program specialists must have a baccalaureate or higher degree from an accredited institution of higher education. These practitioners must also complete a post baccalaureate professional preparation program in accordance with requirements to qualify for a valid special education credential, clinical or rehabilitative services credential, health services credential or a school psychologist authorization. Additional qualified practitioners who may provide TCM services can be found in the [loc ed rend](#) and [loc ed serv targ](#) sections in the LEA Provider Manual.

- Q4. Are services provided by occupational therapy assistants, speech therapy assistants or physical therapy assistants reimbursable under the LEA Program?**
- A. No, therapy assistants are currently not qualified practitioners under the LEA Program.
- Q5. In the LEA Provider Manual, it defines the qualifications of rendering practitioners. For some practitioners, the qualifications states "or valid credential issued prior to the operative date of Section 25 of Chapter 557 of the Statutes of 1990". What does that mean?**
- A. The LEA Provider Manual, [loc ed rend](#) section, defines the credentialing requirements for practitioners in the LEA Program. The current California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) credentials are specified in the LEA Provider Manual; however, there are older credentials that were originally issued by CTC. The phrase is taken from Education Code, Section 44265.3 and SNF intended the statement to encompass any previous service credentials that were issued by CTC on an initial basis and renewed by the holders who qualify.