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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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Targeted Case Management (TCM) Policy and Billing

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

- Q1. Does my LEA have to complete a TCM Labor Survey if we do not provide TCM?**
- A. LEAs that do not provide and bill for TCM services do not need to submit a TCM Labor Survey.
- Q2. Can you explain what TCM Labor Survey is and who is responsible for submitting it?**
- A. LEA providers that want to bill for TCM services must annually complete the LEA Targeted Case Management Labor Survey. This survey is used by the DHCS Safety Net Financing Division to determine the TCM reimbursement rate (low, medium or high). This form must be submitted to DHCS prior to submitting TCM claims. The form is available at the [LEA Program website](#).
- Q3. Who is the person we can contact with questions related to the TCM Labor Survey?**
- A. Questions regarding the TCM Labor Survey can be directed to LEA@DHCS.CA.GOV.
- Q4. How often does my LEA have to submit the TCM Labor Survey in order to bill for TCM services? Are LEAs required to document TCM services in the IEP?**
- A. For LEAs providing and seeking LEA Medi-Cal Billing Option Program TCM reimbursement, the Labor Survey must be submitted annually with the annual report (due October 10th of each year). LEAs are required to complete the Labor Survey prior to billing for TCM services. The [TCM Labor Survey](#) is available for download on the LEA Program Website. TCM is only billable for IEP/IFSP students, and must be authorized in the IEP/IFSP.
- Q5. Can my LEA bill Medi-Cal Administrative Activities through the MAA Program and LEA TCM services?**
- A. There is some overlap between Medi-Cal Administrative Activities through the MAA Program and LEA TCM services. Regardless of whether you bill Medi-Cal Administrative Activities through the MAA Program or TCM services through the LEA Program, you may not bill more than once for the same service. If your LEA is billing Medi-Cal Administrative Activities through the MAA Program, please refer to the California School-Based Medi-Cal Administrative Activities Manual.

Q6. Can I bill for TCM services under the LEA Billing Program and through the MAA program ?

- A. An LEA practitioner may only bill for TCM services under one program, not both, this could be considered double dipping. If the individual practitioner's TCM services are billed under the LEA billing program and participates in the MAA program, they should record their TCM time under code 2 in the MAA program. Please refer to the California School-Based Medi-Cal Administrative Activities Manual.

Q7. TCM services can be claimed in the MAA Program, but aren't TCM services an extension of a direct medical service and should be claimed in the LEA Medi-Cal Billing Option Program? For example, if I develop a plan for an IEP student, do I have a choice of billing through MAA or LEA Medi-Cal Billing Option Program?

- A. TCM services can be an extension of direct medical services. TCM claimed in the MAA Program is for administrative activities and TCM claimed in the LEA Medi-Cal Billing Option Program is for direct medical services.

Q8. Has the TCM labor survey always been annual or is this a new requirement?

- A. Previously, LEAs could submit the survey once and continue billing. Effective FY 13/14, SNF is enforcing the requirement that LEAs submit a TCM Labor Survey annually.

Q9. A question on the TCM Labor Survey refers to a Program Cost Data Report (J380). This report no longer exists. Where should LEAs get this information?

- A. SNF is aware that the Program Cost Data Report (J380) is no longer provided by CDE. LEAs may leave the school administration overhead rate blank since the information is not available via CDE (the percentage does not make a material difference on the outcome of the TCM rate).