Subject: Department of Health Care Services - Quarterly Newsletter – October 2026

Local Educational Agency
Medi-Cal Billing Option Program

DHCS



NEWSLETTER

Program Announcements!

October 23, 2026

Local Educational Agency Medi-Cal Billing Option Program (LEA BOP) Quarterly Meeting | Action Items for October – December 2026 | Look Ahead: Things to do for January – March 2027 |
Reminders, Meetings and Trainings | Meet the Staff

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Acronyms Used in this Newsletter

CMS	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
CRCS	Cost and Reimbursement Comparison Schedule
DHCS	Department of Health Care Services
FY	Fiscal Year
LEA	Local Educational Agency
LEA BOP	Local Educational Agency Medi-Cal Billing Option Program
MER	Medi-Cal Enrollment Ratio
QM	Quarterly Meeting
RMTS	Random Moment Time Study
SPA	State Plan Amendment
TA	Technical Assistance
TSIP	Time Study Implementation Plan
TSP	Time Study Participant

This LEA BOP Quarterly Newsletter edition brings you the latest program updates and a preview of some of the key topics that we will explore during the October 2026 Quarterly Meeting. This newsletter highlights information that you will need to know to help keep your LEA informed, compliant, and prepared.

Quarterly Meeting

The upcoming Quarterly Meeting is an excellent chance for LEAs and program partners to come together to stay current with program updates and through targeted training, learn best practices for your LEA to be successful in the program, and maximize potential reimbursement opportunities. The next Quarterly Meeting is on Wednesday, October 28, 2026, from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., with a one-hour lunch break. Here's what you can expect:

The morning session launches at 10:30 a.m. with important agenda items and updates including:

- LEA BOP Total Program Funding
- Compliance Documents
- Medi-Cal Enrollment Ratio (MER)
- Practitioner Enrollment Requirement Update
- State Plan Amendment (SPA) Updates
- Provider Revalidation (NEW!)
- Correction Action Plan (CAP) Process

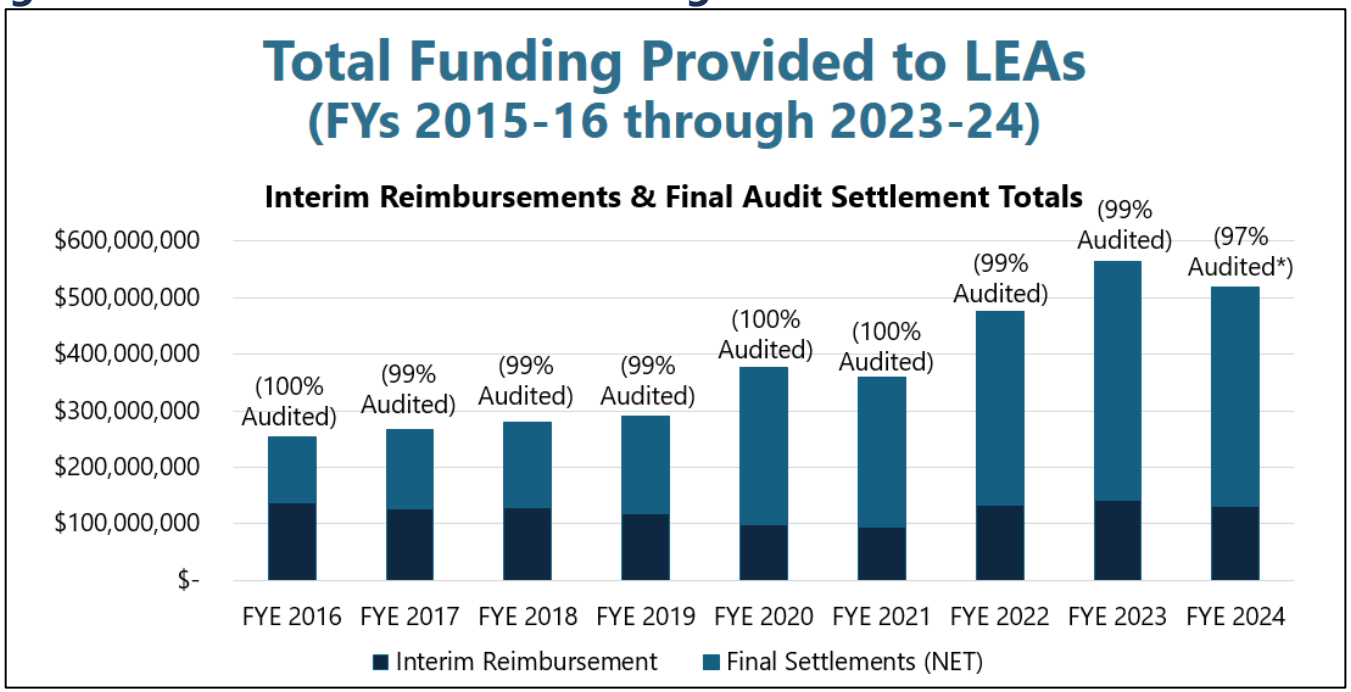
In the afternoon session, beginning at 1 p.m., we will dive into the following topics:

- Documentation and Audit Readiness
- LEA BOP and the Children Youth and Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI) Fee Schedule Program
- New Practitioner Type Overview

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These sessions are designed to help LEAs successfully administer the LEA BOP and maintain full compliance across all program areas. **Please register to attend the LEA BOP October 2026 Quarterly Meeting.**

Total Funding Provided to Local Educational Agencies



The LEA BOP is sharing some positive news on the total LEA BOP funding provided to LEAs. Under SPA 15-021, total reimbursements have substantially increased for LEAs. Audits show a steady increase in interim reimbursements and final settlements from $250 million in FY 2015-16 to over $500 million in FY 2023-24. Thank you for the years of hard work and collaboration with our program – and for your continued dedication every day to students in California!

Welcoming Our Newly Enrolled Local Educational Agencies!

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We also want to recognize the LEAs that have recently enrolled in the LEA BOP. Thank you for joining the program—we are excited to work together and support your efforts in delivering essential services to students!

- N.E.W. Academy Canoga Park
- Delhi Unified School District
- New Village Girls Academy
- McKinleyville Union Elementary School District

Technical Assistance

DHCS is dedicated to empowering LEA BOP providers at every stage of the program, from educating LEAs on program requirements and sufficient documentation to uncovering and maximizing billing opportunities. Every successful TA visit showcases the commitment of the LEA BOP Provider Relations Unit, which delivers personalized, hands-on support to help providers thrive.

So far, for FY 2026-27, the LEA BOP Provider Relations Unit successfully completed 17 TA visits with more on the way for the rest of the month and upcoming months. TA covers a variety of topics, ranging from maximizing LEA engagement in the program to helping LEAs understand their audit settlement adjustments. Interested in a TA visit? Simply complete and submit a TA Request Form to LEA@dhcs.ca.gov. A team member will follow-up with you to schedule a virtual meeting to provide the necessary support to help your LEA succeed in the program with confidence.

State Plan Amendment Updates

The Department of Health Care Services is working on a SPA that includes important policy updates and clarifications to strengthen alignment with federal requirements and support smoother program administration. The public comment period ended on June 15, 2026, and the Department has submitted SPA 26-0008 to CMS for approval.

Action Items for October – December 2026

- FY 2026-27 Annual Report
    - DHCS will be releasing the Annual Report soon, which will be due Monday, November 30, 2026.

        - Submissions will be considered timely when submitted before January 31, 2027.
    - Sign and submit to LEA.AnnualReport@dhcs.gov.

Look Ahead: Things to do for January – March 2027

- Mark your calendar for the January QM and upcoming LEA BOP trainings (see dates below). These sessions will offer important guidance and updates.

Reminders, Meetings, and Trainings

Date/Time:	Reminders/Meetings/Trainings:
October 28, 2026 (10:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.)	LEA BOP Quarterly Meeting Afternoon Session (beginning at 1 p.m.): Documentation and Audit Readiness / LEA BOP and Children Youth and Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI) / New Practitioner Type Overview
November 30, 2026	Annual Report Due
December 2, 2026 (11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.)	Rural & Small District Support and Resource Workshop
December 10, 2026 (1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.)	FY 2025-26 CRCS Training / Provider Billing Forum, Part 2
January 27, 2027 (10:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.)	LEA BOP Quarterly Meeting Afternoon Session (beginning at 1 p.m.): New SPA Implementation / TSIP / RMTS Training
February 4, 2027 (2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.)	FY 2025-26 CRCS Check-In
March 12, 2027	FY 2025-26 CRCS Due

March 4, 2027 (1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.)	TSP List Development for Quarter 1 / Quarter 1 Recap
April 7, 2027 (1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.)	TSP Quarter 1 List Development Check-In
April 28, 2027 (10:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.)	LEA BOP Quarterly Meeting Afternoon Session (beginning at 1 p.m.): SPA and TSIP Training 2

Please note these training dates and times are subject to change, so keep an eye out for e-blasts that will confirm each session. To stay informed on meetings, program policy updates, and reminders, subscribe to the LEA BOP Listserv to receive notifications from DHCS.

Meet the Staff

Local Governmental Financing Division
Charles (Chuck) Anders, Chief

Medi-Cal Claims and Services Branch
Regina Zerne, Chief

School-Based Claiming Services Section
Stephanie Magee, Chief

LEA BOP Policy & Fiscal Unit	LEA BOP Provider Relations Unit
Areas of expertise: Policy Claims processing Fiscal Analysis	**Areas of expertise:** Outreach and enrollment Technical assistance RMTS participation Program compliance

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Staff: Toua Vang, Chief Tiffany Lai Mindy Vang Danna Ramos Andrew Khang	**Staff:** Sarah Borkowski, Chief Lacey Allred Leilany Perez Luke Foster Robin Singh

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