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LEA Medi-Cal Billing Option Program



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LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY MEDI-CAL BILLING OPTION PROGRAM
MEDI-CAL AND PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION
REGARDING EXPLANATION OF BENEFITS

Medi-Cal is California's Medicaid program. It is a public health insurance program which provides health care services for individuals who meet eligibility requirements. You can have Medi-Cal even though you have Other Health Coverage (OHC) through individual or group private health (or dental) insurance coverage.

Under the Local Educational Agency (LEA) Medi-Cal Billing Option Program, school districts that provide medically necessary health care services to Medi-Cal eligible students may be reimbursed by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS).

When the school provides medical services to a student who is both Medi-Cal eligible and has OHC, DHCS may bill the private health insurance of the student, parent or guardian to recoup funds paid by DHCS to the school. This is due to the fact that Medi-Cal is always the payer of last resort. Under federal law, private health insurance belonging to a Medi-Cal beneficiary must be billed before billing Medi-Cal. If Medi-Cal later discovers OHC exists, Medi-Cal will bill the OHC for the services rendered by the school.

If the private health insurance company issues payment to DHCS, it may send an Explanation of Benefits (EOB) statement to the parent or guardian of the insured child. EOB statements are not bills, they are generated as part of the private health insurance company's obligation to inform its policy holders of claims processed on their behalf.

You will not be billed by DHCS or the school for services provided by the school to its students. Participation in the LEA Program will not decrease your public benefits, impact lifetime coverage, or increase your Medi-Cal premiums.

For information regarding Medi-Cal and what it means to you, refer to the link below. Relevant information can be located in English on page 8, and in Spanish on page 26.

<http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/publications/Documents/PUB68.pdf>

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