



Idaho Department
of Education

School-Based Medicaid and Special Education

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Brief School-Based Medicaid Overview

Medicaid vs. Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

- Medicaid is a mandatory funding program
- IDEA is a discretionary funding program

The federal government will ensure needed funds are available for Medicaid services but is *not obligated* to ensure needed funds are available for IDEA services, even though all eligible individuals in the two separate programs must receive necessary services as defined by the programs

IDEA Continued

- IDEA provides certain procedural rights and services, but not all of the funds for those services.
- IDEA also distinguishes between medical services and health services.
- IDEA specifically refers to the *obligation of other public agencies to provide or pay for services* to ensure a free appropriate public education for children with disabilities

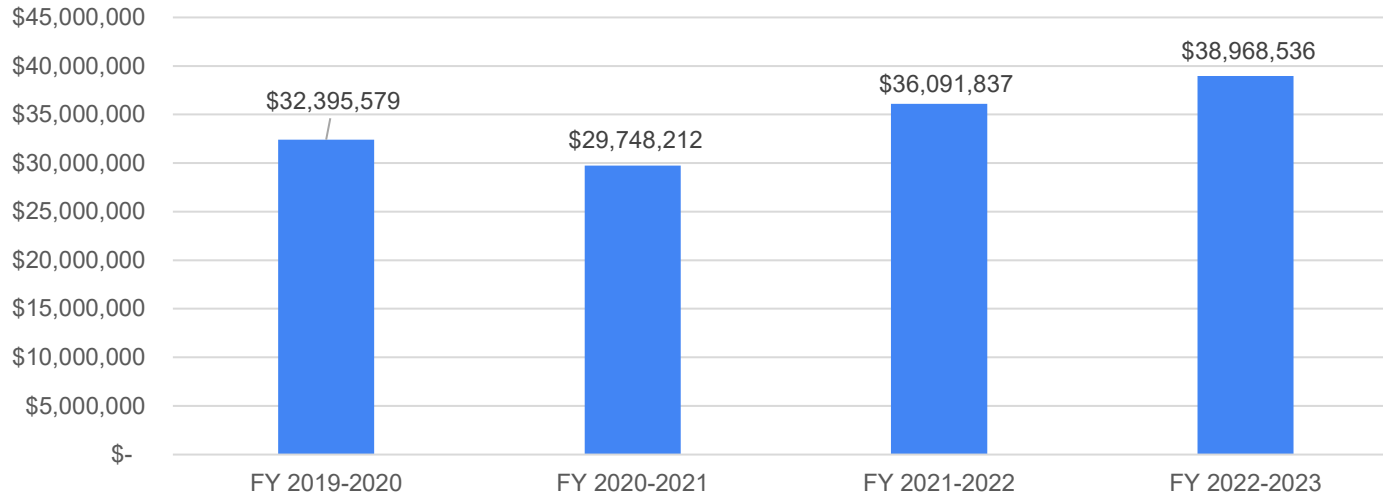
School-Based Medicaid Considerations

Fee-for-Service Claiming

- Under fee-for-service claiming, Medicaid reimburses for the cost of direct services provided, such as an occupational therapy or counseling session.
- Not all students in SPED are eligible for Medicaid
- Not all IEP services are billable
- IEP written to meet individual student needs
- Teachers, therapists, paraprofessionals, etc. must meet Medicaid provider qualifications
- Reimbursement only for services outlined in IEP

School-Based Medicaid Annual Reimbursement Revenue

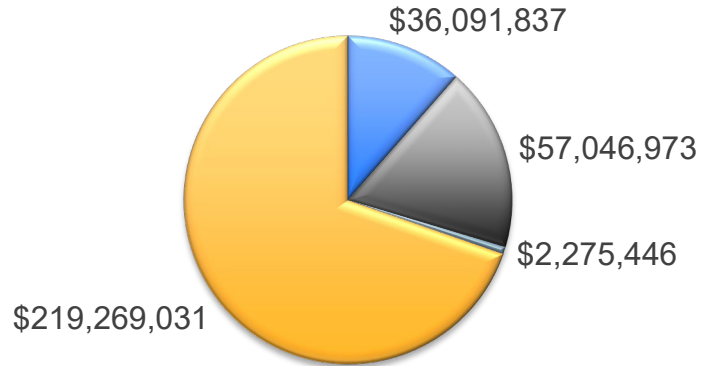
Schools Annual Reimbursement



Note: Medicaid reimbursement after match

Annual Percentage of Total Special Education Costs

Special Education Funding FY2021-2022



■ Medicaid
 ■ IDEA 611 funds
 ■ IDEA 619 funds
 ■ LEA State Funds

**Note: “State funds” indicates an LEA uses general funds, not a specific allocation for special education.
 “IDEA funds” are the total grant awards made available to LEAs, not expenditures.**



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