EDGEWATER

Policy No.: 6111.1
_____ Monitored
__X__ Mandated
__X__ Other Reasons

SPECIAL EDUCATION MEDICAID INITIATIVE (SEMI) PROGRAM

Unless it receives a a waiver of the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3 pursuant to the procedures set forth a N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3(b), the Board shall take appropriate steps to maximize its revenue from the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program by following policies and procedures to maximize participation in the program.

As part of the annual budget information, the New Jersey Department of Education shall provide each school district with a projection of available SEMI reimbursement for the budget year, as determined by the State Department of Treasury's third party administrator for SEMI. The projection shall be based on the following:

a. Number of Medicaid eligible pupils;

b. Assumption of twenty services per eligible pupils per year;

c. One IEP meeting per eligible pupil per year; and

d. Applicable SEMI reimbursement rates.

Beginning with the 2009-2010 school year, the school district shall recognize as revenue in its annual school district budget no less than ninety percent of the projection of available SEMI reimbursement. The district may seek approval from the Executive County Superintendent to use its own projection of SEMI reimbursement upon demonstration that the numbers it used in calculating the projection are more accurate than the projection provided.

The school district shall strive to achieve maximum participation in the SEMI program. "Maximum participation" means obtaining a ninety percent return rate of parental consent forms for all SEMI eligible pupils. Districts shall enter all pupils following their evaluations into the third-party system to identify the district's universe of eligible pupils. This can be done without parental consent.

If the Board has less than ninety percent participation of SEMI eligible pupils in the 2007-2008 school year or has failed to comply with all program requirements set forth in C. above, shall demonstrate a good faith effort to achieve maximum participation and to maximize available SEMI revenue during the 2008-2009 school year by submitting a SEMI action plan to the Executive County Superintendent for review and approval by September 1, 2008. In subsequent years, each school district that has les than ninety percent participation of SEMI eligible pupils in the prebudget year or that has failed to comply with all program requirements set forth in C. above shall submit a SEMI action plan to the Executive County Superintendent for review and approval as part of the school district's proposed budget submission.

If the Board did not achieve ninety percent participation or achieve their approved benchmarks in the SEMI program for a given budget year and cannot demonstrate they fully implemented their New Jersey Department of Education approved SEMI action plan required above shall be subject to review for the withholding of State aid by the Commissioner pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19A:55-3 in an amount equal to the SEMI revenue projection based on their approved benchmark for the budget year, if applicable, less actual SEMI reimbursements for the budget year. The State aid deduction shall be made in the second subsequent year after the school budget year.

Legal Reference
N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3

First Reading: October 16, 2008
Second Reading: October 23, 2008