

# Arkansas Department of Education - Special Education Unit Advisory Council for the Education of Children with Disabilities Medicaid in the Schools, April 2019



## **Medicaid In The Schools (MITS) Team Reorganized**

In an effort to ensure Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) have easy access to information on and assistance from Medicaid in the School operations, the ADE has divided the state into four regions. The ADE will house a MITS Regional Advisor within each region to act as the local liaison in providing direct technical assistance and training to LEAs regarding all aspects of Medicaid programming in schools. See *attached MITS Regional Advisor Map*.

## **New MITS Webpage**

The ADE is working to develop and launch a new Medicaid in the School page on the ADE website. The goal is to provide school personnel with information regarding Medicaid in the school program operations that includes guidance, sample documents, contact information, resources, and video tutorials. The new page will also act as the new Arkansas Medicaid Administrative Claiming (ARMAC) point of access for participating districts. The webpage is set for public launch in the summer of 2019.

## **Direct Service Underperforming Notifications**

The ADE is in the process of issuing underperforming notifications to school districts. As per A.C.A. § 6-10-119, the ADE shall identify school districts that are underperforming in the area of direct-service Medicaid billing. The ADE Medicaid in the Schools (MITS) program considers the following to determine a district's Medicaid billing status:

- The reimbursement amount paid to the district for Speech Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and Physical Therapy direct-service billing from July 1, 2018, to December 31, 2019, in respect to the district's special education county, county Medicaid rate, and past therapy billing rates per discipline

## **ARMAC**

The ADE is currently piloting the newly developed ARMAC software to operate the Random Time Study. Four school districts have agreed to pilot the new software along with the current, existing system. The new ARMAC system combines three separate systems into one database, including the ARMAC training system, the random moment time study, and the ARMAC reporting system. The new ARMAC system will provide the ADE and school district personnel with a more user-friendly platform. The pilot will last through the duration of this school year. The ADE will implement the new system statewide for claiming purposes, beginning in August of 2019.

## **Interagency Collaboration & Supports**

The ADE has formed a collaborative partnership with the Department of Human Services, eQHealth Solutions, and Arkansas Foundation for Medical Care to develop a series of LEA Medicaid Provider video tutorials to be recorded and posted on the MITS website. The goal is to develop a video tutorial per service discipline area, including:

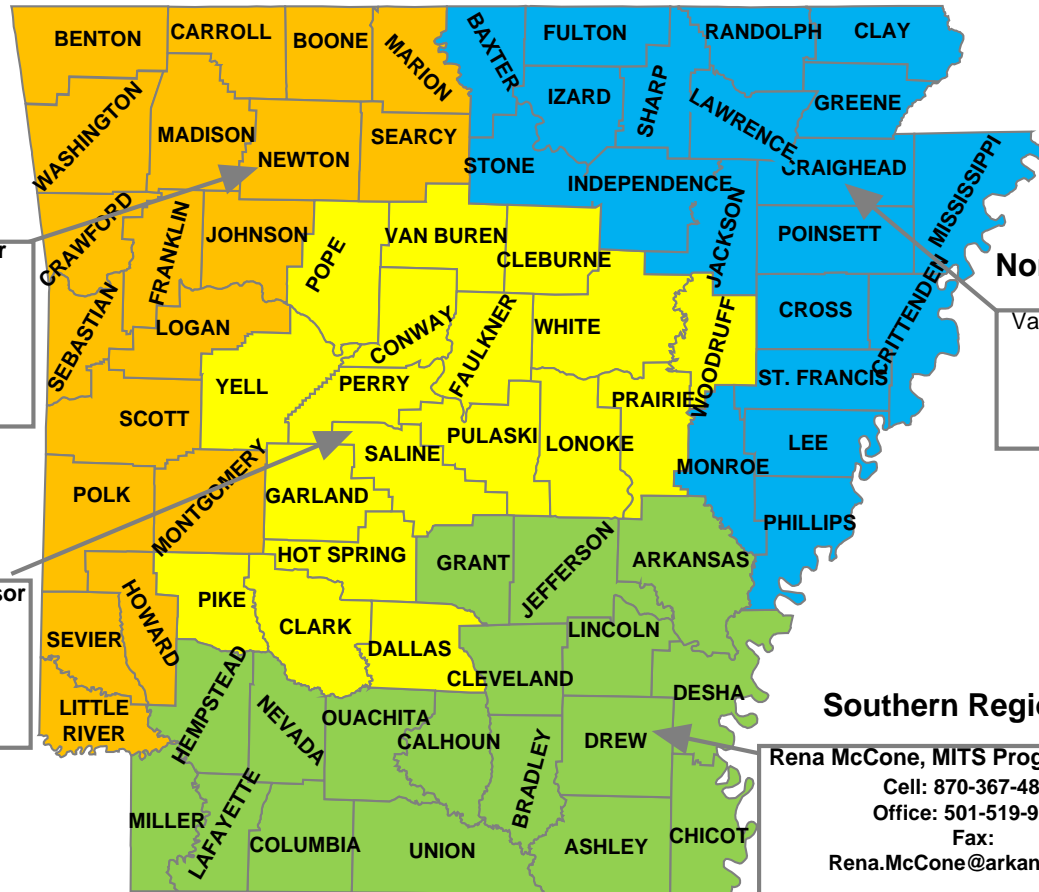
- School-Based Mental Health – set to record March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- School-Based Therapy Services – TBD
- Personal Care Services – TBD
- ARMAC – TBD
- Medicaid in the Schools Overview - TBD

## **MITS Profiles**

Annually, the ADE releases Medicaid in the School Profiles, which details annual billing rates per district per discipline, including a statewide profile. The 2018 Profiles may be found at <https://arksped.k12.ar.us/applications/sbmf/default.htm>. This year the ADE has developed a Profile trend report, which details annual billing comparison per district for a three year period, 2016, 2017, and 2018. This report will be released during the Spring Semester, 2019. This will allow districts to clearly determine Medicaid billing performance trends.



# MITS Program Advisor Regions



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