

**Division of Elementary and Secondary Education - Special Education Unit
Advisory Council for the Education of Children with Disabilities
Medicaid in the Schools (MITS), January 2020**



MITS Personnel Update

The Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) has filled all positions to complete the transition of the Medicaid in the Schools (MITS) Team. Regina Babbitt, the central region MITS advisor has been hired and began her post January 6th. Ms. Babbitt completes the team of four Regional MITS advisors who serve school districts with all Local Education Agency (LEA) based Medicaid operations. Ms. Babbitt will serve school districts within the central Arkansas region to include Pulaski County, Dawson Cooperative, Arch Ford Cooperative, and Wilbur Mills Cooperative areas. Other regional advisors include Rena McCone, Southern Region, Sarah Dover, Northeast Region, and Dana Bennett, Northwest region. An updated MITS Regional Advisor Map is attached to this report.

Arkansas Medicaid Administrative Claiming (ARMAC) Random Moment Time Study Update (RMTS)

The DESE has successfully completed the first quarter claim using the new online RMTS system. The MITS teams continues to work with software developers to make final tweaks to the system and finalize the reporting templates. The ARMAC claims has increased FY20 Q1 by 3 million dollars. This increase is likely due to the improved ARMAC Testing Module, as well as the requirement for all ARMAC participants to test prior to being placed in the RMTS pool for the quarter.

State Medicaid Policy

School districts continue to experience issues with LEA based claiming due to the Organized Care State Medicaid Policy changes. The DESE MITS team is currently collaborating with the Division of Medicaid Services (DMS) officials to resolve the following issues:

- **Therapy (Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Speech Therapy)**
Medicaid policy for 90-minute threshold has created a competitive environment between school districts and private providers for billing purposes.
- **Personal Care**
The recently implemented assessment requirement for Personal Care services has hindered school districts from completing the billing approval process for personal care billing.

Up-to-date MITS related information may be found at:

<http://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/divisions/learning-services/school-health-services/arkansas-medicaid-in-the-schools>



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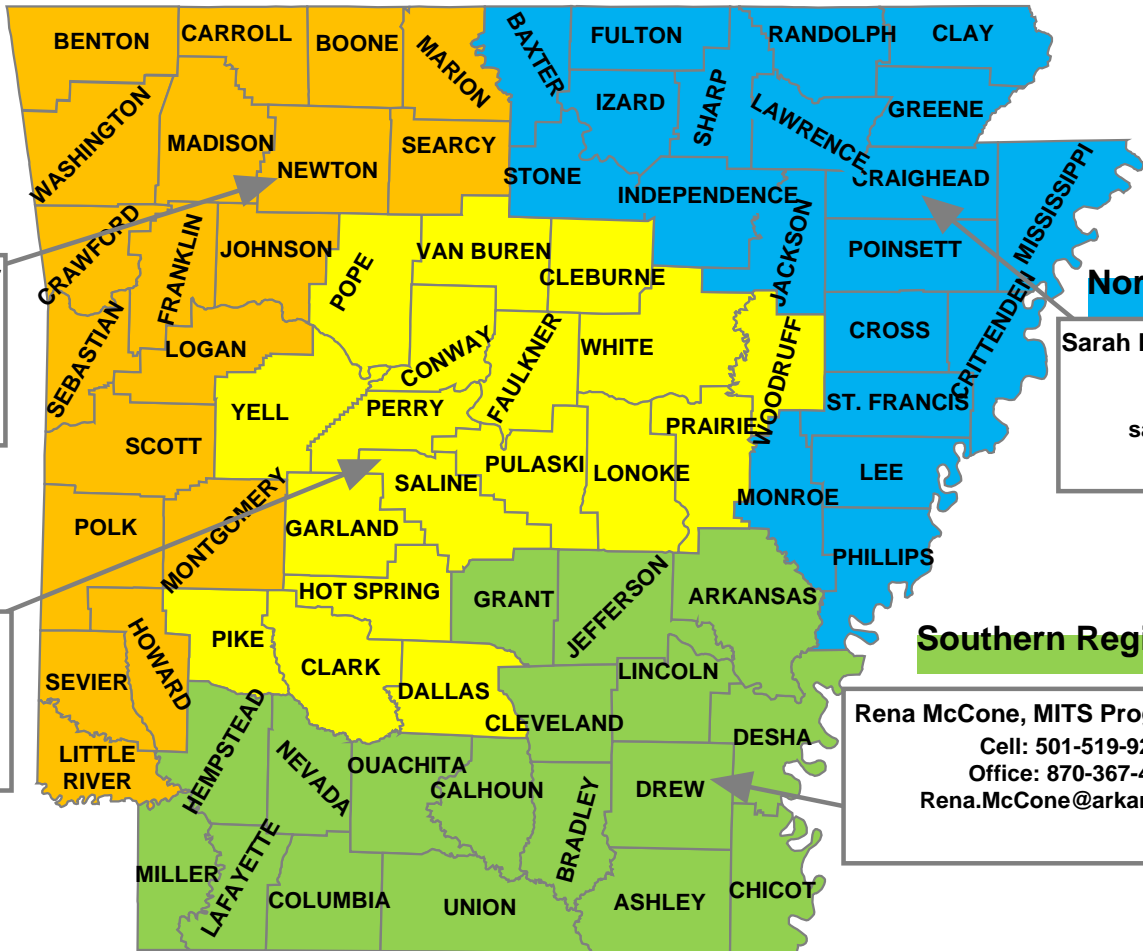
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