What is Cost-Based Reimbursement?

FINANCING SCHOOL-BASED SERVICES THROUGH MEDICAID

Cost-based reimbursement (CBR) is…

- A system of payment for reimbursing the actual costs of providing Medicaid eligible school-based services. Such costs may be higher for some LEAs than any pre-specified fees.

- Based on cost data that local education agencies (LEAs) report, such as hours spent delivering Medicaid-eligible school-based services

- Also known as: cost settlement, recognized cost, or reconciled cost reimbursement

Who decides if CBR is used to pay for school-based services in Medicaid?

What types of services does Medicaid pay for using CBR?

State Medicaid agencies decide.

Some states pay for most school-based services through CBR.
Some states do not use CBR at all.*

Any Medicaid-covered service!
(at least in theory, though it varies by state)

Direct services
(e.g., screening services, counseling)
AND
Administrative services
(e.g., outreach, care coordination)

SAMHSA
Substance Abuse and Mental Health
Services Administration

Southeast (HHS Region 4)
MHTTC Mental Health Technology Transfer Center Network
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration