



State of Vermont  
Agency of Human Services  
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# Global Commitment Register

November 27, 2024

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GCR 24-012  
FINAL

## **Concurrent Education Rehabilitation & Treatment (CERT) Program**

### **Policy Summary:**

The Vermont Medicaid program updates provider-specific reimbursement rates each State Fiscal Year for Concurrent Education Rehabilitation and Treatment (CERT). CERT is a mental health service delivered by Designated Agencies in independent schools authorized by the Agency of Education (AoE) and Department of Mental Health (DMH) to operate as therapeutic schools in the Success Beyond Six program.

Authorized CERT programs must submit proposed budgets based on Medicaid-covered services to AoE and DMH for review and approval of treatment and education rates. Proposed budgets are submitted using a template that contains detailed financial information. Treatment rates are funded by Vermont Medicaid and must be approved by DMH. Education rates must be approved by AoE.

Daily treatment rates are based on the estimated cost of delivering Medicaid services for the State Fiscal Year. Daily rates are derived by dividing the approved estimated budget by the number of anticipated school days as established by the State Board of Education. Medicaid will only pay for the actual days of service. Therefore, the CERT daily rate is based on the portion of school days when students are in attendance and receiving mental health intervention services.

In some instances, a CERT program also will receive an enhanced rate for students in need of an intensive level of care. The methodology used to set the enhanced rate is the estimated cost of the staff providing direct services, divided by the number of school days, divided by the number of students needing enhanced services. This enhanced rate for the students in need of an intensive level of care is added to the standard rate.

The state Medicaid match for these services is paid for by Local Education Agencies through contracts with Designated Agencies.

### **Budget Estimate Parameters:**

Staff FTEs must be attributed to educational activities or mental health treatment activities based on the role of the position.

Supplies, contracts, and other operating expenses are allocated in their specific sections (treatment or education. If not specifically identifiable to treatment or education, the costs will be allocated proportionally to staff salaries for treatment and education. Supplies and equipment that are necessary for the standard operation of the school are not allocated to mental health treatment.

**Effective Date:**

July 1, 2024

**Authority/Legal Basis:**

[Medicaid State Plan](#)

[Global Commitment to Health Waiver](#): Waiver authority #5 [Section 1902(a)(13), 1902(a)(30)]; Special Term and Condition #6.8.

**Population Affected:**

Students enrolled in a therapeutic school offering CERT.

**Fiscal Impact:**

This change is expected to be budget neutral.

**Public Comment Period:**

The public comment period ended July 28, 2024. No comments were received.