

# Medicaid in Schools: Funding and Advocacy

ASHA School Finance Committee

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# Medicaid: A Federal & State Partnership

## Federal

- Partial funding
- Sets broad guidelines, minimum standards, and provider qualifications
- Processes state plans
- Ensures program integrity
- Provides Federal Matching Assistance Percentages (FMAP) payments

## State

- Partial funding
- States design their state program and state requirements
- Determine services, documentation, reimbursement to be provided
- Collects and reports data to CMS

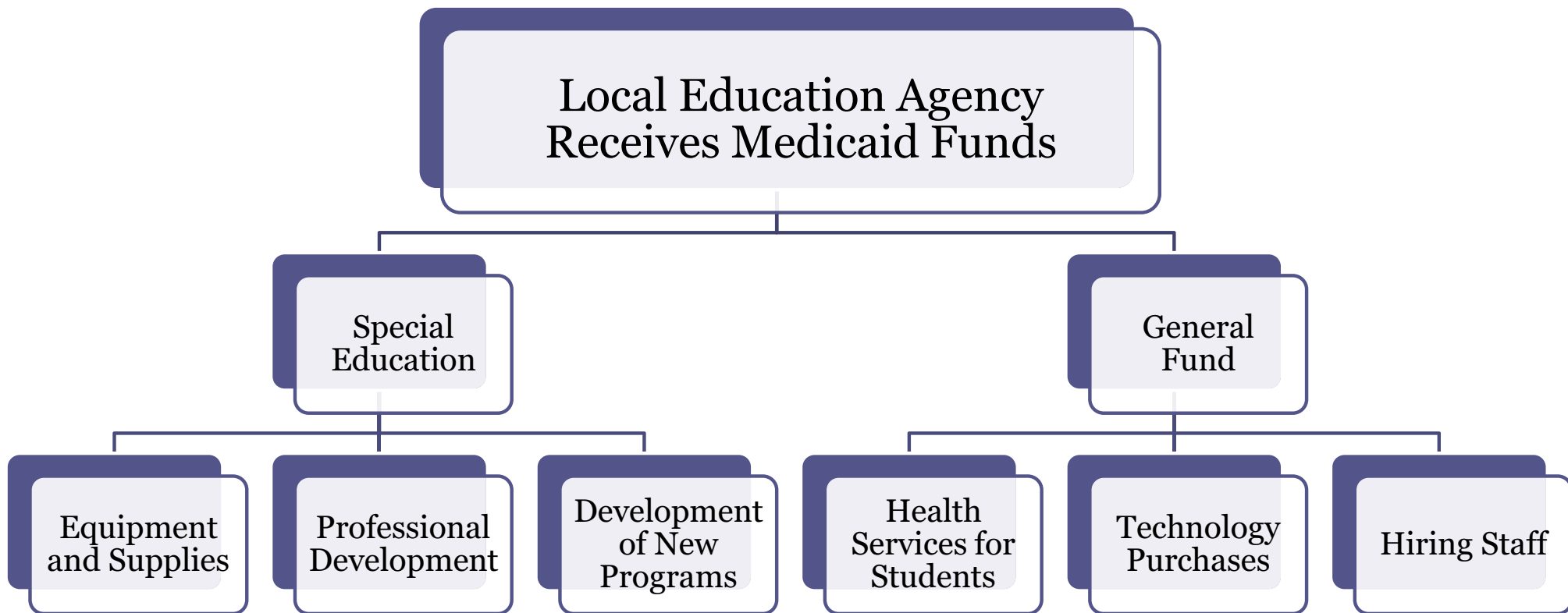
# The Flow of Medicaid Funds

- **Congress**
  - Funds are appropriated annually at the start of the fiscal year and go to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
- **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services**
  - Dollars are received at U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services and are administered by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) and are put in the state's account at the Federal level.
- **State**
  - The state draws down the funds as needed <sup>2</sup>
- **Local School Division**
  - Medicaid revenue received is placed into the school budget and allocated as per state and/or local policy. Some states have specific requirements for how a local district must use funds.

# Use of Medicaid Funds

- Each Local Education Agency, or school district, allocates funding in a different way.
- Because some states or local school boards place restrictions on the use Medicaid revenue, school speech-language pathologists (SLP) and audiologists should contact their state education, Medicaid agency, and/or local school board for clarification.

# Medicaid Fund Use - Some Examples



# Advocate for Change

- Identify the issue and the goal
- Determine if the issue is a federal, state, or local requirement
- Contact appropriate staff to discuss your concerns
- Team with others to advance your ideas
  - Other SLPs
  - State Association
  - State Education Agency
  - State Medicaid Agency
  - University Programs

# Resources

- ASHA school finance committee
  - [www.asha.org/advocacy/schoolfundadv](http://www.asha.org/advocacy/schoolfundadv)
- Medicaid Reimbursement in schools
  - [www.asha.org/slp/schools/prof-consult/medicaid.htm](http://www.asha.org/slp/schools/prof-consult/medicaid.htm)
- Medicaid 101: A primer for speech-language pathologists in education settings
  - <http://div16perspectives.asha.org/cgi/content/full/12/1/3>