

## Cabinet and Governor Appointed Agencies' Performance Audit Action Item(s) & Status

### K-12 Student Behavioral Health in Washington

(See also [cabinet agency response](#) for full context to Washington State Auditor's Office (SAO) [report](#), June, 2021)

The Health Care Authority (HCA) was included for this performance audit. *The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (governed by a separately elected official) was also audited.*

*The SAO report makes recommendations 1-2 to the Legislature. Recommendations 3-6 to the Health Care Authority. Recommendation 7 to the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction.*

SAO Recommendations (Rec) Summary to HCA:

3. Create guidance for educational service districts and school districts interested in contracting with managed care organizations to provide behavioral health services to students. HCA should work with representatives from education agencies and managed care organizations to develop this guidance.
4. Collaborate with OSPI, service districts, managed care organizations and school district representatives to reduce administrative burdens on service districts and school districts.
5. Conduct a study to evaluate what would be needed to establish an 1115 waiver program for behavioral health services and request approval from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, using the Family Planning Only program as a model.
6. Incorporate a review of children's behavioral health screenings into HCA's current monitoring process to ensure beneficiaries receive screenings to which they are entitled.

The table below shows the current status of action items the agency initiated to address issues identified in the performance audit report. Please see the [cabinet agency response](#) for additional context and any additional steps already taken.

For an explanation of the columns below, [see the legend](#).

Issue/ Rec	Status	Action Steps	Lead Agency	Due Date	Current Resources ?	Budget Impact?	Legislation Required?	Notes
Rec 3	Complete	Convene a work group to develop strategies that support schools in accessing Medicaid covered services, and to look for opportunities to develop partnerships that will increase access to services for all students.	HCA	11/21	N/A	None	N/A	HCA formed a K-12 Behavioral Health Billing Toolkit Charter Workgroup that included DOH, and OSPI and also received feedback from EDS 113. The final Toolkit was released in June of 2022.
Rec 4	Complete	Convene a work group to develop strategies that support schools in accessing	HCA	11/21	Staff participatin	None	N/A	HCA convened a workgroup in response to this recommendation. That workgroup is on-going and continues to

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		Medicaid covered services, and to look for opportunities to develop partnerships that will increase access to services for all students.			g in workgroup			identify ways to partner and increase access to services.
Rec 5	Complete	Prepare and submit a concept paper to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to determine if it would consider a waiver of this nature.	HCA	12/21	N/A	None	N/A	HCA has been in discussions with CMS regarding the potential for a waiver. Those discussions are on-going, however the intent of the action step – to initiate conversation with CMS – has been completed.
Rec 6	Closed	Assess the level of any risk or potential value of incorporating review of behavioral health screenings into its ongoing monitoring processes.	HCA	12/21	N/A	None	N/A	The mechanism contemplated in this recommendation is no longer available to HCA. We will assess the need for incorporating this review as other monitoring mechanisms are identified and implemented.