

# PENNSYLVANIA



The



## School-Based **ACCESS** Program

A program summary for the **2002-2003** school year  
Presented to the PA Department of Education

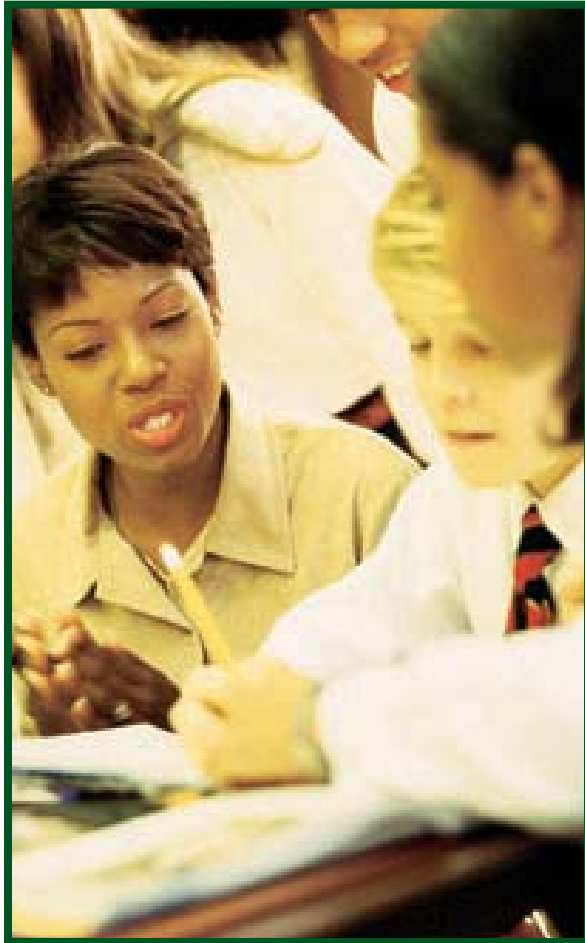
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Prepared by:

**LEADER**  
SERVICES



# P ROGRAM OVERVIEW



The Pennsylvania Department of Education's (PDE) School-Based ACCESS Program (SBAP) is a cooperative effort between PDE, the state Department of Public Welfare (DPW), the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), and PDE's contractor, Leader Services.

Reimbursements received by Local Education Agencies (LEAs) through the program can be used to enhance existing special education services, such as the purchase of assistive technology or computers, and funding new special education staff positions.

Each year, federal reimbursement continues to increase as additional services are billed by the participating LEAs. A total of 38 new LEAs, including school districts, approved private schools, and charter schools, began billing during the 2002-2003 school year. The goal of the SBAP is to ensure that enrolled LEAs receive reimbursement for covered health-related services rendered to Medicaid Assistance-eligible students. Compliance with program requirements, including service provisions, is a condition of SBAP participation.

## Billing services include:

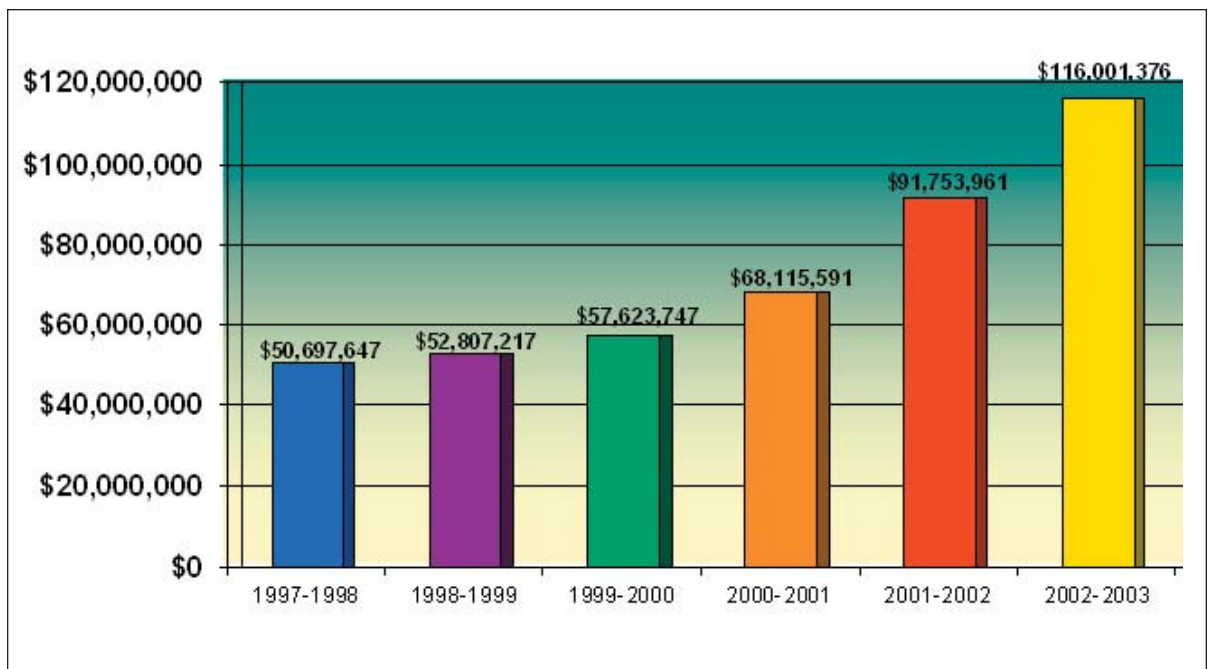
<b>Administrative Time Studies</b>	<b>Orientation and Mobility Services</b>	<b>Social Work Services</b>
<b>Assistive Devices</b>	<b>Personal Care Assistant Services</b>	<b>Special Transportation</b>
<b>Audiology Services</b>	<b>Physical Therapy Service</b>	<b>Speech, Language, and Hearing Services</b>
<b>IEP Development</b>	<b>Physician Services</b>	<b>Teacher of the Hearing Impaired</b>
<b>Interpreter Services</b>	<b>Psychiatric Services</b>	<b>Vision Services</b>
<b>Nursing Services</b>	<b>Psychological Services</b>	
<b>Occupational Therapy</b>		

# A HISTORY OF GROWTH

The graph below represents the growth of the SBAP Direct Services program during the last six years. Ongoing growth of the SBAP is due to the continued support of PDE, DPW, and the efforts of participating LEAs.

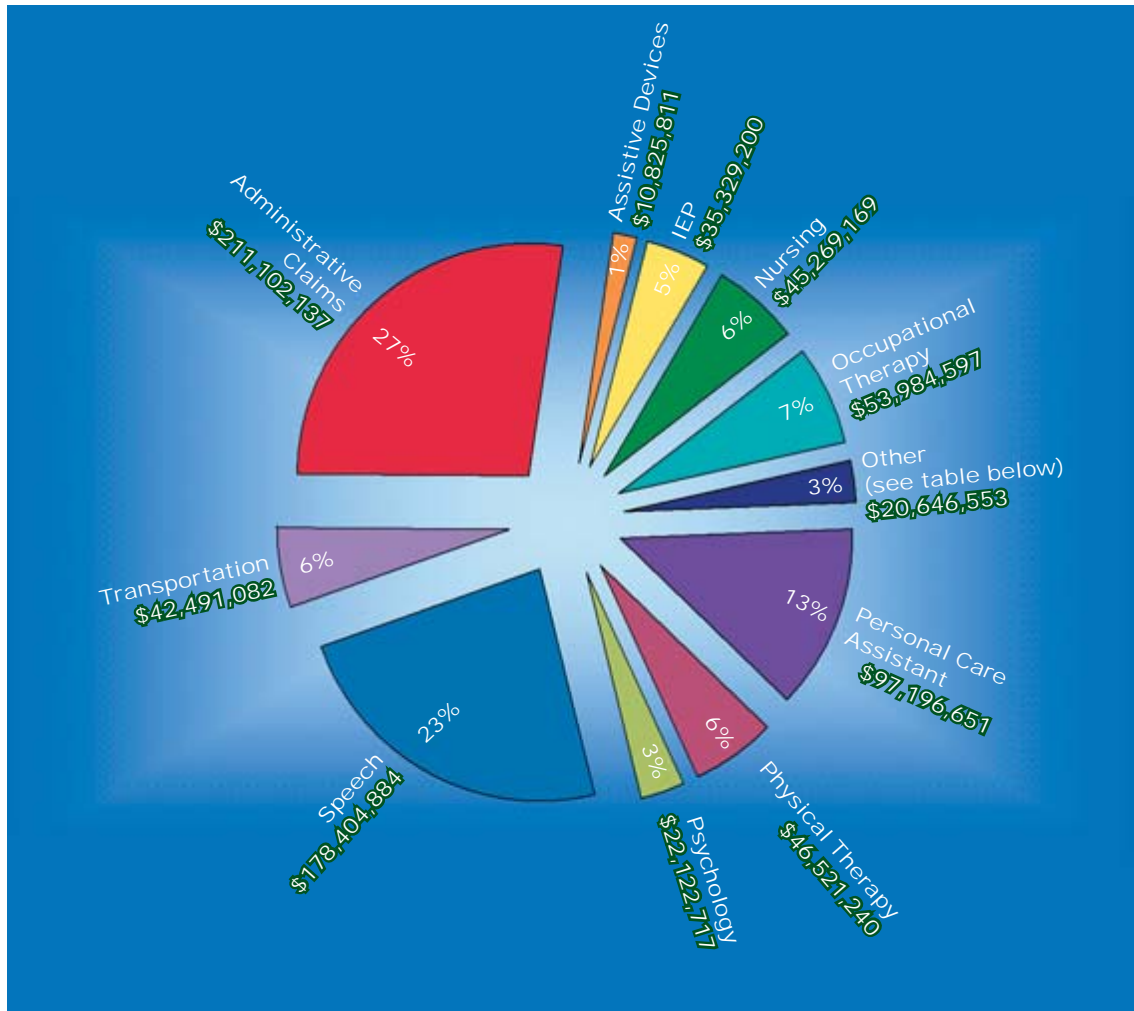
Throughout the history of the SBAP, the number of services billed and dollars recovered steadily increased. Most of the categories of health-related services provided by LEAs are included in the program. PDE, DPW, and Leader Services work collaboratively to add new SBAP services, enhance existing services and modify the program, benefiting LEAs and taxpayers across the state. As PDE’s program contractor, Leader educates SBAP providers concerning program changes, documentation required for billing and ongoing administrative responsibilities.

**Note:** From the program’s inception in 1992 through June 1997, more than \$112 million was billed in Direct Services (not shown on the chart).



# BREAKDOWN BY SERVICE

From the program's inception in June 1992 through June 2003, over \$763 million was billed to Medicaid for PA SBAP services. The graphics below detail the billing distribution by SBAP professional service.



Other – 3%	
<b>Audiology/Hearing</b> \$796,586 → 4%	<b>Psychiatry</b> \$490,499 → 2%
<b>Hearing Impaired</b> \$8,972,232 → 43%	<b>Social Work</b> \$2,723,751 → 13%
<b>Orientation/Mobility</b> \$4,031,829 → 20%	<b>Vision</b> \$665,757 → 3%
<b>Physician</b> \$2,965,899 → 14%	

# TOP TEN LEA LISTS

The following tables represent the top 10 LEAs by type and the amounts billed on behalf of the LEAs over the past two years.

School District	2001/2002	2002/2003
SD OF PITTSBURGH	\$2,047,942	\$3,613,310
ALTOONA AREA SD	\$2,161,732	\$2,412,524
SPRING-FORD AREA SD	\$675,037	\$1,104,303
ERIE SD	\$629,585	\$1,064,967
MILLCREEK TOWNSHIP SD	\$865,516	\$1,030,590
READING SD	\$804,940	\$981,070
HAZLETON AREA SD	\$545,005	\$910,103
BUTLER AREA SD	\$116,336	\$829,857
WILLIAMSPORT AREA SD	\$668,387	\$791,454
BOYERTOWN AREA SD	\$652,165	\$724,082

Intermediate Units	2001/2002	2002/2003
PHILADELPHIA AREA SD	\$9,395,807	\$9,920,190
MONTGOMERY COUNTY IU 23	\$3,547,704	\$4,159,834
BUCKS COUNTY IU 22	\$3,369,218	\$4,083,283
LINCOLN IU 12	\$4,326,827	\$3,807,899
LANCASTER-LEBANON IU	\$1,742,787	\$3,681,286
ALLEGHENY IU 3	\$1,886,044	\$2,678,034
INTERMEDIATE UNIT 1	\$1,557,215	\$2,651,291
CENTRAL IU 10	\$1,993,623	\$2,269,767
CHESTER COUNTY IU 24	\$1,881,417	\$1,967,953
DELAWARE COUNTY IU 25	\$1,117,781	\$1,711,511

Approved Private Schools	2001/2002	2002/2003
ELWYN INC - PHILA EI	\$3,274,326	\$3,828,872
GEORGE CROTHERS MEM SCH	\$744,597	\$1,357,729
WESTERN PA SCH BLIND CH	\$1,190,283	\$1,310,703
DR GERTRUDE A BARBER CTR	\$864,264	\$841,320
DAVIDSON SCHOOL	\$658,076	\$648,817
EDUC CENTER AT DT WATSON	\$482,409	\$615,109
HMS SCH FOR CHLDN	\$508,402	\$532,472
DEPAUL INSTITUTE	\$364,009	\$448,722
DELTA SCHOOL	\$463,891	\$389,437
OVERBROOK SCH FT BLIND	\$307,106	\$374,686

# B EHIND THE SCENES



## **Complying with HIPAA**

This past year proved to be a year of uncertainty for LEAs concerning the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). The LEAs and Leader continue to acclimate to changes in billing, claims processing and provider participation required for HIPAA Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) requirements.

The HIPAA Privacy and Security requirements for LEAs are less clear. Despite the regulations stating that for LEAs receiving federal funds, FERPA takes precedence over HIPAA, guidance from the U.S. Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services is currently non-existent. Hearings are being held on the federal level; guidance should be forthcoming. You can find more information on HIPAA at: [www.leadertservices.com/hipaa/index.asp](http://www.leadertservices.com/hipaa/index.asp)

## **Web applications proving to be successful**

September 2002 was the launch date for Leader's first SBAP Web-based application. WebSDS provides a vehicle for entering the components required for claims submission. This process eliminates the need for a billing slip, reduces postage costs, and allows for faster claims processing and payments. Computer-generated reports assist LEAs in monitoring data entered. As of March 2004, 155 LEAs were actively using the WebSDS Web site and feedback has been positive.

Leader's second Web-based application, WebPSL (Web Profession Service Logs), will be brought online during the spring of 2004. This application will allow service providers to enter their student log information via the Internet and print their professional service logs. Leader will extract data needed for SBAP claims submission directly from the WebPSL vehicle.

## **Quality Assurance reviews**

An important aspect of Medicaid billing is the proper development and retention of documents that substantiate the dollars claimed and received through the SBAP. Leader's Quality Assurance Manager spends most of each spring visiting LEAs and performing Quality Assurance Reviews. As part of this process, LEA and service provider records are checked for accuracy and completeness. Following the reviews, LEAs receive formal detailed reports of the findings, along with any recommendations.

Leader also provides a self-audit procedure that LEAs can use as an aid to comply with PDE program requirements pertaining to the SBAP. The form and instructions, along with other program forms, are located on Leader's Web site at: [www.leadertservices.com/pa/forms](http://www.leadertservices.com/pa/forms). Additional SBAP information is located on the same Web site at: [www.leadertservices.com/pa](http://www.leadertservices.com/pa).

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