

Information from Our Partners

National Disability Leadership Series

The team behind the documentary *The Ride Ahead* is launching a brand-new, fully online National Disability Leadership Series! This 10-month series will help US-based young disabled adults, educators, professionals, and family members grow as disability leaders through presentations, community connections, mentorship, and group projects.

Applications are now open! Review the attached [flyer](#) to learn more and submit an application form by February 15.

WEEAC Peer Network Opportunity

The Western Educational Equity Assistance Center (WEEAC) is offering a no-cost, virtual School Climate Peer Network for local educational agency (LEA) teams beginning in February 2026. This peer network brings together educators and district staff to strengthen school climate through participatory data use practices, with a focus on belonging, connection, and engagement.

Participating LEAs will join a cohort of peers for five interactive virtual sessions, collaborate with colleagues across the region, and receive guidance from WEEAC staff and content experts. Teams will learn practical strategies for collecting, analyzing, and using school climate data in partnership with students, families, staff, and community members.

The network is open to LEAs at any stage of their school climate journey. For more information, see the [attached flyer](#).

Medicaid Administrative Claiming

School-Based Medicaid is an important tool to support district fiscal health while strengthening student services.

As districts navigate ongoing fiscal pressures, OSPI is here to support LEAs to fully utilize all reimbursable Medicaid dollars. One current pathway to highlight, Medicaid Administrative Claiming (MAC), allows districts to claim federal funds for the administrative work already happening to support student access to health and behavioral health services, making it a high-leverage, low-lift entry point. MAC can also be paired with billing for eligible direct services to maximize reinvestment in student supports.

Visit the [OSPI School-Based Medicaid webpage](#) for current Professional Learning Communities and recorded sessions. OSPI welcomes questions and can meet with districts to walk through options, answer questions, and connect you with the appropriate HCA contacts for program and billing details.



School-based Medicaid Support and Learning Opportunities

OSPI, in partnership with the Health Care Authority (HCA), is offering a **School-Based Medicaid Professional Learning Community (PLC)** to support districts in starting, strengthening, or expanding Medicaid billing for eligible school-based services. The PLC is designed for both new and experienced districts and focuses on practical participation models, staffing and compliance readiness, MTSS alignment, and strategies for reinvesting Medicaid funds back into student supports. To register, visit the [pdEnroller event page](#).

In addition to the PLC, districts can receive 1:1 support to navigate first steps in school-based Medicaid billing, expand participation in the Medicaid Administrative Claiming (MAC) time study, or move toward full eligibility across providers and services.

If your district is interested in exploring or expanding school-based Medicaid participation, please reach out to OSPI's [Bridget Underdahl](#) to discuss next steps, identify the right pathway, and connect with OSPI and HCA support.

You can also learn more at our [OSPI School-Based Medicaid webpage](#).

Measles Preparedness for Schools

From Our Partners at the Washington State Department of Health (DOH):

With six confirmed measles cases in [Washington](#) state as of January 23, 2026 and rising cases [nationwide](#), *now* is the time to prepare for a possible measles exposure in your school or child care. The current measles outbreak in Washington has included potential exposures at school sites. Exposures in school and childcare settings can lead to student and staff exclusions, as well as temporary school closures.

We encourage all schools and childcares to be prepared in case there is a disease outbreak in your facility. DOH has collaborated with OSPI and the Department of Children Youth and Families (DCYF) to create these resources for you:

- [Measles Preparedness for Child Care and Early Learning \(PDF\)](#)
- [Measles Preparedness for Schools \(PDF\)](#)

What schools should do now:

Identify your Local Health Jurisdiction contacts (i.e., local health department)

Schools should contact their [Local Health Jurisdiction](#) (LHJ) if there is suspected measles or other communicable disease in the building. Be prepared in advance and identify a contact at the LHJ now. The Local Public Health Officer will direct and coordinate the response in the event of a suspected case or outbreak ([WAC 246-110-020](#)).

Create or update school susceptible lists

In the event of a measles exposure at a school, be prepared to quickly identify all individuals - students and staff - who are not immune to measles, including those participating in before and after-school activities. This list includes anyone without documented MMR vaccine doses or laboratory evidence of immunity.

- Prepare a list of susceptible students: Use our sample form - [Outbreak Susceptible List – Sample Form \(Word\)](#) | [\(Excel\)](#). Schools and childcares using the School and Child Care Immunization Module (SCCIM) can use the At-Risk Report ([Training Guide for SCCIM \(PDF\)](#)).
 - Your SCCIM roster must be up to date to stay accurate. In the event of an exposure at your school or child care you can request an urgent roster upload in the [SCCI Wizard](#).
- Prepare your personnel: Districts may consider notifying staff and volunteers that they may be required to provide proof of measles immunity. Acceptable documentation includes age-appropriate MMR vaccination records, laboratory evidence of immunity, or laboratory-confirmed measles. Individuals born before 1957 are considered immune. Maintain up-to-date staff immunization records. DOH has a [Sample Staff Immunization History Form \(Word\)](#) if you need a template.
 - While not routinely required, staff who have received only one dose of MMR vaccine and have no other evidence of immunity (such as birth before 1957 or a positive IgG titer) may be required by the local health officer to receive a second MMR dose or be excluded from school during a measles outbreak.

Share information with families

[Handouts on measles information](#) and other family-friendly resources are available in multiple languages.

Bookmark these resources:

- Washington State Department of Health (DOH)
 - [Measles Preparedness for Child Care and Early Learning \(PDF\)](#)
 - [Measles Preparedness for Schools \(PDF\)](#)
 - [Washington State Local Health Jurisdictions](#)
 - [Interim Pediatric Measles Outbreak Vaccination Recommendations](#)
 - [Measles Public Exposure Locations in Washington State](#)
 - [Outbreak Susceptible List – Sample Form \(Word\)](#) | [\(Excel\)](#)
 - [Sample Staff Immunization History Form \(Word\)](#)
 - [Outbreaks and Exclusion](#)
 - [Measles](#)

- [Measles Reporting and Investigation Guideline](#)
 - [School and Child Care Immunizations: Information for Families](#)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:
 - [Measles \(Rubeola\)](#)
 - [Measles Cases and Outbreaks](#)
- AAP: [Measles One-Pager \(aap.org\)](#)
- Johns Hopkins: [U.S. Measles Tracker | International Vaccine Access Center](#)
- Vaccine Education Center at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia: video (5 min.) featuring Dr. Paul Offit: [Why Are We Seeing Measles Outbreaks?](#)

WA-AIM Testing: Tips and Reminders

February is a good time to ensure that all student records are in DRC INSIGHT. Ask your test administrators and school coordinators to confirm that they can see all their students in DRC INSIGHT and report any students who they do not see in the system.

Test administrators can begin registering their students for Final Forms in DRC INSIGHT. Once they have begun this process, the Student Characteristics Survey will be available in Student Performance Data and can be completed at any point before submitting scoring data.

Engagement Rubric

The engagement rubric is a testing option only for a very small number of students. Since the engagement rubric is aligned only to content areas and not to academic or learning standards, students cannot score above 100. This means that **students cannot use the Engagement Rubric to meet a graduation pathway**. Please make sure that you have a pathway identified for students who test on the Engagement Rubric before they enter high school. All graduation pathways are open to all students. Regardless of the pathway selected, consider early what accommodations, instruction, etc. the student will need to succeed on that pathway.

For questions or additional information surrounding the WA-AIM assessment, contact OSPI's [Leslie Huff](#).

PAVE: Partnerships for Action, Voices for Empowerment

PAVE provides support, training, information and resources to empower and give voice to individuals, youth and families impacted by disabilities in Washington.

Who we serve:

- Students & Individuals
- Caregivers, Parents & Families
- Professionals

Families across Washington can also take advantage of statewide virtual trainings. Below are resources that are available to families and caregivers.

- [Online Quick Connect Virtual Clinics](#)
- [PAVE Events Calendar](#)
- [A free, 24/7 online PAVE Learning Library with on-demand resources](#)

PAVE is here to help families connect, learn, and feel supported—every step of the way.