

Appendix M: Overview of Common Funding Opportunities

Funding Stream	Description
Federal Grants	Several federal grants have been created in recent years in which a portion of funds can be allocated for CP-SBH. These include the <i>Healthy School, Healthy Communities</i> program (Bureau of Primary Health Care), <i>Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative</i> (Departments of Education, Justice and Health and Human Services), <i>Title XX Social Services</i> block grant, <i>Preventive Health and Health Services</i> block grant, and the <i>Maternal and Child Health</i> block grant.
State Funding	Some states have begun to include school-based health and behavioral health services in their state budgets . For example, services can be financed partially by state allocations (e.g. budget line item) or by implementing specific programs (e.g. Safe and Drug Free Schools) that also come with budgets to supplement general money for school behavioral health programs. State health initiatives and state taxes (e.g. tobacco tax, property tax) may also offer some support for school behavioral health services.
Fee-for-Service	Third-party payers including State Children's Health Insurance Programs , Medicaid , and commercial insurance provide support for school behavioral health through fee-for-service reimbursements. Though there are disadvantages to this line of funding including the large bureaucratic and administrative load required to recover funds, the necessity of diagnosing students for fee reimbursement, and the lack of reimbursement for many activities included in the CP-SBH framework (e.g. consultations with parents and teachers, classroom observations, and case management), fee-for-service revenue is seen as an integral part of long-term financial success for school behavioral health services .
Outpatient Behavioral Health Funding	Partnering with an already existing outpatient behavioral health center is an excellent way of facilitating the ability to bill public and private insurance programs for services. That is, while CP-SBH programs have the staff, capability and connections to serve children in schools, the outpatient program has the structure mechanisms, and recognition needed to bill for services.
Solicited Funds	Many CP-SBH programs obtain at least some of their funding from private donors , private foundations , and federal agencies . This source of funding can comprise a portion of a general budget or they may be solicited to fund specific initiatives as part of broader school behavioral health services.
Pooled, blended, or braided funds	Relying on multiple funding streams through a pooling, blending or braiding of sources is an important component of successfully funding school behavioral health. This is a key component to ensure that the services continue even if one of the funding sources should end . An additional advantage of this approach to funding is that services tend to be more comprehensive since funding sources often differ on which services, providers and clientele are covered.

SOURCE: Lever, N., Stephen, S., Castle, M., Bernstein, L., Connors, E, Sharma, R., & Blizzard, A. (2015). *Community-Partnered School Behavioral Health: State of the Field in Maryland*. Baltimore, MD: Center for School Mental Health.