



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH & WELFARE

Date: June 22, 2016

To: Behavioral Health Stakeholders, Providers, and Other Interested Parties

From: Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, Division of Behavioral Health

RE: 2016 Behavioral Health IDAPA Rule Changes

Two substantial changes to IDAPA rules will take effect July 1, 2016:

- The Department of Health and Welfare, Division of Behavioral Health will offer a Behavioral Health Program approval under IDAPA 16.07.15. This new rule replaces the existing substance use disorder facility approval rule, IDAPA 16.07.20, which will be repealed as of July 1, 2016.
- IDAPA 16.07.17 – Alcohol and Substance Use Disorders Services has been updated to include substance use disorders recovery support services and treatment programs and requirements, including: case management; alcohol and drug screening; child care; transportation; life skills; staffed safe and sober housing for adolescents; and staffed safe and sober housing for adults.

These changes are the result of a statewide negotiated rulemaking process that included partnering agencies, contractors, providers, and other system stakeholders. These changes will further efforts to integrate Idaho's mental health and substance use disorders systems by establishing uniform requirements for health, safety, environment of care, and program administration.

The scope and impacts of these changes are summarized below in categories according to provider type/audience.

Currently approved substance use disorders (SUD) treatment programs

- SUD treatment facilities approved prior to July 1, 2016 will be recognized as Behavioral Health Programs effective July 1, 2016. Updated approval certificates will be mailed to providers and will reflect the expiration date of their current SUD treatment facility approval certificates, at which point programs will be evaluated against the new requirements.
- Program approval is required for all substance use disorder (SUD) treatment programs participating in the public network. Approval by the Division does not replace additional credentialing, oversight, or quality assurance activities performed by BPA Health, Optum Idaho or private insurers.

- Program approval will no longer designate levels of care, services, or specific staff qualifications. Rather, approval will be recognition that an agency has implemented core behavioral health program operating, administrative, and safety requirements detailed in IDAPA 16.07.15.
- The primary additions to the new Behavioral Health Program chapter (16.07.15) relate to crisis intervention and response (section 350) and critical incident preparedness (section 412). Specifically, approved programs will be required to establish written procedures that define and describe how they will effectively respond to, intervene, and report on crises and critical incidents.

Community mental health programs not currently approved

- Approval by the Division is voluntary for all programs providing mental health only services.
- Nationally accredited, Indian Health Service (IHS), and tribal behavioral health treatment programs will be deemed as in substantial compliance with IDAPA 16.07.15 following an application process.
- Voluntary approval by the Division does not replace credentialing, oversight, or quality assurance activities performed by BPA Health, Optum Idaho, or other funding sources.

Currently approved recovery support service (RSS) programs

- Approval by the Division will no longer be required for stand-alone Recovery Support Service (RSS) programs (housing, transportation, life skills, etc.). These service providers may contact BPA Health for information regarding contracting requirements, credentialing, and public network participation.

Criminal History Unit (CHU) changes for requesting background checks as of July 1st

- Employees wanting to work for a Behavioral Health Program will select the option of “Behavioral Health Programs IAW 16.07.15” when signing up for fingerprinting.
- Employees wanting to work for a stand-alone RSS program will select “Contractors with DHW” when signing up for fingerprinting.

Clinical Supervision requirements are being removed from rule as of July 1st

- The requirements for Clinical Supervision have been removed from rule. Please be aware of BPA Health or OPTUM Idaho’s processes for Clinical Supervision, and Clinical Supervisor requirements after the July 1, 2016 change.

BPA Health programs may contact their Regional Coordinator, BPA Health Provider Network Management at **1-800-688-4013** or ProviderRelations@BPAHealth.com or visit the website at www.bpahealth.com for questions, concerns, or for technical assistance regarding this change. All other programs may contact the Division of Behavioral Health at BHIDAPAQuestions@dhw.idaho.gov. If you are working in the Optum Idaho network and have questions for them about program approval they can be reached at **1-855 202-0983** or www.optumidaho.com.