

Provider Notice

To: All IBHS Providers and Prescribers
From: PerformCare
Date: September 2, 2021
Subject: IBHS 21 107: IBHS Update: Temporary OMHSAS Regulation Suspensions end 9/30/21

This Provider Notice serves to reiterate that DHS has indicated that several IBHS regulatory suspensions will end 9/30/21. Specifically, effective 10/1/2021, IBHS assessment authorizations will reflect the regulatory timeframes as outlined in 55 PA. Code CHS. 1155 and 5240 as follows:

- (30) days for Individual IBHS
 - Providers have (15) days to complete the assessment/(30) days to complete the ITP
- (45) days for ABA IBHS
 - Providers have (30) days to complete the assessment/(45) days to complete the ITP

Additionally, the following IBHS regulatory signature requirements on the assessment and ITP will be enforced starting 10/1/2021 and required as part of a complete Individual/ABA/Group IBHS request:

- Assessment
 - Signed and dated by the staff person completing the assessment
- ITP
 - Signed and dated by the youth (14+), young adult (14+), or parent or legal guardian of the child or youth (If the Member is under 14)
 - Signed and dated by the staff person who completed the ITP
 - Signed and dated by the individual who meets the qualifications of a clinical director
- Please note that OMHSAS issued Bulletin *OMHSAS-21-09, Guidelines for the Delivery of Behavioral Health Services Through Telehealth*, which permits telehealth for IBHS per the requirements of the bulletin. In those instances where telehealth is utilized, valid electronic or digital signatures can be used.

DHS Notification:

Per Act 21 of 2021, the suspension of various regulatory provisions under the state disaster emergency declaration will expire on September 30, 2021. A list of the regulations that were suspended in whole or in part and their current status is available on the DHS website [here \[dhs.pa.gov\]](https://www.dhs.pa.gov). Please continue to watch this page for additional updates as we get closer to September 30th.



In addition to these regulations, some regulations have been reinstated. Those regulations are also designated in the list on the [DHS website \[dhs.pa.gov\]](https://dhs.pa.gov).

Please note that the September 30th expiration date only affects state regulations that were suspended under the state disaster emergency declaration. Federal flexibilities provided under the federal public health emergency will remain in place as long as the federal public health emergency remains in effect. On July 19, 2021, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) extended the federal public health emergency to October 17, 2021 (90 days). Please visit [www.phe.gov/emergency \[phe.gov\]](https://www.phe.gov/emergency) regularly for updates on the federal public health emergency. Additionally, in a [letter \[ccf.georgetown.edu\]](https://ccf.georgetown.edu) to state governors dated January 22, 2021, the HHS Secretary indicated the department will provide states with 60-days' notice before terminating the federal declaration.

As we move closer to September 30, 2021, if there are special instructions on the reimplementation of any of the suspended regulations, additional guidance will be provided. Additionally, specific questions may be submitted to your respective licensing office. We appreciate your patience through this process.

Thank you for your ongoing collaboration and commitment to our Members. Please reach out to your Account Executive with any questions.

cc: Lisa Hanzel, PerformCare
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