



Mississippi Department of Mental Health

Provider Bulletin

PR0155

Subject: *Operational Standards* filed for Final Adoption with the MS Secretary of State’s Office and other important updates

Issue Date: October 2, 2024

Effective Date: November 1, 2024

Scope

All DMH-Certified Providers.

Purpose

The purpose of this bulletin is to inform all DMH-Certified Providers that the finalized version of the *2024 Mississippi Department of Mental Health (DMH) Operational Standards for Mental Health, Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Use Community Service Providers* is now available on the Mississippi Secretary of State’s website.

Subject

On September 30, 2024, DMH filed the final version of the *2024 DMH Operational Standards* with the Secretary of State’s Office for Final Adoption, designated as System Number 27700. This document includes revisions made to the *2020 DMH Operational Standards* after two (2) public comment periods. The final version of the *2024 DMH Operational Standards* is now available on the Mississippi Secretary of State’s website. For the ease of identifying revisions, a mark-up copy and clean copy of the *DMH Operational Standards* are included in one document available for your review. Please note that this document only incorporates changes that were made after the second public comment period. Follow the instructions below to access the proposed revisions:

1. Follow this link to the Secretary of State’s website:
<https://www.sos.ms.gov/index.php/regulation-enforcement/administrative-procedures>
2. Click “Search Administrative Bulletin.”
3. Utilize the drop-down menu under “Agency Search” and select “Title 24: Department of Mental Health.”
4. Click on the “Search” button at the bottom of the Administrative Bulletin Search box.

Click “Full Text” on the right-hand side of the page to view the clean copy and mark-up copy, which are combined as one document. The Table of Contents is not filed with the Secretary of State’s website, but the full document, including the Table of Contents, can be found on the DMH website.

Effective Date and Updating Policies and Procedures

The *2024 Operational Standards* will become effective on **November 1, 2024**. DMH-Certified Providers will be given a six (6) month grace period before the Division of Certification begins site visits or enforcing the new *Operational Standards*, starting on **May 1, 2025**. During this grace period, DMH-Certified Providers should begin revising their Policies and Procedures to align with the new

Operational Standards. These revisions are due to DMH for review by **January 1, 2025**, and should be submitted to certification@dmh.ms.gov.

Applications to Add a New Program/Service or Modify an Existing Program

Please be advised that as of October 1, 2024, the Division of Certification is no longer accepting Applications to Add a New Program/Service or Applications to Modify an Existing Program. This pause is intended to give DMH-Certified Providers time to update their Policies and Procedures in accordance with the new *Operational Standards*. The Division of Certification will resume accepting Applications on January 1, 2025, after DMH has received and approved the updated Policies and Procedures from the DMH-Certified Provider.

Technical Assistance

DMH-Certified Providers may request Technical Assistance on the 2024 *Operational Standards* after November 1, 2024. Technical Assistance may include help with revising Policies and Procedures to align with the new *Operational Standards*, answering questions about new rules and/or processes, providing guidance on compliance with the updated *Operational Standards*, offering support for understanding and implementing changes, etc. DMH-Certified Providers should complete the Technical Assistance form and submit it to certification@dmh.ms.gov. This form will be uploaded to the DMH website by November 1, 2024.

Certification Page on DMH Website

DMH is excited to announce that a Certification Page will be added to the DMH website in the coming weeks, which will include important information about Certification, newly developed forms, and other links. Providers are encouraged to review the Certification Page for additional information and updates.

End of Provider Bulletin