



TO: Certified AoD and MH Providers

FROM: Janel M. Pequignot, Chief
Licensure and Certification

Date: 27 March 2014

RE: Alignment of Certification Dates for Dually Certified Providers, Issuance of Renewal AoD
Certificates, and Updated Application (MH and AoD)

The Bureau of Licensure and Certification has begun to issue renewal certificates to AoD providers. Currently, all AoD certificates have an expiration date of May 31, 2014, or earlier for a provider with national accreditation that expires prior to May 31. In addition, Licensure and Certification is switching to a single application process for dually certified providers.

AoD Attestation Statement

The previous process for issuing renewal AoD certificates included the requirement that providers submit a signed statement attesting compliance with Ohio Administrative Code rules. The Department is providing regulatory reduction by eliminating this paperwork.

Renewal Certification Effective Date

All AoD certificates will have a June 1, 2014 effective date.

Renewal Certification Expiration Date for Dually Certified, Deemed Providers

The AoD certification expiration date for an AoD provider that is dually certified (MH and AoD) with national behavioral health accreditation will align with the current expiration date of the agency's MH certification. Moving forward, dually certified providers will undergo a single, deemed status renewal process that includes both the provider's MH and AoD services, including renewal of non-deemed services, if applicable, e.g. Driver Intervention Program. The exception is a provider that is also licensed for Methadone treatment, which by law will continue to undergo an annual licensing process.

Renewal Certification Expiration Date for Providers with ONLY AoD Certification, Whether Deemed or Non-Deemed

All certificates will have a May 31, 2017 expiration date.

Consolidated Application for both MH and AoD Providers

Two new applications for providers seeking certification for AoD, MH or both AoD and MH will be available within approximately two weeks. One is for providers with national behavioral health accreditation (Deemed Status Application) and one for providers without national behavioral health accreditation (Non-Deemed Status Application). If an agency is certified for both deemed and non-deemed services/programs, e.g. Outpatient Treatment and Driver Intervention, the agency should complete the deemed status application.

Consolidated Application for MH and AoD Providers (continued)

The new application is designed to allow a provider to use a single application to apply for all MH and/or AoD services/programs in which a provider is seeking certification, other than a methadone program. Methadone treatment providers will need to submit a supplemental application. Another significant change and paperwork reduction for AoD providers is that all certified providers will need to submit only one application per agency. For AoD providers, these changes will replace the current requirement to submit one application for each location, and a separate application(s) for prevention.

Non-Deemed AoD Certification Process

The process for non-deemed AoD providers is the same as that currently exists. Licensure and Certification will notify a provider in writing at some point during the certification period of June 1, 2014 – May 31, 2017 that it is time to submit a renewal application and undergo an on-site survey.

Non-Deemed MH Certification Process

The Department's focus at this time is to issue renewal certificates to AoD providers due to the upcoming expiration of all AoD certificates. There is no change at this time to the certification process or expiration date for providers certified for MH services.

Deemed Certification Process

Providers with deemed status need to submit a renewal application sixty days prior to the expiration date of the MH/AoD certification. Renewal is based upon a desk audit, unless the Department needs to conduct a focused on-site survey of non-deemed services, e.g. Driver Intervention Program or Methadone Program.

Appropriate Behavioral Health Accreditation

The Administrative Code requires a provider requesting deemed status to have "appropriate behavioral health accreditation". Part of appropriate behavioral health accreditation means that a provider undergoes an accreditation survey process that includes an on-site review of the type of services/programs (AoD, MH or both) in which it is seeking certification. A CARF accredited provider is responsible to ensure that it applies for the appropriate "field category", i.e. AoD, MH, and/or integrated AoD/MH. A TJC or COA accredited organization is responsible to identify to its accrediting body all of the types of services it provides, again AoD, MH or both. If a provider is currently certified by OhioMHAS under deemed status and does not have the appropriate accreditation, the provider is not expected to undergo a supplemental, single-service or extension survey, however, the Department will not continue to grant full deemed status if a provider does not address it during the next accreditation renewal process.

Consolidation of AoD and MH Certification Standards

The Department is working to consolidate the AoD and MH certification rules into a single set. The first steps will be to propose combined rules addressing the certification process, policies and procedures, performance improvement, client rights, and outcomes. To be advised of administrative rule actions, please subscribe to the listserv: <http://mha.ohio.gov/Default.aspx?tabid=262>. Enter your information and choose the "Administrative Rules Activity Notification" option.

Questions

If you have any questions, please contact me at Janel.Pequignot@mha.ohio.gov or 614-466-9065.