

Chapter 388-877A WAC

OUTPATIENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

SECTION ONE—OUTPATIENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

- [388-877A-0100](#) Outpatient mental health services—General.
- [388-877A-0110](#) Outpatient mental health services—Agency staff requirements.
- [388-877A-0120](#) Outpatient mental health services—Clinical record content and documentation.
- [388-877A-0130](#) Outpatient mental health services—Assessment standards.
- [388-877A-0135](#) Outpatient mental health services—Individual service plan.
- [388-877A-0138](#) Outpatient mental health services—Individual treatment services.
- [388-877A-0140](#) Outpatient mental health services—Brief intervention treatment.
- [388-877A-0150](#) Outpatient mental health services—Group therapy services.
- [388-877A-0155](#) Outpatient mental health services—Family therapy services.
- [388-877A-0170](#) Outpatient mental health services—Case management services.
- [388-877A-0180](#) Optional outpatient mental health services requiring program-specific certification—Psychiatric medication services.
- [388-877A-0190](#) Optional outpatient mental health services requiring program-specific certification—Day support services.
- [388-877A-0195](#) Optional outpatient mental health services requiring program-specific certification—Less restrictive alternative (LRA) support services.
- [388-877A-0197](#) Outpatient mental health services—Residential treatment facility (RTF).

SECTION TWO—CRISIS MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

- [388-877A-0200](#) Crisis mental health services—General.
- [388-877A-0210](#) Crisis mental health services—Agency staff requirements.
- [388-877A-0220](#) Crisis mental health services—Record content and documentation requirements.
- [388-877A-0230](#) Crisis mental health services—Telephone support services.
- [388-877A-0240](#) Crisis mental health services—Outreach services.
- [388-877A-0260](#) Crisis mental health services—Stabilization services.
- [388-877A-0270](#) Crisis mental health services—Peer support services.
- [388-877A-0280](#) Crisis mental health services—Emergency involuntary detention services.

SECTION THREE—RECOVERY SUPPORT SERVICES REQUIRING PROGRAM-SPECIFIC CERTIFICATION

- [388-877A-0300](#) Recovery support services that require program-specific certification—General.
- [388-877A-0310](#) Recovery support services requiring program-specific certification—Agency staff requirements.
- [388-877A-0320](#) Recovery support services requiring program-specific certification—Clinical record content and documentation.
- [388-877A-0330](#) Recovery support services that require program-specific certification—Supported employment services.

Effective until March 31, 2018

- [388-877A-0335](#) Recovery support services that require program-specific certification—Supportive housing services.
- [388-877A-0340](#) Recovery support services requiring program-specific certification—Peer support services.
- [388-877A-0350](#) Recovery support services requiring program-specific certification—Wraparound facilitation services.
- [388-877A-0360](#) Recovery support services requiring program-specific certification—Medication support services.
- [388-877A-0370](#) Recovery support services requiring program-specific certification—Applied behavior analysis (ABA) services.

388-877A-0100 [see new WAC [388-877-0342](#), [388-877-0700](#)]

Outpatient mental health services—General.

The rules in this section apply to behavioral health agencies that provide outpatient mental health services. The definitions in WAC [388-877-0200](#) also apply to outpatient mental health services.

(1) Outpatient mental health services are intended to improve or reduce symptoms and help facilitate resolution of situational disturbances for individuals in the areas of relationships, employment, and community integration.

(2) Outpatient mental health services include:

- (a) Individual treatment services as described in WAC [388-877A-0138](#);
- (b) Brief intervention treatment services as described in WAC [388-877A-0140](#);
- (c) Group therapy services as described in WAC [388-877A-0150](#);
- (d) Family therapy services as described in WAC [388-877A-0155](#);
- (e) Case management services as described in WAC [388-877A-0170](#);
- (f) The optional mental health services described in subsection (3) of this section;

and

(g) The recovery support services described in subsection (4) of this section.

(3) A behavioral health agency that provides certified outpatient mental health services may choose to provide optional outpatient mental health services. Optional outpatient mental health services require additional program-specific certification by the department's division of behavioral health and recovery (DBHR) and include the following:

- (a) Psychiatric medication services as described in WAC [388-877A-0180](#);
- (b) Day support services as described in WAC [388-877A-0190](#);
- (c) Less restrictive alternative (LRA) support services as described in WAC [388-877A-0195](#); and

(d) Services provided in a residential treatment facility as described in WAC [388-877A-0197](#).

(4) A behavioral health agency that provides certified outpatient mental health services may also provide recovery support services. Recovery support services require program-specific certification and include the following:

- (a) Supported employment services as described in WAC [388-877A-0330](#);
- (b) Supportive housing services as described in WAC [388-877A-0335](#);

Effective until March 31, 2018

- (c) Peer support services as described in WAC [388-877A-0340](#);
- (d) Wraparound facilitation services as described in WAC [388-877A-0350](#);
- (e) Medication support services as described in WAC [388-877A-0360](#); and
- (f) Applied behavior analysis (ABA) services as described in WAC [388-877A-0370](#).
- (5) An agency that provides outpatient mental health services to individuals must:
 - (a) Be licensed by the department as a behavioral health agency;
 - (b) Meet the applicable behavioral health agency licensure, certification, administration, personnel, and clinical requirements in chapter [388-877](#) WAC; and
 - (c) Have policies and procedures that support and implement the:
 - (i) General requirements in chapter [388-877](#) WAC;
 - (ii) Applicable program-specific requirements for each outpatient mental health service provided and each optional and recovery support service requiring program-specific certification that the agency elects to provide; and
 - (iii) Department of corrections access to confidential mental health information requirements in WAC [388-865-0600](#) through [388-865-0640](#).
- (6) At the oral or written request of the individual, the behavioral health agency must, if applicable:
 - (a) Include the individual's family members, significant others, and other relevant treatment providers in the clinical services provided to the individual by the agency; and
 - (b) Document the request in the individual's clinical record.
- (7) If an individual has a crisis plan, the crisis plan must be:
 - (a) Placed in the individual's clinical record; and
 - (b) Subject to state and federal confidentiality rules and laws, made available to the following:
 - (i) Designated mental health professionals;
 - (ii) Crisis team members; and
 - (iii) Voluntary and involuntary inpatient evaluation and treatment facilities.
- (8) A behavioral health agency that provides services at an established off-site location(s) must:
 - (a) Maintain a list of each established off-site location where services are provided; and
 - (b) Include, for each established off-site location:
 - (i) The name and address of the location the services are provided;
 - (ii) The primary purpose of the off-site location;
 - (iii) The service(s) provided; and
 - (iv) The date off-site services began at that location.
- (9) A behavioral health agency providing in-home services or services in a public setting must:
 - (a) Implement and maintain a written protocol of how services will be offered in a manner that promotes individual, staff member, and community safety; and
 - (b) For the purpose of emergency communication and as required by RCW [71.05.710](#), provide a wireless telephone or comparable device to any mental health professional who makes home visits to individuals.
- (10) A behavioral health agency must:
 - (a) Maintain an individual's confidentiality at the off-site location;

(b) Securely transport confidential information and individual records between the licensed agency and the off-site location, if applicable;

(c) Ensure the type of mental health service offered at each off-site location is certified by DBHR in accordance with chapter [388-877A](#) WAC; and

(d) Ensure the mental health services provided at off-site locations meet the requirements of all applicable local, state, and federal rules and laws.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [43.20A.550](#), [71.05.560](#), [71.24.035](#) (5)(m), [71.24.037](#), [71.24.520](#)(4), [74.04.050](#), and [71.24.385](#). WSR 17-17-026, § 388-877A-0100, filed 8/8/17, effective 9/8/17. Statutory Authority: RCW [43.20A.550](#), [70.02.050](#)(3), [70.96A.040](#)(4), [70.96A.155](#), [70.96A].157, [71.24.035](#) (5)(m), [74.04.050](#)(1), [74.08.090](#), and chapters [70.02](#) and [71.24](#) RCW. WSR 14-06-093, § 388-877A-0100, filed 3/4/14, effective 4/4/14. Statutory Authority: Chapters [70.02](#), 70.96A, 71.05, 71.24, 71.34, [74.50](#) RCW, RCW [74.08.090](#), [43.20A.890](#), and 42 C.F.R. Part 8. WSR 13-12-053, § 388-877A-0100, filed 5/31/13, effective 7/1/13.]

388-877A-0110 [see new WAC [388-877-0515](#)]

Outpatient mental health services—Agency staff requirements.

In addition to meeting the agency administration and personnel requirements in WAC [388-877-0400](#) through [388-877-0530](#), an agency providing outpatient mental health services must ensure:

(1) Each outpatient mental health service is provided by qualified staff members who meet the following for their scope of practice and services provided:

(a) Professional standards, including documented coursework, continuing education and/or training;

(b) Clinical supervision requirements; and

(c) Licensure and/or credentialing requirements.

(2) Each staff member working directly with an individual receiving mental health services receives:

(a) Clinical supervision from a mental health professional who has received fifteen hours of training in clinical supervision approved by department of health; and

(b) Annual violence prevention training on the safety and violence prevention topics described in RCW [49.19.030](#).

(3) Staff access to consultation with a psychiatrist or a physician who has at least one year's experience in the direct treatment of individuals who have a mental or emotional disorder.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [43.20A.550](#), [70.02.050](#)(3), [70.96A.040](#)(4), [70.96A.155](#), [70.96A].157, [71.24.035](#) (5)(m), [74.04.050](#)(1), [74.08.090](#), and chapters [70.02](#) and [71.24](#) RCW. WSR 14-06-093, § 388-877A-0110, filed 3/4/14, effective 4/4/14. Statutory Authority: Chapters [70.02](#), 70.96A, 71.05, 71.24, 71.34, [74.50](#) RCW, RCW [74.08.090](#), [43.20A.890](#), and 42 C.F.R. Part 8. WSR 13-12-053, § 388-877A-0110, filed 5/31/13, effective 7/1/13.]

388-877A-0120 [see new WAC 388-877-0640]

Outpatient mental health services—Clinical record content and documentation.

In addition to meeting the general clinical record content requirements in WAC [388-877-0640](#), an agency providing any outpatient mental health service is responsible for an individual's clinical record. The clinical record must document:

(1) That the agency requested a copy of and placed in the record, if provided, the following:

(a) Discharge summaries and/or evaluations resulting from outpatient or inpatient mental health services received within the last five years, if available; and

(b) Any crisis plan that has been developed.

(2) Any previously accessed inpatient or outpatient services and/or medications to treat a mental health condition.

(3) That services were provided by, or under the clinical supervision of, a mental health professional.

(4) Any clinical consultation and/or evaluation provided.

(5) Progress notes in a timely manner and before any subsequent scheduled appointments of the same type of service session or group type, or documentation as to why this did not occur. Progress notes must include the date, time, duration, participant names, and a brief summary of the session and the name of the staff member who provided it.

(6) That the individual was provided with information and education about the individual's mental illness.

(7) Any referrals to other services and supports, including referrals to treatment for co-occurring disorders and health care.

(8) That with the individual's consent, the individual's self-identified family members and significant others were provided with information and education about the individual's mental illness.

(9) That the additional requirements for any optional outpatient services the agency providers are met.

(10) That staff members met with the individual at the time of discharge, unless the individual left without notice, to:

(a) Determine the appropriate recommendation for care and finalize a continuing care plan;

(b) Assist the individual in making contact with necessary agencies or services; and

(c) Provide and document the individual was provided with a copy of the plan.

(11) That a discharge summary was completed within seven working days of the individual's discharge. The discharge plan must include the date of discharge, continuing care plan, legal status, and if applicable, current prescribed medication.

[Statutory Authority: Chapters [70.02](#), 70.96A, 71.05, 71.24, 71.34, [74.50](#) RCW, RCW [74.08.090](#), [43.20A.890](#), and 42 C.F.R. Part 8. WSR 13-12-053, § 388-877A-0120, filed 5/31/13, effective 7/1/13.]

388-877A-0130 [see new WAC 388-877-0610]

Outpatient mental health services—Assessment standards.

In addition to the assessment requirements in WAC [388-877-0610](#), an agency providing any outpatient mental health service must ensure the clinical mental health components of the assessment:

- (1) Are provided by a mental health professional.
- (2) Are initiated within ten working days from the date on which the individual or the individual's parent or legal representative requests services, and completed within thirty working days of the initial assessment.
- (3) Gather sufficient information to determine if a mental illness exists, and if there are services available within the agency to address the individual's needs.
- (4) Document presenting problem(s) as described by the individual. The agency may contact the person(s) who provide active support to the individual in order to validate and/or obtain further information regarding the individual's presenting problem:
 - (a) Only at the request of the individual, if the individual is thirteen years of age or older; or
 - (b) At the agency's discretion, if the individual is twelve years of age or younger.
- (5) Contain sufficient clinical information, including a review of any documentation of a mental health condition provided by the individual, to justify the diagnosis using criteria in the:
 - (a) Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM IV TR, 2000) as it existed on the effective date of this section; then
 - (b) DSM-5 as it exists when published and released in 2013, consistent with the purposes of this section. Information regarding the publication date and release of the DSM-5 is posted on the American Psychiatric Association's public website at www.DSM5.org.
- (6) Contain a developmental history if the individual is a child.
- (7) Are culturally and age relevant.

[Statutory Authority: Chapters [70.02](#), 70.96A, 71.05, 71.24, 71.34, [74.50](#) RCW, RCW [74.08.090](#), [43.20A.890](#), and 42 C.F.R. Part 8. WSR 13-12-053, § 388-877A-0130, filed 5/31/13, effective 7/1/13.]

388-877A-0135 [see new WAC 388-877-0620]

Outpatient mental health services—Individual service plan.

In addition to the individual service plan requirements in WAC [388-877-0620](#), an agency providing any outpatient mental health service must ensure the following for an individual service plan. The individual service plan must:

- (1) Be completed within thirty days from the date of the first session following the initial assessment.
- (2) Be consumer-driven, strength-based, and meet the individual's unique mental health needs.

Effective until March 31, 2018

(3) Be initiated with at least one goal identified by the individual or if applicable, the individual's parent or legal representative, during the initial assessment or the first service session following the assessment.

(4) Document that the plan was updated to reflect any changes in the individual's treatment needs, or as requested by the individual or, if applicable, the individual's parent or legal representative.

(5) Document coordination with any systems or organizations the individual identifies as being relevant to treatment, with the individual's consent or if applicable, the consent of the individual's parent or legal representation. This includes coordination with any individualized family service plan (IFSP) when serving an individual three years of age or younger.

(6) Identify services mutually agreed upon by the individual and provider for this treatment episode.

[Statutory Authority: Chapters [70.02](#), 70.96A, 71.05, 71.24, 71.34, [74.50](#) RCW, RCW [74.08.090](#), [43.20A.890](#), and 42 C.F.R. Part 8. WSR 13-12-053, § 388-877A-0135, filed 5/31/13, effective 7/1/13.]

388-877A-0138 [see new WAC 388-877-0702]

Outpatient mental health services—Individual treatment services.

Individual treatment services are services designed to assist an individual in attaining the goals identified in the individual service plan. The treatment services are conducted with the individual and any natural supports as identified by the individual. An agency providing individual treatment services must ensure treatment is provided by a:

(1) Mental health professional (MHP) who has documented coursework, continuing education, and/or training that specifically address individual therapy theories and techniques;

(2) Person under the supervision of an MHP (the MHP must meet the requirements in (1) of this section);

(3) Clinician who is licensed by department of health to practice independently; or

(4) Licensure candidate under the supervision of an approved supervisor, as defined in chapter [246-809](#) WAC, for their respective license.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [43.20A.550](#), [70.02.050](#)(3), [70.96A.040](#)(4), [70.96A.155](#), [70.96A].157, [71.24.035](#) (5)(m), [74.04.050](#)(1), [74.08.090](#), and chapters [70.02](#) and [71.24](#) RCW. WSR 14-06-093, § 388-877A-0138, filed 3/4/14, effective 4/4/14.]

388-877A-0140 [see new WAC 388-877-0704]

Outpatient mental health services—Brief intervention treatment.

Brief intervention treatment services are solution-focused and outcome-oriented cognitive and behavioral interventions, intended to resolve situational disturbances. These services do not require long term treatment, and do not include ongoing care,

maintenance, or monitoring of the individual's current level of function or assistance with self-care or life skills training.

(1) An agency providing brief intervention treatment services to individuals must meet the individual service plan requirements in WAC [388-877-0620](#) and ensure the individual service plan identifies a course of treatment to be completed in six months or less.

(2) The additional assessment and individual service plan requirements in WAC [388-877A-0130](#) and [388-877A-0135](#) do not apply to brief intervention treatment.

(3) An individual may move from brief intervention treatment to longer term outpatient mental health services at any time.

[Statutory Authority: Chapters [70.02](#), 70.96A, 71.05, 71.24, 71.34, [74.50](#) RCW, RCW [74.08.090](#), [43.20A.890](#), and 42 C.F.R. Part 8. WSR 13-12-053, § 388-877A-0140, filed 5/31/13, effective 7/1/13.]

388-877A-0150 [see new WAC [388-877-0706](#)]

Outpatient mental health services—Group therapy services.

Group therapy services are provided to an individual in a group setting to assist the individual in attaining the goals described in the individual service plan. An agency providing group therapy services must:

(1) Have a written description of each group's purpose.

(2) Ensure group services are provided with a staff ratio of one staff member for every twelve individuals.

(3) Ensure a group does not contain more than twenty-four individuals.

(4) Ensure any nonmental health professional facilitating a group receives supervision by a mental health professional.

(5) Ensure any group containing more than twelve individuals has at least one facilitator or co-facilitator that is a mental health professional.

(6) Ensure group notes are recorded in each individual's clinical record before the next group meeting. Group notes must include:

(a) The attendance of the individual;

(b) The participation of the individual;

(c) Progress towards goals stated in the individual's service plan;

(d) Any significant events shared by the individual; and

(e) If the group was facilitated by a nonmental health professional as described in (4) of this section, documentation the nonmental health professional was supervised by a mental health professional.

[Statutory Authority: Chapters [70.02](#), 70.96A, 71.05, 71.24, 71.34, [74.50](#) RCW, RCW [74.08.090](#), [43.20A.890](#), and 42 C.F.R. Part 8. WSR 13-12-053, § 388-877A-0150, filed 5/31/13, effective 7/1/13.]

388-877A-0155 [see new WAC [388-877-0708](#)]

Outpatient mental health services—Family therapy services.

Effective until March 31, 2018

Family therapy services are services provided for the direct benefit of an individual, with family members and/or other relevant persons in attendance. Interventions must identify and build competencies to strengthen family functioning in relationship to the individual's identified goals. The individual may or may not be present. An agency providing family therapy services must:

(1) Ensure the services are provided by:

(a) A mental health professional who has documented coursework, continuing education and/or training that specifically address family systems theories and techniques in family therapy; or

(b) A staff member under the supervision of a mental health professional. The staff member must have documented training in family therapy.

(2) With the individual's written consent, provide information and education about the individual's illness to family members or other relevant persons in order to assist the individual in managing the mental illness.

[Statutory Authority: Chapters [70.02](#), 70.96A, 71.05, 71.24, 71.34, [74.50](#) RCW, RCW [74.08.090](#), [43.20A.890](#), and 42 C.F.R. Part 8. WSR 13-12-053, § 388-877A-0155, filed 5/31/13, effective 7/1/13.]

388-877A-0170 [see new WAC 388-877-0710]

Outpatient mental health services—Case management services.

Case management services are services that meet the ongoing assessment, facilitation, care coordination and advocacy for options and services to meet an individual's needs through communication and available resources, to promote quality and effective outcomes.

(1) An agency must provide case management services that:

(a) Assist an individual to achieve the goals stated in the plan;

(b) Support consumer employment, education and/or participation in other daily activities appropriate to the individual's age, gender and culture; and

(c) Assist an individual to resolve crises in the least restrictive setting.

(2) Rehabilitative case management services include specific rehabilitative services provided to:

(a) Assist in an individual's discharge from an inpatient facility; and

(b) Minimize the risk of readmission to an inpatient setting.

[Statutory Authority: Chapters [70.02](#), 70.96A, 71.05, 71.24, 71.34, [74.50](#) RCW, RCW [74.08.090](#), [43.20A.890](#), and 42 C.F.R. Part 8. WSR 13-12-053, § 388-877A-0170, filed 5/31/13, effective 7/1/13.]

388-877A-0180 [see new WAC 388-877-0712]

Optional outpatient mental health services requiring program-specific certification—Psychiatric medication services.

Effective until March 31, 2018

Psychiatric medication services are a variety of activities related to prescribing and/or administering medication, including monitoring an individual for side effects and changes as needed. Psychiatric medication services are optional outpatient mental health services that require program-specific certification by the department's division of behavioral health and recovery. These services may only be provided with one of the outpatient mental health services in WAC [388-877A-0100](#)(2). An agency providing psychiatric medication services:

(1) Must ensure medical direction and responsibility are assigned to a:

(a) Physician who is licensed to practice under chapter [18.57](#) or [18.71](#) RCW, and is board-certified or board-eligible in psychiatry; or

(b) Psychiatric advanced registered nurse practitioner (ARNP) with prescriptive authority.

(2) Must ensure that the services are provided by a prescriber licensed by department of health who is practicing within the scope of that practice.

(3) Must ensure that all medications administered by staff practicing within the scope of their practice.

(4) Must have a process by which the medication prescriber informs the individual, and/or the legally responsible party, and, as appropriate, family members, of the potential benefits and side effects of the prescribed medication(s).

(5) Must review prescribed medications at least every three months.

(6) Must complete an inventory every three months of all medication stored.

(7) Must ensure that all medications maintained by the agency are safely and securely stored, including assurance that:

(a) Medications are kept in locked cabinets within a well-lit, locked and properly ventilated room;

(b) Medications kept for individuals on medication administration or self-administration programs are clearly labeled and stored separately from medication samples kept on site;

(c) Medications marked "for external use only" are stored separately from oral or injectable medications;

(d) Refrigerated food or beverages used in the administration of medications are kept separate from the refrigerated medications by the use of trays or other designated containers;

(e) Syringes and sharp objects are properly stored and disposed of;

(f) Refrigerated medications are maintained at the required temperature; and

(g) Outdated medications are disposed of in accordance with the regulations of the state board of pharmacy and no outdated medications are retained.

(8) Must ensure that the individual clinical record contains the following documentation:

(a) The individual was informed of the benefits and possible side effects of each prescribed medication.

(b) The effects, interactions, and side effects the staff observe or the individual reports spontaneously or as the result of questions from staff members.

(c) Clinical notes that include:

(i) The name and signature of the prescribing:

Effective until March 31, 2018

- (A) Physician who is licensed to practice under chapter [18.57](#) or [18.71](#) RCW, and is board-certified or board-eligible in psychiatry; or
 - (B) Psychiatric ARNP with prescriptive authority;
 - (ii) The name and purpose of each medication prescribed;
 - (iii) The dosage, frequency, and method of giving each medication;
 - (iv) Identification of medications requiring laboratory monitoring and a frequency schedule for monitoring;
 - (v) The reasons for changing or stopping any medication; and
 - (vi) The dates the medication was prescribed, reviewed and renewed, as applicable.
 - (d) That any written orders to administer/discontinue a medication are generated by a licensed health care provider, within the scope of the provider's practice, and that:
 - (i) Written, dated orders are signed by the licensed prescriber within twenty-four hours; and
 - (ii) Telephone orders are reviewed and signed off on by the ordering licensed health care provider, within the scope of the provider's practice, within twenty-four hours and include:
 - (A) Documentation that clearly demonstrates emergency circumstances that required a phone order;
 - (B) The name and signature of the individual authorized by department of health whose scope of practice includes taking orders over the telephone; and
 - (C) The time, date and exact details of the telephone order.
 - (9) May utilize a physician or ARNP without board eligibility in psychiatry if unable to employ or contract with a psychiatrist. In this case, the agency must ensure that:
 - (a) Psychiatrist consultation is provided to the physician or ARNP at least monthly; and
 - (b) A psychiatrist is accessible to the physician or ARNP for emergency consultation.
- [Statutory Authority: RCW [43.20A.550](#), [74.04.050](#), [74.08.090](#) and chapters [70.02](#), [71.24](#) RCW. WSR 14-18-014, § 388-877A-0180, filed 8/22/14, effective 9/22/14. Statutory Authority: Chapters [70.02](#), 70.96A, 71.05, 71.24, 71.34, [74.50](#) RCW, RCW [74.08.090](#), [43.20A.890](#), and 42 C.F.R. Part 8. WSR 13-12-053, § 388-877A-0180, filed 5/31/13, effective 7/1/13.]

388-877A-0190 [see new WAC 388-877-0714]

Optional outpatient mental health services requiring program-specific certification—Day support services.

Day support services are optional outpatient mental health services that require program-specific certification by the department's division of behavioral health and recovery. These services provide a range of integrated and varied life skills training. Day support services are designed to assist an individual in the acquisition of skills, retention of current functioning, or improvement in the current level of functioning, appropriate socialization, and adaptive coping skills. Services include training in basic living and social skills, and educational, vocational, pre-vocational, and day activities. Day support services may include therapeutic treatment. An agency providing day support services must ensure:

Effective until March 31, 2018

(1) All day support services are provided by, or under the supervision of, a mental health professional.

(2) There is at least one staff member providing services for every twenty individuals;

(3) Staff is available five hours per day, five days per week to provide support services to individuals; and

(4) The services occur in an environment easily accessible to the individual.

[Statutory Authority: Chapters [70.02](#), 70.96A, 71.05, 71.24, 71.34, [74.50](#) RCW, RCW [74.08.090](#), [43.20A.890](#), and 42 C.F.R. Part 8. WSR 13-12-053, § 388-877A-0190, filed 5/31/13, effective 7/1/13.]

388-877A-0195 [see new WAC 388-877-0805]

Optional outpatient mental health services requiring program-specific certification—Less restrictive alternative (LRA) support services.

Less restrictive alternative (LRA) support services are optional outpatient mental health services that require program-specific certification by the department's division of behavioral health and recovery. These services are provided to individuals on a less restrictive alternative court order. An agency agrees to provide or monitor the provision of court-ordered services, including psychiatric and medical components of community support services. An agency providing court-ordered LRA support services must:

(1) Ensure and document that the agency:

(a) Maintains written procedures for managing assaultive and/or self-destructive individual behavior; and

(b) Provides training to staff members on appropriate interventions.

(2) Have a written policy and procedure that allows for the referral of an individual to an involuntary treatment facility twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

(3) Have a written policy and procedure for an individual who requires involuntary detention that includes procedures for:

(a) Contacting the designated mental health professional (DMHP) regarding revocations or extension of an LRA; and

(b) The transportation of an individual, in a safe and timely manner, for the purpose of:

(i) Evaluation; or

(ii) Evaluation and detention.

(4) Ensure a committed individual is advised of their rights under chapter [71.05](#) or [71.34](#) RCW, as applicable, and that the individual has the right:

(a) To receive adequate care and individualized treatment;

(b) To make an informed decision regarding the use of antipsychotic medication and to refuse medication beginning twenty-four hours before any court proceeding that the individual has the right to attend;

(c) To maintain the right to be presumed competent and not lose any civil rights as a consequence of receiving evaluation and treatment for a mental disorder;

(d) Of access to attorneys, courts, and other legal redress;

Effective until March 31, 2018

(e) To have the right to be told statements the consumer makes may be used in the involuntary proceedings; and

(f) To have all information and records compiled, obtained, or maintained in the course of treatment kept confidential as described in chapters [70.02](#), 71.05, and [71.34](#) RCW.

(5) Include in the clinical record a copy of the less restrictive alternative court order and a copy of any subsequent modification.

(6) Ensure the development and implementation of an individual service plan which addresses the conditions of the less restrictive alternative court order and a plan for transition to voluntary treatment.

(7) Ensure that the individual receives psychiatric medication services for the assessment and prescription of psychotropic medications appropriate to the needs of the individual. These services must be provided:

(a) At least one time every seven days for the initial fourteen days following release from inpatient treatment for an individual on a ninety-day or one hundred eighty-day less restrictive alternative court order, unless the individual's attending physician or psychiatric advanced registered nurse practitioner (ARNP) determines another schedule is more appropriate and documents the new schedule and the reason(s) in the individual's clinical record.

(b) At least one time every thirty days for an individual on a ninety-day or one hundred eighty-day less restrictive alternative court order, unless the individual's attending physician or psychiatric ARNP determines another schedule is more appropriate and documents the new schedule and the reason(s) in the individual's clinical record.

(8) Keep a record of the periodic evaluation by a mental health professional of each committed individual for release from, or continuation of, an involuntary treatment order. Evaluations must occur at least every thirty days for both ninety-day and one hundred eighty-day commitments and include documentation of assessment and rationale:

(a) For requesting a petition for an additional period of less restrictive treatment under an involuntary treatment order; or

(b) Allowing the less restrictive court order expire without an extension request.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [43.20A.550](#), [74.04.050](#), [74.08.090](#) and chapters [70.02](#), [71.24](#) RCW.

WSR 14-18-014, § 388-877A-0195, filed 8/22/14, effective 9/22/14. Statutory Authority:

Chapters [70.02](#), 70.96A, 71.05, 71.24, 71.34, [74.50](#) RCW, RCW [74.08.090](#), [43.20A.890](#), and 42 C.F.R. Part 8. WSR 13-12-053, § 388-877A-0195, filed 5/31/13, effective 7/1/13.]

388-877A-0197 [see new WAC 388-877-0716]

Outpatient mental health services—Residential treatment facility (RTF).

A residential treatment facility (RTF) may provide outpatient mental health treatment services to an individual with a mental disorder. An agency that operates an RTF that provides mental health treatment services must:

(1) Ensure that the facility is licensed by the department of health under chapter [246-337](#) WAC;

(2) Be certified for and provide the following:

Effective until March 31, 2018

- (a) Case management services (see WAC [388-877A-0170](#));
- (b) Optional outpatient mental health less restrictive alternative support services (see WAC [388-877A-0195](#)); and
- (c) Optional outpatient mental health medication support services (see WAC [388-877A-0360](#)).

[Statutory Authority: Chapters [70.02](#), 70.96A, 71.05, 71.24, 71.34, [74.50](#) RCW, RCW [74.08.090](#), [43.20A.890](#), and 42 C.F.R. Part 8. WSR 13-12-053, § 388-877A-0197, filed 5/31/13, effective 7/1/13.]

388-877A-0200 [see new WAC [388-877-0900](#)]
Crisis mental health services—General.

The rules in WAC 388-877A-0200 through 377A-0280 apply to behavioral health agencies that provide crisis mental health services. The definitions in WAC [388-877-0200](#) also apply to crisis mental health services. The department requires all agencies and providers affected by this rule to fully comply with the applicable requirements in chapter [388-877](#) WAC, chapter [388-877A](#) WAC, chapter [388-877B](#) WAC, and chapter [388-877C](#) WAC no later than September 1, 2013.

- (1) Crisis mental health services are intended to stabilize an individual in crisis to:
 - (a) Prevent further deterioration;
 - (b) Provide immediate treatment and intervention in a location best suited to meet the needs of the individual; and
 - (c) Provide treatment services in the least restrictive environment available.
- (2) Crisis mental health services include:
 - (a) Crisis telephone support (see WAC [388-877A-0230](#));
 - (b) Crisis outreach services (see WAC [388-877A-0240](#));
 - (c) Crisis stabilization services (see WAC [388-877A-0260](#));
 - (d) Crisis peer support services (see WAC [388-877A-0270](#)); and
 - (e) Emergency involuntary detention services (see WAC [388-877A-0280](#)).
- (3) An agency providing any crisis mental health service to an individual must:
 - (a) Be licensed by the department as a behavioral health agency;
 - (b) Be certified by the department to provide crisis mental health services;
 - (c) Meet the applicable behavioral health agency licensure, administration, personnel, and clinical requirements in chapter [388-877](#) WAC, Behavioral health services administrative requirements; and
 - (d) Have policies and procedures to support and implement the:
 - (i) General requirements in chapter [388-877](#) WAC;
 - (ii) Program-specific requirements in WAC [388-877A-0230](#) through WAC [388-877A-0280](#) for each crisis mental health service provided; and
 - (iii) Department of Corrections Access to Confidential Mental Health Information requirements in WAC [388-865-600](#) through [388-865-0640](#).
- (4) An agency providing crisis mental health services only is not required to meet the initial assessment, individual service plan, and clinical record requirements in WAC [388-877-0610](#), [388-877-0620](#), and [388-877-0640](#).
- (5) An agency must ensure crisis mental health services:

Effective until March 31, 2018

- (a) Are, with the exception of stabilization services, available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week;
 - (b) Include family members, significant others, and other relevant treatment providers, as necessary, to provide support to the individual in crisis; and
 - (c) Are provided in a setting that provides for the safety of the individual and agency staff members.
- (6) An agency providing involuntary crisis mental health services must hold a contract with the county in which it is located, or the appropriate behavioral health organization (BHO).

[Statutory Authority: RCW [70.02.290](#), [70.02.340](#), [70.96A.040\(4\)](#), [71.05.560](#), [71.24.035](#) (5)(c), [71.34.380](#), and 2014 c 225. WSR 16-13-087, § 388-877A-0200, filed 6/15/16, effective 7/16/16. Statutory Authority: Chapters [70.02](#), 70.96A, 71.05, 71.24, 71.34, [74.50](#) RCW, RCW [74.08.090](#), [43.20A.890](#), and 42 C.F.R. Part 8. WSR 13-12-053, § 388-877A-0200, filed 5/31/13, effective 7/1/13.]

388-877A-0210 [see new WAC 388-877-0900]

Crisis mental health services—Agency staff requirements.

In addition to meeting the agency administrative and personnel requirements in WAC [388-877-0400](#) through [388-877-0530](#), an agency providing any crisis mental health service must ensure:

- (1) All crisis mental health services are provided by, or under the supervision of, a mental health professional;
- (2) Each staff member working directly with an individual receiving any crisis mental health service in WAC [388-877A-0230](#) through [388-877A-0270](#) receives:
 - (a) Clinical supervision from a mental health professional and/or an independent practitioner licensed by department of health; and
 - (b) Annual violence prevention training on the safety and violence prevention topics described in RCW [49.19.030](#). The staff member's personnel record must document the training.
- (3) Staff access to consultation with one of the following professionals who has at least one year's experience in the direct treatment of individuals who have a mental or emotional disorder:
 - (a) A psychiatrist;
 - (b) A physician; or
 - (c) An advanced registered nurse practitioner (ARNP) who has prescriptive authority.
- (4) Subsection (3) of this section does not apply to agencies that only provide crisis telephone services.

[Statutory Authority: Chapters [70.02](#), 70.96A, 71.05, 71.24, 71.34, [74.50](#) RCW, RCW [74.08.090](#), [43.20A.890](#), and 42 C.F.R. Part 8. WSR 13-12-053, § 388-877A-0210, filed 5/31/13, effective 7/1/13.]

388-877A-0220 [see new WAC 388-877-0900]

Crisis mental health services—Record content and documentation requirements.

An agency providing any crisis mental health service in WAC [388-877A-0230](#) through [388-877A-0280](#) must maintain a record that contains timely documentation. Documentation must include the following, as applicable to the crisis service provided:

- (1) A brief summary of each crisis service encounter, including the date, time, and duration of the encounter;
- (2) The names of the participants; and
- (3) A follow-up plan, including any referrals for services, including emergency medical services.

[Statutory Authority: Chapters [70.02](#), 70.96A, 71.05, 71.24, 71.34, [74.50](#) RCW, RCW [74.08.090](#), [43.20A.890](#), and 42 C.F.R. Part 8. WSR 13-12-053, § 388-877A-0220, filed 5/31/13, effective 7/1/13.]

388-877A-0230 [see new WAC 388-877-0905]

Crisis mental health services—Telephone support services.

Telephone support services are services provided as a means of first contact to an individual in crisis. These services may include de-escalation and referral.

- (1) An agency providing telephone support services must:
 - (a) Respond to crisis calls twenty-four-hours-a-day, seven-days-a week.
 - (b) Have a written protocol for the referral of an individual to a voluntary or involuntary treatment facility for admission on a seven-day-a-week, twenty-four-hour-a-day basis, including arrangements for contacting the designated mental health professional.
 - (c) Assure communication and coordination with the individual's mental health care provider, if indicated and appropriate.
 - (d) Post a copy of the statement of individual rights in a location visible to staff and agency volunteers.
- (2) An agency must document each telephone crisis response contact made, including:
 - (a) The date, time, and duration of the telephone call;
 - (b) The relationship of the caller to the person in crisis, for example self, family member, or friend;
 - (c) Whether the individual in crisis has a crisis plan; and
 - (d) The outcome of the call, including:
 - (i) Any follow-up contacts made;
 - (ii) Any referrals made, including referrals to emergency or other medical services; and
 - (iii) The name of the staff person who took the crisis call.

[Statutory Authority: Chapters [70.02](#), 70.96A, 71.05, 71.24, 71.34, [74.50](#) RCW, RCW [74.08.090](#), [43.20A.890](#), and 42 C.F.R. Part 8. WSR 13-12-053, § 388-877A-0230, filed 5/31/13, effective 7/1/13.]

388-877A-0240 [see new WAC 388-877-0910]

Crisis mental health services—Outreach services.

Crisis outreach services are face-to-face intervention services provided to assist individuals in a community setting. A community setting can be an individual's home, an emergency room, a nursing facility, or other private or public location. An agency providing crisis outreach services must:

- (1) Provide crisis telephone screening.
- (2) Have staff available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week to respond to a crisis.
- (3) Ensure face-to-face outreach services are provided by a mental health professional, or a staff member under the supervision of a mental health professional with documented training in crisis response.
- (4) Ensure services are provided in a setting that provides for the safety of the individual and agency staff members.
- (5) Have a protocol for requesting a copy of an individual's crisis plan twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.
- (6) Require that staff member(s) remain with the individual in crisis in order to provide stabilization and support until the crisis is resolved or a referral to another service is accomplished.
- (7) Resolve the crisis in the least restrictive manner possible.
- (8) Have a written plan for training, staff back-up, information sharing, and communication for staff members who respond to a crisis in an individual's private home or in a nonpublic setting.
- (9) Ensure that a staff member responding to a crisis is able to be accompanied by a second trained individual when services are provided in the individual's home or other nonpublic location.
- (10) Ensure that any staff member who engages in home visits is provided by their employer with a wireless telephone, or comparable device for the purpose of emergency communication as described in RCW [71.05.710](#).
- (11) Provide staff members who are sent to a private home or other private location to evaluate an individual in crisis, prompt access to information about any history of dangerousness or potential dangerousness on the individual they are being sent to evaluate that is documented in a crisis plan(s) or commitment record(s). This information must be made available without unduly delaying the crisis response.
- (12) Have a written protocol that allows for the referral of an individual to a voluntary or involuntary treatment facility twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.
- (13) Have a written protocol for the transportation of an individual in a safe and timely manner, when necessary.
- (14) Document all crisis response contacts, including:
 - (a) The date, time, and location of the initial contact.
 - (b) The source of referral or identity of caller.
 - (c) The nature of the crisis.
 - (d) Whether the individual has a crisis plan and any attempts to obtain a copy.

Effective until March 31, 2018

- (e) The time elapsed from the initial contact to the face-to-face response.
- (f) The outcome, including:
 - (i) The basis for a decision not to respond in person;
 - (ii) Any follow-up contacts made; and
 - (iii) Any referrals made, including referrals to emergency medical services.
- (g) The name of the staff person(s) who responded to the crisis.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [43.20A.550](#), [74.04.050](#), [74.08.090](#) and chapters [70.02](#), [71.24](#) RCW. WSR 14-18-014, § 388-877A-0240, filed 8/22/14, effective 9/22/14. Statutory Authority: Chapters [70.02](#), 70.96A, 71.05, 71.24, 71.34, [74.50](#) RCW, RCW [74.08.090](#), [43.20A.890](#), and 42 C.F.R. Part 8. WSR 13-12-053, § 388-877A-0240, filed 5/31/13, effective 7/1/13.]

388-877A-0260 [see new WAC 388-877-0915]

Crisis mental health services—Stabilization services.

Crisis stabilization services include short-term (less than two weeks per episode) face-to-face assistance with life skills training and understanding of medication effects on an individual. Stabilization services may be provided to an individual as a follow-up to crisis services provided or to any individual determined by a mental health professional to need additional stabilization services. An agency providing crisis stabilization services must:

- (1) Ensure the services are provided by a mental health professional, or under the supervision of a mental health professional.
- (2) Ensure the services are provided in a setting that provides for the safety of the individual and agency staff.
- (3) Have a written plan for training, staff back-up, information sharing, and communication for staff members who are providing stabilization services in an individual's private home or in a nonpublic setting.
- (4) Have a protocol for requesting a copy of an individual's crisis plan.
- (5) Ensure that a staff member responding to a crisis is able to be accompanied by a second trained individual when services are provided in the individual's home or other nonpublic location.
- (6) Ensure that any staff member who engages in home visits is provided by their employer with a wireless telephone, or comparable device, for the purpose of emergency communication as described in RCW [71.05.710](#).
- (7) Have a written protocol that allows for the referral of an individual to a voluntary or involuntary treatment facility.
- (8) Have a written protocol for the transportation of an individual in a safe and timely manner, when necessary.
- (9) Document all crisis stabilization response contacts, including identification of the staff person(s) who responded.

[Statutory Authority: Chapters [70.02](#), 70.96A, 71.05, 71.24, 71.34, [74.50](#) RCW, RCW [74.08.090](#), [43.20A.890](#), and 42 C.F.R. Part 8. WSR 13-12-053, § 388-877A-0260, filed 5/31/13, effective 7/1/13.]

388-877A-0270 [see new WAC 388-877-0920]

Crisis mental health services—Peer support services.

Crisis peer support services assist an individual in exercising control over their own life and recovery process through the practice of peer counselors sharing their own life experiences related to mental illness to build alliances that enhance the individual's ability to function.

(1) Peer support services are intended to augment and not supplant other necessary mental health services.

(2) An agency providing crisis peer support services must:

(a) Ensure services are provided by a person recognized by the division of behavioral health and recovery (DBHR) as a peer counselor, as defined in WAC [388-877-0200](#), under the supervision of a mental health professional.

(b) Ensure services provided by a peer counselor are within the scope of the peer counselor's training and credential.

(c) Ensure that a peer counselor responding to a crisis is accompanied by a mental health professional.

(d) Ensure that any staff member who engages in home visits is provided by their employer with a wireless telephone, or comparable device, for the purpose of emergency communication.

(e) Ensure peer counselors receive annual training that is relevant to their unique working environment.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [70.02.290](#), [70.02.340](#), [70.96A.040](#)(4), [71.05.560](#), [71.24.035](#) (5)(c), [71.34.380](#), and 2014 c 225. WSR 16-13-087, § 388-877A-0270, filed 6/15/16, effective 7/16/16. Statutory Authority: Chapters [70.02](#), 70.96A, 71.05, 71.24, 71.34, [74.50](#) RCW, RCW [74.08.090](#), [43.20A.890](#), and 42 C.F.R. Part 8. WSR 13-12-053, § 388-877A-0270, filed 5/31/13, effective 7/1/13.]

388-877A-0280 [see new WAC 388-877-0810]

Crisis mental health services—Emergency involuntary detention services.

Emergency involuntary detention services are services provided by a designated mental health professional (DMHP) to evaluate an individual in crisis and determine if involuntary services are required.

An agency providing emergency involuntary detention services must:

(1) Ensure that services are provided by a DMHP.

(2) Ensure staff members are available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

(3) Ensure staff members utilize the protocols for DMHPs required by RCW [71.05.214](#).

(4) Have a written agreement with a certified inpatient evaluation and treatment facility to allow admission of an individual twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

(5) Have a plan for training, staff back-up, information sharing, and communication for a staff member who responds to a crisis in a private home or a nonpublic setting.

Effective until March 31, 2018

(6) Ensure that a DMHP is able to be accompanied by a second trained individual when responding to a crisis in a private home or a nonpublic setting.

(7) Ensure that a DMHP who engages in a home visit to a private home or a nonpublic setting is provided by their employer with a wireless telephone, or comparable device, for the purpose of emergency communication as described in RCW [71.05.710](#).

(8) Provide staff members, who are sent to a private home or other private location to evaluate an individual in crisis, prompt access to information about any history of dangerousness or potential dangerousness on the individual they are being sent to evaluate that is documented in a crisis plan(s) or commitment record(s). This information must be made available without unduly delaying the crisis response.

(9) Require that a mental health professional remain with the individual in crisis in order to provide stabilization and support until the crisis is resolved or referral to another service is accomplished.

(10) Have a written protocol for the transportation of an individual, in a safe and timely manner, for the purpose of medical evaluation or detention.

(11) Ensure that when a peace officer or DMHP escorts an individual to a facility, the DMHP takes reasonable precautions to safeguard the individual's property including:

(a) Safeguarding the individual's property in the immediate vicinity of the point of apprehension;

(b) Safeguarding belongings not in the immediate vicinity if there may be possible danger to those belongings; and

(c) Taking reasonable precautions to lock and otherwise secure the individual's home or other property as soon as possible after the individual's initial detention.

(12) Document services provided to the individual, and other applicable information. At a minimum this must include:

(a) That the individual was advised of their rights in accordance with RCW [71.05.360](#).

(b) That if the evaluation was conducted in a hospital emergency department or inpatient unit, it occurred in accordance with the timelines required by RCW [71.05.050](#), [71.05.153](#), and [71.34.710](#).

(c) That the DMHP conducting the evaluation considered both of the following when evaluating the individual:

(i) The imminent likelihood of serious harm or imminent danger because of being gravely disabled (see RCW [71.05.153](#)); and

(ii) The likelihood of serious harm or grave disability that does not meet the imminent standard for the emergency detention (see RCW [71.05.150](#)).

(d) That the DMHP documented consultation with any examining emergency room physician as required by RCW [71.05.154](#).

(e) If the individual was not detained:

(i) A description of the disposition and follow-up plan; and

(ii) Documentation that the minor's parent was informed of their right to request a court review of the DMHP's decision not to detain the minor under RCW [71.34.710](#), if the individual is a minor thirteen years of age or older.

(f) If the individual was detained, a petition for initial detention must include the following:

(i) The circumstances under which the person's condition was made known.

Effective until March 31, 2018

(ii) Evidence, as a result of the DMHP's personal observation or investigation, that the actions of the person for which application is made constitute a likelihood of serious harm, or that the individual is gravely disabled.

(iii) Evidence that the individual will not voluntarily seek appropriate treatment.

(iv) Consideration of all reasonably available information from credible witnesses, to include family members, landlords, neighbors, or others with significant contact and history of involvement with the individual, and records, as required by RCW [71.05.212](#).

(v) Consideration of the individual's history of judicially required, or administratively ordered, anti-psychotic medications while in confinement when conducting an evaluation of an offender under RCW [72.09.370](#).

(g) Documentation that the individual, or the individual's guardian or conservator, received a copy of the following:

(i) Notice of detention;

(ii) Notice of rights; and

(iii) Initial petition.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [43.20A.550](#), [74.04.050](#), [74.08.090](#) and chapters [70.02](#), [71.24](#) RCW. WSR 14-18-014, § 388-877A-0280, filed 8/22/14, effective 9/22/14. Statutory Authority: Chapters [70.02](#), 70.96A, 71.05, 71.24, 71.34, [74.50](#) RCW, RCW [74.08.090](#), [43.20A.890](#), and 42 C.F.R. Part 8. WSR 13-12-053, § 388-877A-0280, filed 5/31/13, effective 7/1/13.]

388-877A-0300 [see new WAC 388-877-0718]

**Recovery support services that require program-specific certification—
General.**

The rules in this section apply to behavioral health agencies that provide one or more recovery support services that require program-specific certification by the department's division of behavioral health and recovery. The definitions in WAC [388-877-0200](#) also apply to these services.

(1) Recovery support services are intended to promote an individual's socialization, recovery, self-advocacy, development of natural support, and maintenance of community living skills.

(2) Recovery support services that require program-specific certification include:

(a) Supported employment services as described in WAC [388-877A-0330](#);

(b) Supportive housing services as described in WAC [388-877A-0335](#);

(c) Peer support services as described in WAC [388-877A-0340](#);

(d) Wraparound facilitation services as described in WAC [388-877A-0350](#);

(e) Medication support services as described in WAC [388-877A-0360](#); and

(f) Applied behavior analysis (ABA) services as described in WAC [388-877A-0370](#).

(3) A behavioral health agency that provides any recovery support service that requires program-specific certification must:

(a) Be licensed by the department as a behavioral health agency;

(b) Meet the applicable behavioral health agency licensure, certification, administration, personnel, and clinical requirements in chapter [388-877](#) WAC; and

(c) Have policies and procedures that support and implement the:

(i) General requirements in chapter [388-877](#) WAC; and

(ii) Applicable program-specific requirements.

(4) An agency that provides any recovery support service that requires program-specific certification may operate through an agreement with a behavioral health agency that provides certified outpatient mental health services listed in WAC [388-877A-0100](#)(2). The agreement must specify the responsibility for initial assessments, the determination of appropriate services, individual service planning, and the documentation of these requirements.

(5) When providing any recovery support service requiring program-specific certification, a behavioral health agency must:

(a) Have an assessment process to determine the appropriateness of the agency's services, based on the individual's needs and goals;

(b) Refer an individual to a more intensive level of care when appropriate; and

(c) With the consent of the individual, include the individual's family members, significant others, and other relevant treatment providers as necessary to provide support to the individual.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [43.20A.550](#), [71.05.560](#), [71.24.035](#) (5)(m), [71.24.037](#), [71.24.520](#)(4), [74.04.050](#), and [71.24.385](#). WSR 17-17-026, § 388-877A-0300, filed 8/8/17, effective 9/8/17.

Statutory Authority: RCW [43.20A.550](#), [74.04.050](#), [74.08.090](#) and chapters [70.02](#), [71.24](#) RCW. WSR 14-18-014, § 388-877A-0300, filed 8/22/14, effective 9/22/14. Statutory Authority:

Chapters [70.02](#), 70.96A, 71.05, 71.24, 71.34, [74.50](#) RCW, RCW [74.08.090](#), [43.20A.890](#), and 42 C.F.R. Part 8. WSR 13-12-053, § 388-877A-0300, filed 5/31/13, effective 7/1/13.]

388-877A-0310 [see new WAC 388-877-0718]

**Recovery support services requiring program-specific certification—
Agency staff requirements.**

In addition to meeting the agency administrative and personnel requirements in WAC [388-877-0400](#) through [388-877-0530](#), an agency providing any recovery support service that requires program-specific certification must ensure:

(1) Each staff member working directly with an individual receiving any recovery support service in WAC [388-877A-0330](#) through [388-877A-0360](#) has annual violence prevention training on the safety and violence prevention topics described in RCW [49.19.939](#); and

(2) The staff member's personnel record documents the training.

[Statutory Authority: Chapters [70.02](#), 70.96A, 71.05, 71.24, 71.34, [74.50](#) RCW, RCW [74.08.090](#), [43.20A.890](#), and 42 C.F.R. Part 8. WSR 13-12-053, § 388-877A-0310, filed 5/31/13, effective 7/1/13.]

388-877A-0320 [see new WAC 388-877-0718]

**Recovery support services requiring program-specific certification—
Clinical record content and documentation.**

Effective until March 31, 2018

In addition to meeting the general clinical record content requirements in WAC [388-877-0640](#), an agency providing any recovery support service that requires program-specific certification must maintain an individual's clinical record that contains:

(1) Documentation of the following in a timely manner and before any subsequent scheduled appointments of the same type of service encounter occur:

(a) The name of the agency or other sources through which the individual was referred;

(b) A brief summary of each service encounter, including the date, time, and duration of the encounter; and

(c) Names of participant(s), including the name of the individual who provided the service.

(2) Any information or copies of documents shared by, or with, a behavioral health agency certified for outpatient mental health services.

[Statutory Authority: Chapters [70.02](#), 70.96A, 71.05, 71.24, 71.34, [74.50](#) RCW, RCW [74.08.090](#), [43.20A.890](#), and 42 C.F.R. Part 8. WSR 13-12-053, § 388-877A-0320, filed 5/31/13, effective 7/1/13.]

388-877A-0330 [see new WAC [388-877-0720](#)]

**Recovery support services that require program-specific certification—
Supported employment services.**

Supported employment services are recovery support services that require program-specific certification by the department's division of behavioral health and recovery. These services assist in job search, placement services, and training to help individuals find competitive jobs in their local communities.

(1) A behavioral health agency that provides supported employment services must have knowledge of and provide individuals access to employment and education opportunities by coordinating efforts with one or more entities that provide other rehabilitation and employment services, such as:

(a) The department's division of vocational rehabilitation (DVR). DVR provides supported employment under WAC [388-891-0840](#) by community rehabilitation program contract as described in WAC [388-892-0100](#);

(b) The department's community services offices;

(c) Community, trade, and technical colleges;

(d) The business community;

(e) WorkSource, Washington state's official site for online employment services;

(f) Washington state department of employment security; and

(g) Organizations that provide job placement within the community.

(2) A behavioral health agency that provides supported employment services must:

(a) Ensure all staff members who provide direct services for employment are knowledgeable and familiar with services provided by the department's division of vocational rehabilitation;

(b) Conduct and document a vocational assessment in partnership with the individual that includes work history, skills, training, education, and personal career goals;

Effective until March 31, 2018

(c) Assist the individual to create an individualized job and career development plan that focuses on the individual's strengths and skills;

(d) Assist the individual to locate employment opportunities that are consistent with the individual's skills, goals, and interests;

(e) Provide and document any outreach, job coaching, and support at the individual's worksite when requested by the individual or the individual's employer; and

(f) If the employer makes a request, provide information regarding the requirements of reasonable accommodations, consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and Washington state anti-discrimination law.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [43.20A.550](#), [71.05.560](#), [71.24.035](#) (5)(m), [71.24.037](#), [71.24.520](#)(4), [74.04.050](#), and [71.24.385](#). WSR 17-17-026, § 388-877A-0330, filed 8/8/17, effective 9/8/17.

Statutory Authority: Chapters [70.02](#), 70.96A, 71.05, 71.24, 71.34, [74.50](#) RCW, RCW [74.08.090](#), [43.20A.890](#), and 42 C.F.R. Part 8. WSR 13-12-053, § 388-877A-0330, filed 5/31/13, effective 7/1/13.]

388-877A-0335 [see new WAC [388-877-0722](#)]

**Recovery support services that require program-specific certification—
Supportive housing services.**

Supportive housing services are recovery support services that require program-specific certification by the department's division of behavioral health and recovery. Supportive housing services support an individual's transition to community integrated housing and support the individual to be a successful tenant in a housing arrangement.

(1) A behavioral health agency that provides supportive housing services must have knowledge of and provide housing related collaborative activities to assist individuals in identifying, coordinating, and securing housing or housing resources with entities such as:

(a) Local homeless continuum of care groups or local homeless planning groups;

(b) Housing authorities that operate in a county or city in the behavioral health organization's (BHO) regional service area;

(c) Community action councils that operate in a county or region in the BHO's regional service area;

(d) Landlords of privately owned residential homes; and

(e) State agencies that provide housing resources.

(2) A behavioral health agency that provides supportive housing services must:

(a) Ensure all staff members who provide direct services for supportive housing are knowledgeable and familiar with fair housing laws;

(b) Conduct and document a housing assessment in partnership with the individual that includes housing preferences, affordability, and barriers to housing;

(c) Conduct and document a functional needs assessment in partnership with the individual that includes independent living skills and personal community integration goals;

(d) Assist the individual to create an individualized housing acquisition and maintenance plan that focuses on the individual's choice in housing;

Effective until March 31, 2018

(e) Assist the individual to locate housing opportunities that are consistent with the individual's preferences, goals, and interests;

(f) Provide any outreach, tenancy support, and independent living skill building supports at a location convenient to the individual;

(g) Provide the individual with information regarding the requirements of the Fair Housing Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and Washington state anti-discrimination law, and post this information in a public place in the agency; and

(h) Ensure the services are specific to each individual and meant to assist in obtaining and maintaining housing in scattered-site, clustered, integrated, or single-site housing as long as the individual holds a lease or sub-lease.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [43.20A.550](#), [71.05.560](#), [71.24.035](#) (5)(m), [71.24.037](#), [71.24.520](#)(4), [74.04.050](#), and [71.24.385](#). WSR 17-17-026, § 388-877A-0335, filed 8/8/17, effective 9/8/17.]

388-877A-0340 [see new WAC 388-877-0724]

**Recovery support services requiring program-specific certification—
Peer support services.**

Peer support services are a recovery support service that requires program-specific certification by the department's division of behavioral health and recovery.

(1) Peer support services provide a wide range of activities to assist an individual in exercising control over their own life and recovery process through:

(a) Developing self-advocacy and natural supports;

(b) Maintenance of community living skills;

(c) Promoting socialization; and

(d) The practice of peer counselors sharing their own life experiences related to mental illness to build alliances that enhance the individual's ability to function.

(2) An agency providing peer support services must ensure peer support counselors:

(a) Are recognized by the division of behavioral health and recovery (DBHR) as a "peer counselor" as defined in WAC [388-877-0200](#).

(b) Provide peer support services:

(i) Under the supervision of a mental health professional; and

(ii) Within the scope of the peer counselor's training and department of health credential.

(c) Receive annual training relevant to their unique working environment.

(3) An agency providing peer support services must document the frequency, duration, and expected outcome of all peer support services in the individual service plan.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [70.02.290](#), [70.02.340](#), [70.96A.040](#)(4), [71.05.560](#), [71.24.035](#) (5)(c), [71.34.380](#), and 2014 c 225. WSR 16-13-087, § 388-877A-0340, filed 6/15/16, effective 7/16/16. Statutory Authority: Chapters [70.02](#), 70.96A, 71.05, 71.24, 71.34, [74.50](#) RCW, RCW [74.08.090](#), [43.20A.890](#), and 42 C.F.R. Part 8. WSR 13-12-053, § 388-877A-0340, filed 5/31/13, effective 7/1/13.]

388-877A-0350 [see new WAC 388-877-0726]

**Recovery support services requiring program-specific certification—
Wraparound facilitation services.**

Wraparound facilitation services are a recovery support service that requires program-specific certification by the department's division of behavioral health and recovery. These services address the complex emotional, behavior, and social issues of an identified individual twenty years of age or younger, and the individual's family.

(1) Wraparound facilitation services are:

(a) Provided to an individual who requires the services of a mental health provider and one or more child serving systems;

(b) Focused and driven by the needs of the identified family and the family's support community; and

(c) Provided in partnership with the individual, the individual's family, and the individual's mental health provider.

(2) An agency providing wraparound facilitation services must employ or contract with:

(a) A mental health professional (MHP) who is responsible for oversight of the wraparound facilitation services.

(b) A facilitator who has completed department-approved wraparound facilitation training and:

(i) Has a master's degree with at least one year of experience working in social services;

(ii) Has a bachelor's degree with at least two years of experience working in social services; or

(iii) Is an individual with lived experience. The experience must be documented in the personnel file.

(c) A staff member certified to provide a child and adolescent needs and strengths (CANS) assessment.

(3) In addition to the staff requirements in (2) of this subsection, an agency must ensure the following individuals are available to assist in the planning and provision of wraparound facilitation services, as needed:

(a) An employee or volunteer youth partner, actively involved in defining the agency's services.

(b) An employee or volunteer family partner, actively involved in defining the agency's services.

(4) All wraparound facilitation services:

(a) Must include the identified individual, the individual's family, and the individual's mental health provider; and

(b) May include additional support partners as team members, including but not limited to the following:

(i) **Natural supports.** Natural supports include community members, friends, and extended family members identified by the individual and/or the individual's family to be active participants in the individual's support network.

(ii) **System supports.** System supports are representatives from systems that currently offer support to the identified individual or that offer support services to the individual's adult care giver, which directly affects the individual.

(iii) **Peer supports.** Peer supports are individuals who have personally and actively participated in wraparound facilitation services and who offer support to families currently working with the wraparound teams.

(5) An agency must document the following:

(a) The development of a wraparound plan that:

(i) Includes:

(A) A complete list of participants and their contact information;

(B) A list of next steps or follow-up information from the initial meeting; and

(C) The schedule of child and family team (CFT) meetings.

(ii) Describes the individual's and the individual's family's vision for the future stated in their own language.

(iii) Reflects the family's prioritization of needs and goals and addresses the needs as identified in the CANS screen.

(iv) Is integrated with the person's individual service plan (see WAC [388-877-0620](#) and [388-877A-0135](#)).

(v) Identifies the functional strengths of the individual and the individual's family that can be used to help meet the identified needs.

(vi) Assigns responsibility to CFT members for each strategy/intervention or task, and establishes timelines for implementation.

(vii) Identifies immediate safety needs and a safety/crisis plan.

(viii) Assists the individual and the individual's family in using their support network.

(ix) Is signed by all CFT members, including the individual and the individual's parent or if applicable, legal guardian.

(b) Coordination with any other involved systems and services and/or supports, including sharing the wraparound plan and any revisions with all members of the team.

(c) The result of the initial and subsequent CANS screenings and assessments.

(d) The review of the wraparound plan during each CFT meeting and any revisions made to the plan to address the changing needs and progress of the identified individual and the individual's family.

[Statutory Authority: Chapters [70.02](#), 70.96A, 71.05, 71.24, 71.34, [74.50](#) RCW, RCW [74.08.090](#), [43.20A.890](#), and 42 C.F.R. Part 8. WSR 13-12-053, § 388-877A-0350, filed 5/31/13, effective 7/1/13.]

388-877A-0360 [see new WAC [388-877-0712](#)]

**Recovery support services requiring program-specific certification—
Medication support services.**

Medication support services are recovery support services that require program-specific certification. These services are performed for the purpose of facilitating individuals' medication adherence.

(1) Medication support services are certified by the department's division of behavioral health and recovery only when the agency:

(a) Is also certified to provide program-specific psychiatric medication services (see WAC [388-877A-0180](#)); or

Effective until March 31, 2018

(b) Has an agreement with another behavioral health agency certified to provide psychiatric medication services. The agreement must specify the responsibility for medication support services, and the documentation of the requirements.

(2) Medication support services occur face-to-face and:

(a) Include one-on-one cueing, observing, and encouraging an individual to take medication as prescribed.

(b) Include reporting any pertinent information related to the individual's adherence to the medication back to the agency that is providing psychiatric medication services.

(c) May take place at any location and for as long as it is clinically necessary.

(d) Are provided to any individual who:

(i) Has a history of low medication adherence;

(ii) Is newly on medication; or

(iii) Is new to the specific medication prescribed.

(3) An agency providing medication support services must:

(a) Ensure services are provided by or under the supervision of a mental health professional.

(b) Ensure that the staff positions responsible for providing medication monitoring and/or delivery services are clearly identified in the agency's medication support services policy.

(c) Have appropriate policies and procedures in place when the agency providing medication support services maintains and/or delivers medication to the individual. The policies and procedures must address:

(i) The maintenance of a medication log documenting medications that are received, prescribed, and dispensed.

(ii) Reasonable precautions that need to be taken when transporting medications to the intended individual and to assure staff safety during the transportation.

(iii) The prevention of contamination of medication during delivery, if delivery is provided.

(d) Ensure that all medications kept by staff in the agency are safely and securely stored as follows:

(i) Medication must be maintained in locked cabinets within a well-illuminated, locked, and properly ventilated room.

(ii) Medication kept for individuals on medication administration or self-administration programs must be clearly labeled and stored separately from medication samples kept on site.

(iii) Medication marked "for external use only" must be stored separately from oral or injectable medications.

(iv) Refrigerated food or beverages used in the administration of medications must be kept separate from the refrigerated medications by the use of trays or other designated containers.

(v) Syringes and sharp objects must be properly stored and disposed of safely.

(vi) Refrigerated medications must be maintained at the required temperatures.

(e) Ensure that outdated medications are disposed of in accordance with the rules of the state board of pharmacy, and ensure that no outdated medications are retained.

(f) Ensure that the individual's clinical record contains:

Effective until March 31, 2018

(i) The individual service plan, including documentation of medication support services.

(ii) Documentation of observations on the individual's behavior indicating the effects, interactions, and side effects of the prescribed medication, as necessary.

(iii) Documentation of regular reviews of the individual's adherence to the medication support plan as reflected in the individual service plan.

(iv) Documentation of reports to the prescriber about medication adherence and/or side effects.

[Statutory Authority: Chapters [70.02](#), 70.96A, 71.05, 71.24, 71.34, [74.50](#) RCW, RCW [74.08.090](#), [43.20A.890](#), and 42 C.F.R. Part 8. WSR 13-12-053, § 388-877A-0360, filed 5/31/13, effective 7/1/13.]

388-877A-0370 [see new WAC 388-877-0728]

**Recovery support services requiring program-specific certification—
Applied behavior analysis (ABA) services.**

Applied behavior analysis (ABA) services are a recovery support service that requires program-specific certification by the department's division of behavioral health and recovery.

(1) ABA services:

(a) Assist children and their families to improve the core symptoms associated with autism spectrum disorders or other developmental disabilities for which ABA services have been determined to be medically necessary; and

(b) Support learning, skill development, and assistance in any one or more of the following areas or domains:

(i) Social;

(ii) Behavior;

(iii) Adaptive;

(iv) Motor;

(v) Vocational; or

(vi) Cognitive.

(2) An agency providing ABA services must meet the:

(a) General requirements in chapter [388-877](#) WAC for behavioral health services administrative requirements;

(b) General requirements in WAC [388-877A-0300](#) for recovery support services requiring program-specific certification;

(c) Specific agency staff requirements in WAC [388-877A-0310](#); and

(d) Specific clinical record content and documentation requirements in WAC [388-877-640](#) and [388-877A-0320](#).

(3) The health care authority (HCA) administers rules in chapter [182-531](#) WAC for ABA services requirements. The rules in chapter [182-531](#) WAC include:

(a) Definitions that apply to ABA services;

(b) Program and clinical eligibility requirements;

(c) Prior authorization and recertification requirements;

(d) Specific ABA provider requirements;

Effective until March 31, 2018

- (e) Covered and noncovered services;
- (f) Billing requirements; and
- (g) Requirements for:
 - (i) Referrals to and assessments by Centers of Excellence (COE) for evaluations and orders; and
 - (ii) ABA assessments and individualized ABA therapy treatment plans.
- (4) The ABA therapy treatment plan must:
 - (a) Be developed and maintained by a lead behavior analysis therapist (LBAT) (see (5) of this section);
 - (b) Identify the services to be delivered by the LBAT and the therapy assistant, if the agency employs a therapy assistant (see (6) and (7) of this section);
 - (c) Be comprehensive and document treatment being provided by other health care professionals; and
 - (d) Document how all treatment will be coordinated, as applicable, with other members of the health care team.
- (5) An agency must employ a lead behavior analysis therapist (LBAT).
 - (a) To qualify as an LBAT, an individual must meet the professional requirements in chapter [182-531](#) WAC.
 - (b) The agency must ensure the LBAT meets other applicable requirements in chapter [182-531](#) WAC.
- (6) An agency may choose to employ a therapy assistant.
 - (a) To qualify as a therapy assistant, an individual must meet the professional requirements in chapter [182-531](#) WAC.
 - (b) The agency must ensure the therapy assistant meets other applicable requirements in chapter [182-531](#) WAC.
- (7) If the agency employs a therapy assistant(s), the agency must ensure the LBAT:
 - (a) Supervises the therapy assistant:
 - (i) For a minimum of five percent of the total direct care provided by the therapy assistant per week (for example, one hour of direct supervision per twenty hours of direct care); and
 - (ii) In accordance with agency policies and procedures.
 - (b) Meets the requirements in this section;
 - (c) Completes a review of an individual's ABA therapy treatment plan with the therapy assistant before services are provided;
 - (d) Assures the therapy assistant delivers services according to the individual's ABA therapy treatment plan; and
 - (e) Meets at least every two weeks with the therapy assistant and documents review of the individual's progress and/or response to the treatment, and makes changes to the ABA therapy treatment plan as indicated by the individual's progress and/or response.
- (8) To maintain department program-specific certification to provide ABA services, an agency must continue to ensure the requirements in this section are met.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [43.20A.550](#), [74.04.050](#), [74.08.090](#), chapters [70.02](#), [71.24](#) RCW, and Washington Autism Alliance and Advocacy, et al. v. Douglas Porter, U.S. District Court, Western District of Washington, Case No. 2:12-cv-00742-RAJ. WSR 14-06-094, § 388-877A-0370, filed 3/4/14, effective 4/4/14.]