



PHASE 2: BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AGENCY RULEMAKING KICK-OFF

Office of Community Health Systems
Facilities Program

We're glad you're here!



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Who is here?

- HCA
- MCOs and BH-ASOs
- Agencies (BHAs, RTFs, Hospitals)
- Consumers/ Family and Friends
- Professionals

Agenda

- **Where are we?**
 - Brief history
- **How did we get here?**
 - Thoughts, ideas, comments that got us here
- **What are we doing here?**
 - Overview of the rulemaking project
- **Where do we start?**
 - Certifications
- **Where do we go from here?**
 - Next steps

Where are we?

Behavioral Health Agency Survey

- Round 1 (2020): General Clean-up
- **Round 2 (2021): Re-organization of behavioral health agency WAC**
- Round 3 (2022): Re-organization of all behavioral health facilities policy (hospitals, RTFs, and behavioral health agencies)

How did we get here?

Survey comments:

- Unclear why separate certifications are needed for Brief mental health, Group mental health, Family therapy, or Rehabilitative case management. These are standard components of pretty much all Outpatient treatment programs.
- Too many certifications
- Need more support for agencies providing co-occurring services

How did we get here?

Phase 1 clean up project reveals:

- Some certification WAC sections only have a description/definition remaining
- Great variation in level of regulation of certain services
- Missing? certifications (ex. PHP, MAT, general residential MH)

How did we get here?

Legislative hints:

- SHB 2462 (2020) DOH must collaborate with the authority in exploration of systems to allow withdrawal management facilities to bill for the appropriate levels of care.
- (2019) The department shall develop a process by which a provider may obtain dual licensure as an evaluation and treatment facility and secure withdrawal management and stabilization facility.

What are we doing here?

Step 1: Explore the need and ideas for re-organizing, re-structuring, or re-vamping certifications

Goals

- Support a behavioral health agency's ability to provide services for co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders.
- Improve the ability for an individual to have continuity as they transition through levels of care.
- Simplify

What are we doing here?

Step 2: Determine if we have the appropriate level of regulation for the types of services and adjust as needed

Goals:

- Scope rules to align more closely with the specific rule-making authority in RCW 71.24.037
- Develop a more consistent level of regulation across service types

What are we doing here?

Step 3: Address left over topics from Phase 1 (ex. telehealth and ABA)

Goals:

- Finish phase 1 clean-up work

Side Notes

- Deeming
- BHA Guidebook
- Fees
- Court-ordered services
- Enforcement
- Single BHA license versus individual branch sites

Where do we start?



Existing Certifications

WAC 246-341-0110:

47 different certifications!

- 11 with only a description
- 9 with very minimal requirements
- 27 with some requirements

Broken down into sections with each section having general requirements that apply to the certifications in that section

- Outpatient
- OTP
- Recovery support
- Crisis mental health
- Court-ordered outpatient
- Withdrawal management
- Residential substance use disorder treatment and mental health inpatient services

Existing Certifications

Certify specific services:

- Individual treatment

- Group therapy

- Medication management

Certify types of programs:

- Intensive outpatient

- Clubhouse

- Recovery house

- Long-term treatment

Certify types of facilities:

- Secure Withdrawal

- Peer-respite

- Evaluation and treatment

Certifications and the RCW

RCW 71.24.037

(8) **Licensure or certification** as a licensed or certified behavioral health service provider must specify the **types of services** provided that meet the standards adopted under this chapter.

Certifications and the RCW

Services called out in statute:

- ADIS
- Emergency service patrol
- Problem gambling and gambling disorder*
- Peer respite
- Clubhouse
- DUI counseling
- SUD counseling (46.61.5056)
- Evaluation and treatment (youth and adult)
- Intensive BH Treatment
- Secure withdrawal management (youth and adult)
- Crisis stabilization unit
- Triage (voluntary and involuntary)
- OTP

Discussion time!



Questions Posed

- What is a certification? What does it mean to be certified?
- Do we need all of the certifications? What are the benefits of having specific certifications?
- If you could streamline certifications how would you do it?
- What are benefits to streamlining certifications?
- What are cons to streamlining certifications?
- Are there other ways to categorize or group types of service? Are there examples from other sources such as accrediting organizations, other facility types, etc.?
- Are we missing any certifications?

Question Set 1

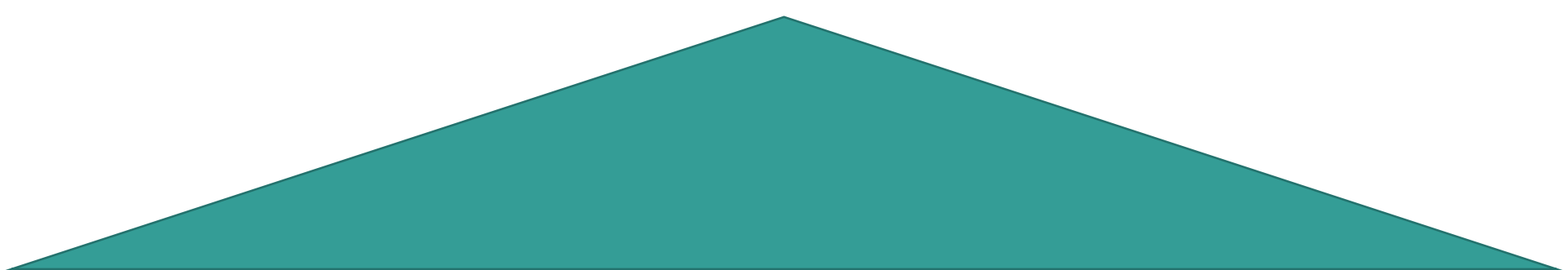
- What is a certification? How would you describe this to someone?
- What is the purpose of a certification? Why do we have them?

Phase 3 Extra Questions:

- What is the difference between certification and license?
- Does every agency need both a license and certification?

Question Set 2

- How would you categorize types of service for the purposes of regulating types of services?
- How specific or how broad would you get?



< 24 hours	Support Services	Primary care/ General Outpatient Services	Intensive Outpatient/ PHP	Urgent Care/Crisis Outreach	Clubhouse	Specialty care/ OTP
> 24 hours	Emergency Care/ CSU and Triage	General Inpatient/ Residential	Critical Care/E&T/ SWMS	Long Term Care/IBHTF	Peer Respite	

Special Populations: Court-ordered, youth, eating disorders?, autism?, geriatric?

Question Set 3

- What do you see as potential benefits to streamlining certifications?
- What are potential cons to streamlining certifications?
- Should we continue pursuing streamlining certifications?
 - ✓ Yes, keep brainstorming ideas for significant streamlining.
 - ✓ Maybe, make a few changes.
 - ✓ Nope, leave it as is.

Where do we go from here?

- First, streamline certifications work (if agreed)
- Second, develop consistent level of regulation for certifications that aligns with statutory authority
- Third, address leftover topics

Meeting Schedule:

- Every Tuesday through September (except August 17th and 24th)
- 9 scheduled workshops (about 3 weeks for each point)
- If needed, can add a few workshops or extend length of time

GovDelivery Notifications

Talk to you soon!



Any ideas, concerns, questions...contact:

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