



PUBLIC HEARING FOR  
**BELLINGHAM TREATMENT SOLUTIONS**  
AN OPIOID TREATMENT PROGRAM (OTP)

AUGUST 4, 2021  
WEBINAR  
4:30 PM

# Opioid Treatment Program (OTP)

---

- Engages in the treatment of opioid use disorder with medications approved by the United States food and drug administration for the treatment of opioid use disorder and reversal of opioid overdose.
  - **Methadone**
  - Buprenorphine
  - Naltrexone
- The Department does not own, operate, or provide funding to OTPs. Proposed agencies pay licensing fees to cover the costs of licensing and regulating the agency.

# Proposed Certification of Bellingham Treatment Solutions

An application and community relations plan was received by the department in June to obtain certification for Bellingham Treatment Solutions to operate an opioid treatment program.

The proposed site location is at:

- ◆ 3240 Northwest Avenue, Bellingham WA 98225

# Regulatory Agencies

---

OTP programs are regulated by:

- Department of Health (DOH)
- WA State Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission
- The Federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)
- A federally recognized accreditation body
- The federal Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)

# Regulatory Requirements

---

The laws, rules, and procedures for the certification process of OTPs includes:

- 42 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 8
- Chapter 71.24 Revised Code of Washington (RCW)
- Chapter 246-341 Washington Administrative Code (WAC)
- SAMHSA's "Federal Guidelines for Opioid Treatment Programs"

# Certification Steps for Proposed Programs

---

Proposed OTPs must submit to the department:

- A completed licensing and certification application (including fee)
- A comprehensive community relations plan which includes working in collaboration with the county and city legislative authorities regarding notification and education to community stakeholders and the general public regarding the proposed location of the program and a plan to address any identified concerns
- Policies and procedures demonstrating compliance with rules and regulations for review and approval

# Certification Steps for Proposed Programs (2)

---

Proposed OTPs must obtain:

- Registration from the WA State Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission
- Certification from the Federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)
- Accreditation from a federally recognized accreditation body
- Registration from the Federal Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)

# Certification Steps for the Department

---

When considering a licensing and certification application for an OTP the department must:

- Certify only programs that will be sited in accordance with the appropriate county or city land use ordinance.
  - Counties and cities may require conditional or special use permits with reasonable conditions for the siting of programs. However, please note that pursuant to [RCW 36.70A.200](#), no local comprehensive plan or development regulation may preclude the siting of an essential public facility.
- Consult with the county and city legislative authorities in the area where the program will be located.
- Consider the availability of other **certified** programs near the area in which the applicant proposes to locate the program.



# Certification Steps for the Department (2)

---

When considering a licensing and certification application for an OTP the department must:

- Consider the size of the population in need of treatment, in the area in which the program would be located and certify only applicants whose programs meet the necessary treatment needs of that population.
- Consider the availability of other **certified** programs near the area in which the applicant proposes to locate the program.

# Certification Steps for the Department (3)

---

When considering a licensing and certification application for an OTP the department must:

- Consider the transportation systems that would provide services to the program and whether the system will provide reasonable opportunities to access the program for persons in need of treatment.
- Consider whether the applicant has, or has demonstrated in the past, the capability to provide the appropriate services to assist the persons who utilize the program in meeting the goals established by the Legislature in RCW 71.24.585. The department shall prioritize certification to applicants who have demonstrated such capability and are able to measure their success in meeting such outcomes.

# Certification Steps for the Department (4)

---

When considering a licensing and certification application for an OTP the department must:

- Hold one public hearing for the community in which the facility is proposed to be located.

Additionally, the department accepts public comment several weeks prior to and up to the day of the hearing. Comments are accepted by email, voicemail, regular mail, and during the comment period of the public hearing.

All public comments received in writing and during the public hearing will be shared with the proposed OTP. The proposed OTP will respond to any concerns by submitting to DOH an updated community relations plan.

# Certification Steps for the Department (5)

---

When considering a licensing and certification application for an OTP the department must:

- Notify the local media of the date, time, and location of the hearing at least three weeks in advance of the hearing.

In addition to notifying the local media, the department also posts the information to our:

- ◆ Proposed OTP webpage
- ◆ Facebook Events page
- ◆ And the local paper

# Contact DOH

---

[OTPComments@doh.wa.gov](mailto:OTPComments@doh.wa.gov)

**Voicemail for public comment:**

**360-236-2992**

# Provider Applicant Contact Information

## Bellingham Treatment Solutions

Colleen Bowls

Clinic Director

(360) 450-5025

[Colleen.Bowls@ctcprograms.com](mailto:Colleen.Bowls@ctcprograms.com)



Washington State Department of Health is committed to providing customers with forms and publications in appropriate alternate formats. Requests can be made by calling 800-525-0127 or by email at [civil.rights@doh.wa.gov](mailto:civil.rights@doh.wa.gov). TTY users dial 711.