



State of New Hampshire

OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION
DIVISION OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS
121 South Fruit Street, Suite 201
Concord, N.H. 03301-2412
Telephone 603-271-2152 · Fax 603-271-6202

LINDSEY B. COURTNEY
Director



February 3, 2020

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Executive Council
State House
Concord, NH 03301

MEDICAID TO SCHOOLS REPORT

Pursuant to Executive Order 2019-07, the Office of Professional Licensure and Certification (OPLC) hereby submits the following report detailing the actions taken by each Medicaid to Schools Board to comply with the directives of the Order.

Over the last sixty days, OPLC has worked closely with licensing boards, agency partners, and members of the legislature to assist the licensing boards in complying with the provisions of the Order and ensure that measures are put in place to permit children to continue to receive necessary services in the school setting. OPLC created an addendum to the licensing applications to permit applicants to identify as an individual who provides or intends to provide services under the State's Medicaid to Schools Program. As to those licensing applications that are online, OPLC requested the Department of Information Technology (DOIT) to create an application question allowing an individual to identify as a Medicaid to Schools applicant. Together, these measures will ensure that OPLC is prioritizing Medicaid to Schools applicants, as required by the Order.

Additionally, OPLC published a guidance document to provide information regarding the licensure process generally, as well as information regarding practice areas implicated by Medicaid to Schools. Finally, through OPLC's contract with the Council on Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation (CLEAR), OPLC hosted a CLEAR representative during the week of January 21, 2020; during the site visits, CLEAR provided research and recommendations to the Director of Health Professions, board chairs, and board administrators concerning possible rule revisions and changes to the licensing processes for the Medicaid to Schools Boards that fall within the contract. OPLC has every expectation that boards will review the proposed changes at the upcoming meetings, and institute necessary reforms as directed by the Order.

The large majority of boards have taken steps within the last sixty days to review rules and processes, and propose or institute reforms to licensing processes and procedures, "which may be necessary to maintain or improve the provision of services under the State's Medicaid to

Schools Program.” Each board’s specific actions over the last sixty days are set forth in greater detail below.

1. Allied Health Boards

Board of Directors

Occupational Therapy Governing Board

Physical Therapy Governing Board

Governing Board of Speech Language Pathologists

Recreational Therapy Governing Board

Governing Board of Respiratory Care Practitioners

The Office of Licensed Allied Health Professionals conducted a review of its rules and changed its rules accordingly. Each board within the Office of Allied Health Professionals is currently reviewing rules and will be instituting necessary changes. Additionally, three boards (Physical Therapy Governing Board, Governing Board of Respiratory Care Practitioners, and Occupational Therapy Governing Board) participated in the site visits with CLEAR. During the site visits, CLEAR made recommendations regarding rule changes and changes to processes; those recommendations will be reviewed at the board upcoming meetings.

2. Board of Hearing Care Providers

The Board of Hearing Care Providers does not currently have a quorum, and therefore, applications for licenses are approved by operation of law following sixty days of receipt of the application, pursuant to RSA 541-A.

3. Board of Nursing

The Board of Nursing reviewed its rules at its November 21, 2019, meeting. The Board of Nursing Administrator has drafted new rules pertaining to licensure of LNA education programs, which will streamline the application process and reduce the amount of time between application and licensure. Additionally, the Board of Nursing participated in the site visit with CLEAR. During the site visit, CLEAR made recommendations regarding rule changes and changes to processes; those recommendations will be reviewed at the board’s upcoming meeting.

4. Board of Dental Examiners

The Board of Dental Examiners reviewed the Executive Order at its January 6, 2020, meeting. It was generally thought that there were no providers participating in the Medicaid to Schools Program. The Board of Dental Examiners will be reviewing the request to examine its rules at the March 2, 2020, meeting. Additionally, the application is being revised as noted above, to ensure that individuals who participate or intend to participate in the Medicaid to Schools Program are given priority in processing.

5. Board of Medicine:

The Board of Medicine reviewed its rules and processes. Currently pending before the Board of Medicine is a Petition for Advisory Opinion and Emergency Findings regarding the role of physicians in a school setting, which was submitted by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). The petition is on the Board's February 5, 2020, agenda.

6. Board of Registration in Optometry

The Board of Optometry reviewed its processes and rules.

7. Board of Psychologists

Representatives from the Board of Psychology have worked closely with members of the legislature, OPLC, and other stakeholders to propose an amendment to SB 684, the statute intended to partially address the Medicaid to Schools Program by adding school psychologists as a licensure category under the Board of Psychology. The Board of Psychology is currently working on revising its rules to account for the anticipated adoption of SB 684.

8. Board of Mental Health Practice

The Board of Mental Health is reviewing its rules and processes as it relates to the Executive Order. The Board has fielded scope of practice questions from stakeholders concerned with Medicaid to Schools.

9. Board of Licensed Dietitians

The Board of Licensed Dietitians will review its rules at its next meeting, February 17, 2020.

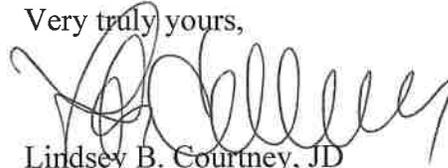
10. Board of Licensing for Alcohol and Other Drug Use Professionals (LADC)

The Board of Licensing for Alcohol and Other Drug Use Professionals (LADC) will review its rules at its upcoming meeting, February 13, 2020. Additionally, the LADC Board participated in the site visit with CLEAR. During the site visit, CLEAR made recommendations regarding rule changes and changes to processes; those recommendations will be reviewed at the board's upcoming meeting.

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OPLC looks forward to continue working with the licensing boards to ensure compliance with Executive Order 2019-07. In addition to reviewing rules, the Director of Health Professions will be attending the upcoming stakeholder meeting at DHHS and will be working with the licensing boards to issue additional guidance documents as necessary.

Very truly yours,



Lindsey B. Courtney, JD
Director, Division of Health Professions
Office of Professional Licensure and
Certification

/LBC

cc: Hon. Donna Soucy
Hon. Stephen Shurtleff
Hon. Jay Kahn
Hon. Mel Myler
Hon. Tom Sherman
Hon. Lucy Weber
Hon. Sharon Carson
Hon. Jeffrey Goley