



PROVIDER ALERT

REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS FOR COMMUNITY-BASED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

SEPTEMBER 29, 2016

Beginning October 1, 2016, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH), Office of Health Care Quality (OHCQ) will begin accepting applications for licenses under new regulations for community-based behavioral health programs (COMAR 10.63), with licenses being issued beginning in January 2017.

Existing providers that are currently approved, certified, or licensed under COMAR 10.21 and/or 10.47 will need to continue following those regulations until they apply and receive a new license from DHMH under COMAR 10.63.

If an existing program is not prepared to apply for an accreditation-based license after October 1, 2016, the program's existing approval or certification may be extended through March 31, 2018. If an extension is granted, the program will then be required to apply for an accreditation-based license by January 1, 2018, in order to receive a license by April 1, 2018.

For updates on this transition, including the application process steps for an accreditation-based license and timeline of effective dates, please visit the Behavioral Health Administration's Accreditation website, <http://bha.dhmh.maryland.gov/Pages/Accreditation-Information.aspx>.

Please send any questions regarding behavioral health regulations, including accreditation, to bha.regulations@maryland.gov.