

Bulletin Number: MSA 06-78

Distribution: Outpatient Hospitals (PT 40)
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Issued: December 1, 2006

Subject: Licensure of Audiologists, and Hearing Aid Dealer Enrollment Requirements

Effective: January 1, 2007

Programs Affected: Medicaid, CSHCS

This policy is being implemented in response to Public Act 97 of 2004, MSA Bulletin 04-19, and adoption of administrative rules regarding qualifications for Audiologist licensure by the Board of Audiology.

Licensure of Audiologists

Public Act 97 of 2004 defines an audiologist as, "an individual licensed under this article to engage in the practice of audiology." The Michigan Board of Audiology was also created as a result of this Public Act and has the responsibility and duty as a health professional licensing board, among other tasks.

Bulletin MSA 04-19, which was effective January 1, 2005, stated that, "Once the Michigan Board of Audiology and MDCH have established a licensing process for audiologists, all audiologists practicing in Michigan must obtain a Michigan license. Proof of licensure will be required in order to maintain enrollment with Medicaid." The Board has been meeting since February of 2005 and has adopted administrative rules to assist in determining the qualifications for licensure in December of 2005.

The Bureau of Health Professions, Licensing Division issued a letter dated January 2006 stating that, "Anyone currently employed as an audiologist should apply for licensure by December 1, 2006." It also stated that an audiology license will allow the audiologist to select, fit, and dispense amplification systems. Continuing education, totaling 20 credit hours per 2-year license period, is required to maintain licensure.

Therefore, as of January 1, 2007, audiologists must be licensed in order to provide audiology services to Medicaid beneficiaries. This is in addition to the requirement for a current American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA) Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC-A).

Currently enrolled audiologists (provider type 80) do not need to re-enroll. Proof of current licensure as well as current ASHA CCC-A will be required when renewing enrollment with Medicaid.

Hearing Aid Dealer Enrollment Requirements

Providers with a current hearing aid license **or** providers with a current audiologist license and an ASHA CCC-A may request enrollment as a hearing aid dealer (provider type 90).

Manual Maintenance

Retain this bulletin until the information has been incorporated into the Michigan Medicaid Provider Manual.

Questions

Any questions regarding this bulletin should be directed to Provider Inquiry, Department of Community Health, P.O. Box 30731, Lansing, Michigan 48909-8231, or e-mail at ProviderSupport@michigan.gov. When you submit an e-mail, be sure to include your name, affiliation, and phone number so you may be contacted if necessary. Providers may phone toll-free 1-800-292-2550.

Approved

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Reinhart". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P" and "R".

Paul Reinhart, Director
Medical Services Administration