

Bulletin: MSA 10-51

Distribution: School Based Services

Issued: November 1, 2010

Subject: Occupational Therapist (OT) and Occupational Therapist Assistant (OTA) Licensure

Effective: As Indicated

Programs Affected: School Based Services Fee-for-Service and Administrative Outreach Programs

The purpose of this bulletin is to inform providers of policy updates to comply with Public Act 523 of 2008 which requires OTs and OTAs to be licensed by the State of Michigan.

This Public Act amended part 183 of the Public Health Code (Occupational Therapists) to provide for the licensure of OTs and OTAs rather than the previously required registration of a certified OT or OTA.

Licensure Requirements for OTs and OTAs

Public Act 523 defines an OT as “an individual licensed under this article to engage in the practice of occupational therapy,” and an OTA as “an individual licensed under this article to engage in practice as an occupational therapy assistant.”

Occupational therapy services are those services provided to promote health and wellness, prevent disability, preserve functional capabilities, prevent barriers and enable or improve performance in everyday activities.

The Bureau of Health Professions, Health Systems and Health Profession Licensing issued a letter that as of January 13, 2009, licensure is required for both OTs and OTAs instead of current registration. The new law also requires continuing education requirements for licenses.

Further information regarding OT and OTA licensure can be found on the Michigan Department of Community Health website at www.michigan.gov/mdch >> Health Systems & Health Profession Licensing >> Licensing for Health Care Professionals >> Occupational Therapy.

Public Comment

The public comment portion of the policy promulgation process is being conducted concurrently with the implementation of the change noted in this bulletin. Any interested party wishing to comment on the change may do so by submitting comments in writing to:

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Or
E-mail: sowle@michigan.gov

If responding by e-mail, please include "OT/OTA Licensure" in the subject line. Comments received will be considered for revisions to the bulletin.

Manual Maintenance

Retain this bulletin until applicable 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, 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 "Stephen Fitton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stephen Fitton, Director
Medical Services Administration