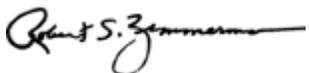


	MEDICAL ASSISTANCE BULLETIN COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA * DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE		
	NUMBER: 28-98-01, 1123-98-01	ISSUE DATE: March 3, 1998	EFFECTIVE DATE: March 1, 1998
SUBJECT: Drug and Alcohol Clinics with Provisional Licenses		BY:  Robert S. Zimmerman, Jr., M.P.H. Deputy Secretary for Medical Assistance Programs	

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this bulletin is to revise the medical assistance (MA) enrollment policy for outpatient drug and alcohol clinics.

SCOPE:

This bulletin applies to outpatient drug and alcohol clinics enrolled or considering enrollment in the MA Program under the Fee-For-Service delivery system and managed care organizations under contract with the Department.

BACKGROUND:

MA regulation at 55 Pa. Code, Section 1223.41 states:

"§ 1223.41. Participation requirements.

In addition to the participation requirements established in Chapter 1101 of this title (relating to general provisions), drug/alcohol clinics must meet the following participation requirements:

1. Have current full licensure as a drug/alcohol outpatient facility by the Governor's Council on Drug and Alcohol Abuse. To remain eligible for medical assistance reimbursement, a facility must be fully licensed at all times as a drug/alcohol outpatient clinic. Any conditional or provisional licensure or approval, or substandard compliance with full licensure will render the facility ineligible to receive medical assistance reimbursement for the conditional/provisional period."

DISCUSSION:

Since responsibility for licensing drug and alcohol clinics rests with the Department of Health (DOH), Division of Drug and Alcohol Program Licensing, the Office of Medical Assistance Programs is revising its regulations to delete references to the Governor's Council on Drug and Alcohol Abuse.

To be consistent with DOH, Drug and Alcohol Program licensing, MA is revising its regulations to allow a clinic with a provisional license to bill for covered services rendered to eligible recipients.

Under DOH regulations, a provisional license does not prohibit a clinic from treating patients. New clinics are issued provisional licenses for a six month period following an initial Drug and Alcohol Program Licensing site inspection. Within the six month period the clinic must demonstrate that it can provide the services required by regulation. If the clinic meets these regulations, the DOH, Division of Drug and Alcohol Program Licensing will issue the clinic a full license. If the clinic does not meet the licensing regulations within the six month period, the clinic may receive another provisional license.

A fully licensed facility may receive a full or provisional license after its yearly inspection. If the clinic receives a provisional

license, the clinic has six months to meet regulations. If the clinic does not meet Drug and Alcohol Program licensing regulations within the six month period, the clinic may receive another provisional license.

This change does not affect the participation requirement set forth at § 1223.41(8) which states: "...**it is the clinic director's responsibility to notify the Office of Medical Assistance Programs, in writing, of any changes in the clinic's full compliance with licensure standards...within 30 days following any change...**" (emphasis added). For example, if a fully licensed clinic is issued a provisional license, the clinic director must notify MA in writing of the change in status. Conversely, when a clinic with a provisional license is granted a full license, the clinic director must also notify MA of the change.

POLICY:

Effective March 1, 1998, 55Pa. Code, Section 1223 will read as follows:

§ 1223.41. Participation requirements.

In addition to the participation requirements established in Chapter 1101 of this title (relating to general provisions), drug/alcohol outpatient clinics must meet the following participation requirements:

1. ~~Have a current full licensure~~ MUST BE FULLY OR PROVISIONALLY LICENSED/APPROVED as an outpatient drug/alcohol facility by the ~~Governor's Council on Drug and Alcohol Abuse~~ DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH. To remain eligible for Medical Assistance reimbursement, an enrolled facility must be fully OR PROVISIONALLY LICENSED/APPROVED at all times as an outpatient drug and alcohol clinic. ~~Any conditional or provisional licensure or approval, or substandard compliance with full licensure, will render the facility ineligible to receive Medical Assistance reimbursement for the conditional/provisional period.~~

PROCEDURE:

To enroll in the MA Program or to notify MA of any changes in licensing status, forward the appropriate information to:

Office of Medical Assistance Programs
Provider Enrollment Unit
P.O. Box 8045
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

The appropriate toll-free number for your provider type.

Visit the Office of Medical Assistance Programs website at www.dpw.state.pa.us/omap.