



State of Louisiana
Louisiana Department of Health
Health Standards Section

June 30, 2017

MEMO to Behavioral Health Service Providers (BHSP):

In accordance with Act 33 of the 2017 Regular Legislative Session, the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), Health Standards Section (HSS) is issuing this notice to all applicable behavioral health services providers.

Effective June 3, 2017, Act 33 enacted *La. R.S. 40:2154.1* requiring the licensure of accredited mental health rehabilitation providers; and repealed *La. R.S. 40:2154(A)(14)* that had allowed for the exemption of certain mental health rehabilitation providers. Act 33 states the following:

La. R.S. 40:2154.1. Accredited mental health rehabilitation providers; licensure required

A. Any healthcare provider that meets all of the following criteria is hereby required to obtain a license in accordance with the provisions of this Part prior to April 1, 2018, in order to provide behavioral health services:

- (1) Was an accredited mental health rehabilitation provider enrolled in the Louisiana Medicaid program as of February 28, 2012.*
- (2) Was enrolled with the statewide management organization for the Louisiana Behavioral Health Partnership as of March 1, 2012.*
- (3) Maintains continuous, uninterrupted accreditation through an approved accreditation organization.*
- (4) Maintains continuous, uninterrupted enrollment with the statewide management organization for the Louisiana Behavioral Health Partnership.*

*B. Each healthcare provider required by the provisions of this Section to obtain a license shall submit a **completed** application to the department for such license on or before December 1, 2017.*


*Section 2. *La. R.S. 40:2154(A) (14)* is hereby repealed in its entirety.*

The following link to the LDH BHSP webpage, where you will find the licensing regulations, BHSP licensing application and other requirements, is provided below for your information:

<http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/directory/detail/7950/catid/154>

All BHSPs that are currently providing mental health rehabilitation services and are **no longer exempt** from the licensure requirements shall submit a **completed application packet** to the LDH, HSS **on or before December 1, 2017** and shall **obtain a BHSP license prior to April 1, 2018**, in order to continue to provide behavioral health services. If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact Desiree Castello at (225) 342-0158 or email to Desiree.Castello@la.gov

Sincerely,


Cecile D. Castello, BSN, RN
Director