

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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 COMMISSIONER

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RE: Recertification Process for Preadmission Screening Clinicians during Pandemic

DBHDS is appreciative of the hard work your staff have done in supporting Virginian’s experiencing a behavioral health crisis. We continue to recognize the strain of meeting the needs of the community and trying to meet the certification requirements. With this recognition, DBHDS wants to assist your Certified Preadmission Screening Clinicians (CPSC) with meeting the requirements for recertification.

The requirements effective July 1, 2016 consist of completing prescreening work (licensed CPSC supervisors in ES are exempt from this requirement), 12 annual hours of clinical supervision from a licensed CPSC with the authority of managing other’s work and 16 annual hours of continuing education in any area that can relate to the provision of emergency behavioral health services.

During the last year of certification (dating from July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020), DBHDS relaxed the requirements for recertification due to the pandemic. For this certification year (July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021), the requirements will remain relaxed as follows:

* A minimum of 8 hours of clinical supervision provided by a licensed CPSC with the authority to direct the work of the individual. The supervision may be provided in person, via telephone, or via two-way audio-visual technology. This may be group or individual. This will only be for the certification period of July 1, 2020- June 30, 2021.
* A minimum of eight hours of continuing education in any area that relates to the provision of emergency behavioral health services. The continuing education may be in person, via learning system or online training, or most any other method of training. If there is a doubt, please contact Mary Begor at DBHDS. This decrease in the number of continuing education requirements is for the certification period of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.
* Completion of preadmission screening report during the certification cycle (licensed CPSC supervisors exempt).

Most CPSCs are certified under a two year cycle of recertification. The relaxed requirements are for the dates of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. Should you have CPSCs who require recertification and have been unable to meet the relaxed requirements, please contact Mary Begor. DBHDS will work with you and your staff to help them maintain their certification if desired.

Any individuals granted certification under the relaxed orientation requirements and needrecertification are eligible for the relaxed recertification requirements.

Should you have any questions, please contact Mary Begor at mary.begor@dbhds.virginia.gov .