



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DARYL WASHINGTON, LCSW  
COMMISSIONER

DEPARTMENT OF  
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

Post Office Box 1797  
Richmond, Virginia 23218-1797

Telephone (804) 786-3921  
Fax (804) 371-6638  
[www.dbhds.virginia.gov](http://www.dbhds.virginia.gov)

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Intensive-In Home Services providers licensed by DBHDS and delivering Multisystemic Therapy (MST)

**From:** Office of Licensing

**Date:** February 23, 2026

**Re:** MST Service Licensing Transition – Important Information for MST Providers

**Purpose:** This memo provides information regarding a planned change in the license necessary for the provision of Multisystemic Therapy (MST) services. Specifically, this memo outlines the transition of MST services from the Intensive In-Home license (05-001) to the Mental Health Outpatient license (07-003), associated timelines, and provider responsibilities to ensure continuity of services and regulatory compliance. In order to maintain enrollment with DMAS and credentialing with the Medicaid Managed Care Organizations in order to bill Medicaid for this service, MST providers must follow the actions outlined in this memo.

**Background:** Intensive In-Home (IIH) (license number 05-001) is an existing service in the Virginia Medicaid benefit that is scheduled to be retired in accordance with budget language. In preparation for this transition, and to support continuity of care, DBHDS will transition MST services to be provided under the Mental Health Outpatient (07-003) license rather than under the Intensive In-Home license. This approach aligns with DBHDS's broader service alignment efforts and is intended to reduce administrative burden while ensuring services continue without interruption.

**Timing and Licensing Transition Process:** The transition of MST services to the Outpatient license will occur by the end of March 2026. To minimize the burden on providers, the Office of Licensing (OL) will complete the necessary licensing actions on their behalf, including updating the license addendum as needed.

**The following actions will take effect no later than March 31, 2026:**

- *Providers who do not currently hold an Outpatient license* will have an Outpatient license added by OL.
  - For providers who are adding an Outpatient license, OL will issue the Outpatient license at the same license level (e.g., annual or conditional) as the current Intensive In-Home license. The expiration date will remain the same.

- *Providers who already hold an Outpatient license* will now provide the MST service under their existing Outpatient license.
- *Providers whose only service under the Intensive In-Home license is MST* will have the Intensive In-Home license closed once MST is transitioned.

As always, any licensing updates or changes will be communicated via email notification to the provider's primary contact, directing them to review the update in the CONNECT Provider Portal.

### **Important Clarification Regarding Service Description Expectations and MST Fidelity**

Providers are responsible for updating their outpatient service description to clearly include the provision of MST services, including how MST is delivered within the outpatient framework.

While MST services will be provided under the Outpatient license, any requirements within the MST fidelity model that are more stringent than outpatient licensing requirements must continue to be followed. Adherence to the MST fidelity model remains essential to maintain evidence-based practice standards, ensure compliance with payor and contractual requirements, and support positive outcomes for individuals and families served. The Outpatient license establishes the licensure framework for MST services; however, it does not replace or override MST-specific fidelity, staffing, training, supervision, or service delivery requirements where those requirements exceed general outpatient standards. The Department of Medical Assistance Services will issue a bulletin regarding provider enrollment information.

Thank you for your continued commitment to providing high-quality, evidence-based services.