



**PROVIDER ALERT**

**APPROVAL OF ACCREDITING BODY**

***COUNCIL ON ACCREDITATION (COA)***

**SEPTEMBER 15, 2016**

The Behavioral Health Administration's (BHA) proposed changes to the regulations governing behavioral health services will require many providers who are currently regulated to become accredited as a prerequisite to licensure. Health General Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, 19-2302 authorizes the Secretary of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to approve accrediting bodies who seek to ensure that Maryland community behavioral health care programs adhere to professional and legal standards.

The Council on Accreditation was previously approved as an accrediting body for Respite Services only. A reference grid providing an **updated** crosswalk from the regulations program and service descriptions to the corresponding COA set of standards will be published in the coming weeks to BHA's Accreditation Webpage (<http://bha.dhmh.maryland.gov/Pages/Accreditation-Information.aspx>) and is contained below.



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**BH Program Descriptions/COA reference grid  
August 12, 2016**

All programs accredited through the Council on Accreditation (COA) must meet all applicable standards located in the “Administration and Management Standards” section and the “Service Delivery Administration Standards” section, in addition to the applicable chapter(s) of the “Service Standards” section.

The chart below is meant to be a one-page reference guide identifying the “Service Standards” that correspond to each of the program descriptions identified in the Community-Based Behavioral Health Programs and Services regulations (COMAR 10.63).

***Specific questions regarding applicability and/or interpretation of specific accreditation standards should be referred to COA.***

BH Program Description	COA Accreditation Services Standards (2016)
Group Homes for Adults with Mental Illness	Supported Community Living Services (SCL)
Integrated Behavioral Health Programs	Services for Mental Health and/or Substance Use Disorders (MHSU <sup>1, 2</sup> )
Intensive Outpatient Treatment 2.1	Services for Mental Health and/or Substance Use Disorders (MHSU <sup>2</sup> ); Day Treatment Services (DTX)
Mobile Treatment Services	Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services (PSR) – Assertive Community Outreach standards
Outpatient Mental Health Centers	Services for Mental Health and/or Substance Use Disorders (MHSU <sup>1</sup> )
Outpatient Treatment Level 1	Services for Mental Health and/or Substance Use Disorders (MHSU <sup>2</sup> )
Partial Hospitalization Treatment Level 2.5	Services for Mental Health and/or Substance Use Disorders (MHSU <sup>2</sup> ); Day Treatment Services (DTX)
Psychiatric Day Treatment Programs	Day Treatment Services (DTX)
Psychiatric Rehabilitation Programs for Adults	Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services (PSR)
Residential: Low Intensity 3.1	Services for Mental Health and/or Substance Use Disorders (MHSU <sup>2</sup> ); Group Living Services (GLS)
Residential: Medium Intensity 3.3	Services for Mental Health and/or Substance Use Disorders (MHSU <sup>2</sup> ); Residential Treatment Services (RTX)
Residential: High Intensity 3.5	Services for Mental Health and/or Substance Use Disorders (MHSU <sup>2</sup> ); Residential Treatment Services (RTX)
Residential: Intensive 3.7	Services for Mental Health and/or Substance Use Disorders (MHSU <sup>2</sup> ); Residential Treatment Services (RTX)
Residential Rehabilitation Programs	Supported Community Living Services (SCL)
Respite Care Services	Respite Care (RC)
Supported Employment Programs	Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VOC <sup>3</sup> )



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Withdrawal Management Services	Services for Mental Health and/or Substance Use Disorders (MHSU <sup>2</sup> ) – Detoxification Treatment standards
Opioid Treatment Services	Opioid Treatment Programs (OTP)
Psychiatric Rehabilitation Programs for Minors	COA Standards are not a sufficient match for this BHA program description
Residential Crisis Services	COA Standards are not a sufficient match for this BHA program description

<sup>1</sup> MHSU standards, including MHSU 6, Therapeutic Services, must be met

<sup>2</sup> MHSU standards, including MHSU 5, Clinical Counseling, must be met

<sup>3</sup> VOC 6: Skill-Development Training; VOC 7: Vocational Evaluation Services; VOC 8: Work Adjustment Services; and VOC 11: Work Services are not appropriate standards for SEPs – programs seeking SEP licensure may not implement these standards