



State COVID-19 Disaster Declaration Flexibilities Phase-Out

Behavioral Health Withdrawal Management Services and Telephone Consultation/Coordination Flexibilities Expire

Withdrawal Management Services

To ensure access to care during the pandemic, the Department of Health and Social Services suspended 7 AAC 70.110 (b)(1)(3-4), the on-site requirements for community behavioral health service providers in regards to withdrawal management services.

The suspension of these regulations will expire on **November 1, 2021** and actions related to them will become enforceable. All services provided on or after November 1, 2021 must comply with on-site requirements for community behavioral health service providers regarding/withdrawal management services.

Telephone Consultation/Coordination:

To ensure access to care during the pandemic when transportation was reduced or unavailable, the Department of Health and Social Services suspended 7 AAC 135.010(d)(3), allowing phone consultations or telephonic coordination with another service provider.

The suspension of these regulations will cease on **November 1, 2021** and actions related to them will become enforceable. Effective for services provided on and after November 1, 2021, the department will not pay for telephone consultation or coordination with another service provider other than case management.

To ensure that providers and the state can fully address any issues and re-establish normal operations, a transition period is being implemented with full compliance required effective November 1, 2021.

Questions? Contact mpassunit@alaska.gov.