



**pennsylvania**  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Dear BHRS/IBHS Provider:

The Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS) anticipates Title 55 Pa. Code Chapter 5240 Intensive Behavioral Health Services (IBHS) regulations will be published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin in October 2019.

You have been identified as either an existing provider of Behavioral Health Rehabilitative Services (BHRS) who needs to obtain an IBHS license or another provider who may require licensure.

Chapter 5240 takes effect 90 days after publication in the PA Bulletin. Anyone providing IBHS is expected to come into compliance with Chapter 5240 by that date. The first step to compliance for IBHS providers is the creation of an IBHS Agency Service Description which complies with §5240.5. Each agency should submit a service description to the appropriate regional Field Office at OMHSAS for review and approval. Electronic submission is acceptable, using the email addresses below. OMHSAS staff will review Service Descriptions in each regional field office. In order to ensure sufficient time for review and any necessary follow-up, Service Descriptions need to be received by OMHSAS as soon as possible. After the Service Description is reviewed and approved you will receive additional guidance on completing an application for a certificate of compliance.

Information and technical assistance will be provided through a statewide Web-Ex presentation on October 4, 2019 and a face-to-face regional meeting during the months of October and November 2019. An additional webinar will be facilitated on November 20, 2019 to provide a statewide summary of the regional forums and to address any additional implementation details. Both webinars will be videotaped and posted online for future viewing. A FAQ document will be forthcoming. Technical assistance is also available through regional field office staff. If you have questions about the Service Description review process, please contact your regional field office.

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Sincerely,

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