BHRS Assessment and Initial Treatment Authorization
During the Transition to IBHS

Provider contracts were updated with new Levels of Care effective January 19, 2020, and the outlined process can be utilized immediately, but it is not required until March 18, 2020.

On October 19, 2019, in Part III of the PA Code, the Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS) promulgated Chapters 1155 and 5240, Intensive Behavioral Health Services (IBHS). IBHS regulations will now govern the provision of most behavioral health services available to children and youth in Philadelphia which were previously referred to as Behavioral Health Rehabilitation Services (BHRS). CBH is attempting to simplify the process for requesting or continuing BHRS by aligning them with the new practices outlined in the IBHS regulations. Specifically, providers can request initial or continued BHRS, for durations of up to six months, through completion of a Written Order and subsequent face-to-face assessment, as required under IBHS. CBH will allow this modified process throughout the 2020 transition from BHRS to IBHS. The final date that any BHRS can be authorized or delivered is January 17, 2021.

Treatment can start once there is a Written Order for BHRS while a face-to-face assessment is completed by an individual qualified to provide behavior consultation services and/or mobile therapy within 15 days of the initiation of individual and group services and within 30 days of the initiation of ABA services.

This Bulletin outlines the Levels of Care (LOCs), staff qualifications, maximum units, and rates that will be utilized for providers to bill for the BHRS Assessment and Initial Treatment period effective 1/19/2020.

- All In-Network BHRS Providers will be assigned LOCs 400-126, 400-127, 400-128, 400-129
- All In-Network Designated ABA providers will be assigned LOCs 400-130 and 400-131
- All providers currently contracted for School Therapeutic Services will be assigned LOCs 400-132 and 400-133

Providers will submit the Written Order Form, completed and signed by an appropriate prescriber, indicating the requested LOCs. CBH will generate authorizations for a standard number of units for both an assessment and treatment LOCs, depending on provider request and the child’s diagnosis. If a provider recommends a BHRS assessment, they will be issued two
authorizations, 400-126 for 15 days for assessment activities and 400-127 for 30 days Initial Treatment services.

The authorizations will reflect the maximum hours/units per day as listed in the chart below. Providers will be expected to submit their claims using the appropriate billing sentence (CPT code and modifier) reflecting the staff who delivered the service (i.e., BSC, BSC-ASD, MT, TSS). A detailed billing guide will be forwarded to providers with updated Schedule As.

### BHRS Assessment and Initial Treatment Levels of Care Effective 1/19/20

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOC I &amp; II</th>
<th>LOC Description</th>
<th>Staff qualified to provide the service</th>
<th>Maximum Hours/Units per day</th>
<th>Authorization Period and Number of Units Authorized</th>
<th>Proposed Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>400-126</td>
<td>BHRS Assessment</td>
<td>BSC (Doctoral or Master’s Level), MT</td>
<td>6 hours/24 units per day</td>
<td>15 business days for 400 units</td>
<td>$16.85 per 15 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400-127</td>
<td>BHRS Initial Treatment</td>
<td>BSC (Doctoral or Master’s Level), MT, TSS</td>
<td>12 hours/48 units per day</td>
<td>30 business days for 1500 units</td>
<td>$16.85 per 15 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400-128</td>
<td>BHRS Assessment-Autism</td>
<td>BSC-ASD (Doctoral or Master’s Level), MT</td>
<td>6 hours/24 units per day,</td>
<td>15 business days for 400 units</td>
<td>$16.85 per 15 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400-129</td>
<td>BHRS Initial Treatment-Autism</td>
<td>BSC-ASD (Doctoral or Master’s Level), MT, TSS</td>
<td>12 hours/48 units per day</td>
<td>30 business days for 1500 units</td>
<td>$16.85 per 15 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400-130</td>
<td>BHRS Assessment-ABA</td>
<td>BSC-ASD (Doctoral or Master’s Level)</td>
<td>6 hours/24 units per day</td>
<td>30 business days for 750 units</td>
<td>$35.00 per 15 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400-131</td>
<td>BHRS Initial Treatment-ABA</td>
<td>BSC-ASD (Doctoral or Master’s Level), TSS</td>
<td>12 hours/48 units per day</td>
<td>45 business days for 2500 units</td>
<td>$16.85 per 15 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400-132</td>
<td>STS Assessment</td>
<td>MT</td>
<td>6 hours/24 units per day</td>
<td>15 business days for 400 units</td>
<td>$16.85 per 15 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400-133</td>
<td>STS Initial Treatment</td>
<td>MT, TSS</td>
<td>6 hours/24 units per day</td>
<td>30 business days for 1500 units</td>
<td>$16.85 per 15 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following LOCs will be utilized if the provider selects Pathway 2 as outlined in CBH Provider Bulletin 19-24: Accessing Intensive Behavioral Health Services for Psychological, Psychiatric, or Master’s Level Evaluation:

- **300-1 Psychiatric Evaluation**: Level of Care 300-1 should be used for psychiatric evaluations resulting in a Written Order for IBHS
- **300-3 Assessment**: Level of Care 300-3 should be used for evaluations completed by a licensed mental health professional (i.e., LCSW, LPC, LMFT) resulting in a Written Order of IBHS
- **300-22 Psychological Assessment**: Level of Care 300-22 should be used for a psychological evaluation resulting in a Written Order for IBHS.
IBHS Access Timeline

Referral to Written Order
5 days

Assessment to Submission
15 days
30 days for ABA

Written order to start of Assessment
5 days

ITP Service Initiation
15 days

Note: Assessment + Service Initiation = 30 days (45 days for ABA)