

Intensive Behavioral Health Services Prior Authorization Requirements for Behavioral Health Technician and Behavioral Health Technician-ABA

Community Behavioral Health (CBH) is issuing this Bulletin to notify providers that CBH has updated the prior authorization requirements for Behavioral Health Technician (BHT) and Behavioral Health Technician-ABA (BHT-ABA). These prior authorization requirements had been waived during initial Intensive Behavioral Health Services (IBHS) implementation.

Effective March 1, 2021, requests for BHT (425-17) or BHT-ABA (425-31) for youth newly referred to IBHS will require a Functional Behavior Assessment (FBA) to be submitted to CBH with the Written Order Form.

Effective September 1, 2021, all requests for BHT (425-17) or BHT-ABA (425-31) will require an FBA to be submitted to CBH with the Written Order Form.

FBAs are not required for requests for initial assessment and treatment for regionalized IBHS (425-4 and 425-5) or for initial assessment and treatment for applied behavior analysis (425-6 and 425-7). Authorizations for initial assessment and treatment should be used flexibly to complete the assessment requirements under IBHS, including an FBA if BHT or BHT-ABA will be prescribed beyond the initial treatment period.

Any questions should be directed to Jessica Woods, Clinical Coordinator of IBHS, at Jessica.Woods@phila.gov.