



TO: Local Education Agencies (LEA) participating in the School-Based ACCESS Program

DATE: November 1, 2016

FROM: Rebekah Ludwick, Director
School-Based ACCESS Program
Department of Human Services

SUBJECT: Initial Evaluations and Personal Care Services

The School-Based ACCESS Program (SBAP) Handbook, which was released on October 12, 2016, provided information on the requirements related to initial evaluations and personal care services. This memorandum serves as follow-up to information provided in the SBAP Handbook and at the Department of Human Services' (Department) 2016 SBAP Regional Fall Trainings.

Initial Evaluations

As set forth in the SBAP Handbook, Pennsylvania's MA Program provides payment for initial evaluations and re-evaluations performed by qualified SBAP practitioners. All evaluations must be authorized or prescribed by a licensed practitioner within his or her scope of practice under state law. Licensed practitioners who can authorize or prescribe an evaluation include licensed physicians (MD or DO), licensed Certified Registered Nurse Practitioners (CRNP) and, depending on the type of evaluation, licensed psychologists, or licensed social workers. See SBAP Handbook, pages 34-35.

For dates of service on or after January 1, 2017, a signed prescription, order, or SBAP Medical Practitioner Authorization Form authorizing an initial evaluation must be obtained in order for the initial evaluation to be a compensable service.



Personal Care Services

Personal care services are one-to-one services provided to beneficiaries with physical or mental impairments or conditions in accordance with a plan of treatment. These services must be authorized by either a licensed MD or licensed DO. Personal care services provided on or after January 1, 2017 will be compensable only if there is a prescription, order, or SBAP Medical Practitioner Authorization Form signed by a licensed physician prior to the delivery of the service.

For any questions regarding this notification, please contact me at rebludwick@pa.gov or (717) 787-5512.