

PROVIDER BULLETIN

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Children Not in Foster Care – Behavioral Health Services Program Prior Authorization Closing Date

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Children Not in Foster Care – Behavioral Health Services Program Prior Authorization Closing Date

All Behavioral Health Services Program Prior Authorizations (PA) issued for children not in state custody will close effective July 31, 2013 regardless of any remaining unused units left on the PA.

Should a patient currently in treatment need ongoing services, a new PA period will begin on August 1, 2013. Providers may begin requesting a new authorization IMMEDIATELY. Providers may request a PA by calling the Behavioral Health Services Help Desk at (866) 771-3350 or by faxing the Psychological Services Request for Prior Authorization form to the Behavioral Health Services Help Desk at (573) 635-6516.

THIS POLICY IS FOR CHILDREN NOT IN STATE CUSTODY CURRENTLY UNDER THE PA PROCESS AND DOES NOT APPLY TO CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE UNDER THE PA PROCESS OR TO CHILDREN IN STATE CUSTODY.

NOTE: Providers who have been paid for services in excess of four (4) hours for a participant in the last rolling year will not receive four (4) additional non-prior authorized hours for that participant. REMINDER: If the child turns 21 during the authorization period, the policy on age restriction for certain providers applies. LPCs and LCSWs who see children under the age of 21 are not paid for services performed on or after the date the child reaches the age of 21, even if prior authorized.

Provider Bulletins are available on the MO HealthNet Division (MHD) (Formerly the Division of Medical Services) web site at <http://dss.mo.gov/mhd/providers/pages/bulletins.htm>. Bulletins will remain on the Provider Bulletins page only until incorporated into the [provider manuals](#) as appropriate, then moved to the Archived Bulletin page.

MO HealthNet News: Providers and other interested parties are urged to go to the MHD web site at <http://dss.mo.gov/mhd/global/pages/mednewssubscribe.htm> to subscribe to the electronic mailing list to receive automatic notifications of provider bulletins, provider manual updates, and other official MO HealthNet communications via E-mail.

MO HealthNet Managed Care: The information contained in this bulletin applies to coverage for:

- MO HealthNet Fee-for-Service
- Services not included in MO HealthNet Managed Care

Questions regarding MO HealthNet Managed Care benefits should be directed to the patient's MO HealthNet Managed Care health plan. Before delivering a service, please check the patient's eligibility status by swiping the MO HealthNet card or by calling the Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System at 573-751-2896 and using Option One for the red or white card.

**Provider Communications Hotline
573-751-2896**