



Supervision of unlicensed behavioral health clinicians and qualified graduate students

Tennessee | Medicaid

Summary

As of July 1, 2022, the following two TennCare therapy policies are in effect:

- Behavioral Health Services Furnished by Qualified Graduate Students
- Behavioral Health Services Furnished by Candidates for Licensure

This communication is an update and will replace the previous Wellpoint unlicensed behavioral health bulletin and roster.

What is the impact of this change?

The qualified graduate student policy offers, for the first time, an opportunity for agencies to be reimbursed for services rendered by qualified graduate students. This is also a strategy to grow professional development opportunities by supporting a quality training environment for graduate students.

The candidates for licensure policy represent an opportunity to further develop the workforce while ensuring basic standards of care, promoting licensure, and increasing the number of licensed behavioral health professionals. While a temporary license is not required at this time to practice under supervision, the temporary license will enable candidates for licensure to acquire the hours they need to be licensed. The required, appropriate supervisory experience parallels what is required to meet licensure requirements, as well as standards established by MCOs.

Wellpoint will continue to ensure that individuals providing behavioral health treatment services who are not required to be licensed or certified, based on applicable State license rules and/or program standards, are appropriately educated, trained, qualified, and competent to perform their job responsibilities.

Medicaid coverage provided by Wellpoint Tennessee, Inc.

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To ensure your clinic or agency has the appropriate supervision in place, Wellpoint will:

- Request a listing of your unlicensed clinicians via the unlicensed behavioral health provider roster quarterly ([download a copy of the roster](#)).
- Request a copy of the agency or facility supervision protocol.
- If the individual is a graduate student, please provide a copy of the formal agreement (for example, a Memorandum of Understanding) between the graduate program and supervising agency that the student is enrolled in the program, is in good standing, and placement is a requirement of and through the program in behavioral health.
- Request the agency or facility respond with the names of their unlicensed clinicians via the provided roster and their supervision protocol within 30 days of receipt of the request via the WLPBHRoster@wellpoint.com email box.
- Request the agency or facility adhere to any request for additional information or corrective action should deficiencies be identified.

Requirements for supervision

The requirements for supervision are defined by the rules and regulations governing each respective licensed board.

Contact us

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For additional support, visit the *Contact Us* section of our provider website for the appropriate contact.