



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Office of Medicaid
www.mass.gov/masshealth

Day Habilitation Bulletin 31

DATE: August 2024

TO: Day Habilitation Providers Participating in MassHealth

FROM: Mike Levine, Assistant Secretary for MassHealth

RE: **Prior Authorization Requirements for Day Habilitation Providers under 130 CMR 419.000: Day Habilitation Center Services effective September 1, 2024**

Background

This bulletin outlines prior authorization (PA) requirements for all day habilitation (DH) members during the PA implementation period effective September 1, 2024. MassHealth is in the process of promulgating amendments to 130 CMR 419.000: *Day Habilitation Center Services* for dates of service on or after September 1, 2024, consistent with recent amendments to 101 CMR 348.00: *Rates for Day Habilitation Services* and [Day Habilitation Bulletin 30](#). The requirements set forth in this bulletin are consistent with the pending amendments to 130 CMR 419.000.

Guidance and Requirements

Consistent with the guidance in Day Habilitation Bulletin 30, the new DH Leveling Tool must be used when submitting for PA on or after September 1, 2024. The DH Leveling Tool will identify the member as Level 1, Level 2, Level 3, or Level 4. DH providers may no longer obtain PAs or claim payments for Individualized Staffing Supports (ISS) for dates of service on or after September 1, 2024. Service Needs Assessments (SNAs) will continue to be due consistent with the requirements of 130 CMR 419.000 and Day Habilitation Bulletin 30.

The DH Leveling Tool and instructions for its completion can be found on the [LTSS Provider Portal](#).

Prior Authorization

A DH provider must obtain PA from the MassHealth agency or its designee as a prerequisite to payment for the provision of DH upon admission, every two years thereafter, and upon significant change. PA determines the medical necessity for DH as described under 130 CMR 419.406 and in accordance with 130 CMR 450.204: *Medical Necessity*.

For dates of service on or after September 1, 2024, the new DH Leveling Tool must be used to obtain PA authorizing a DH provider to claim for service provided to an eligible member at one of the four levels of payment reflecting the member's assessed need for DH. DH providers may no longer obtain PAs or claim payments for ISS for dates of service on or after September 1, 2024.

When submitting a request for PA for members living in a nursing facility, the DH provider must submit the Level II PASRR in lieu of the Leveling Tool.

When submitting a request for PA for members who demonstrate medical necessity for one-to-one nursing for all six program hours, the DH provider must provide additional documentation in the form and format designated by the MassHealth agency.

The July 2024 Day Habilitation Prior Authorization Training Guide can be found [here](#), and at www.masshealthltss.com under Provider Resources and Day Habilitation (PT64).

MassHealth Website

This bulletin is available on the [MassHealth Provider Bulletins](#) web page.

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Questions?

If you have questions about the information in this bulletin, please contact us.

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