



# Workforce Issuance

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☐ Policy ☒ Information

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**To:** MassHire Workforce Board Chairs  
MassHire Workforce Board Directors  
MassHire Career Center Directors  
MassHire Fiscal Officers  
MassHire DCS Operations Managers

**cc:** WIOA State Partners

**From:** Diane Hurley, Acting Director  
MassHire Department of Career Services

**Date:** November 21, 2024

**Subject:** **Behavioral Health Workforce Career Navigator Launched**

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**Purpose:** To notify MassHire Workforce Boards, MassHire Career Center Operators and other local workforce partners of the launch of the Behavioral Health Workforce Career Navigator. This tool provides a one-stop-shop for those considering the field to learn more by reviewing education, regulatory, credentialing, licensing, and renewal information for behavioral health careers by state. Additionally, the navigator supports existing behavioral health workers who may be considering moving or working in different states by identifying credential reciprocity.

**Background:** In recognition of National Career Development Day, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), announced November 18<sup>th</sup> the launch of the Behavioral Health Workforce Career Navigator, designed to help current and aspiring behavioral health professionals identify state requirements for a range of behavioral health careers. The navigator supports President Biden and Vice President Harris' commitment to expanding America's behavioral

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health workforce, a key element of the Administration's Unity Agenda for the Nation.

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SAMHSA published the *Practical Guide for Expanding the Community-based Behavioral Health Workforce*, which presents best practices for expanding community-initiated prevention and care and the role of behavioral health support specialists. It offers examples of community-based models of care and provides resources for communities working to ensure community members' well-being.

**Action**

**Required:** Please share with appropriate managers, staff, partners and customers.

**Effective:** Immediately.