



Transmittal Letter DH-36

DATE: September 2026

TO: Day Habilitation Providers Participating in MassHealth

FROM: Christine Peterson, Acting Chief of the Office of Long-Term Services and Supports,

RE: *Day Habilitation Manual: Revised Program Regulations*

Summary

The regulations at 130 CMR 419.000: *Day Habilitation Center Services* have been updated.

The amendments update, clarify, and reorder day habilitation (DH) program regulations to:

- Add definitions pertaining to accessible egress, evacuation safety plan, accreditation requirements, and interdisciplinary team membership.
- Clarify eligibility requirements for day habilitation services.
- Revise the criteria for Significant Change Prior Authorizations to ensure that member acuity is consistently and accurately reflected by their PA level.
- Revise the timeline for completing the required Service Needs Assessment to provide additional flexibility for providers while maintaining process integrity.
- Clarify staff training requirements, delineating which trainings are required and the frequency by which they should be completed.
- Specifically remind providers that all assessments must be signed by a Registered Nurse.
- Clarify that staffing ratios must be determined based on member acuity and meeting all member needs.
- Clarify staff and member tuberculosis testing requirements while ensuring consistency with state/federal guidance.
- Revise physical site requirements related to operation of any programs not on ground level and toilets.
- Add definitions (history, risk assessment, and screening) and clarify language pertaining to tuberculosis requirements.
- Add physical site parameters detailing the requirements for square footage and that toilets will be removed at this time for additional review.
- Edit Program Director qualifications to allow for demonstrated leadership qualities to be substituted for supervisory experience so that internal promotions may be possible.
- Update the DPPC Abuser Registry to CPPD Abuser Registry, as Disabled Person Protection Commission's name was changed to Commission for the Protection of Persons with Disabilities.

These amendments are effective October 1, 2026.

The rate regulation for day habilitation services is 101 CMR 348.00: *Rates for Day Habilitation Services*.

MassHealth Website

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Questions?

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New Material

The pages listed here contain new or revised language.

Day Habilitation Manual

Pages 4-1 through 4-33

Obsolete Material

The pages listed here are no longer in effect.

Day Habilitation Manual

Pages iv and 4-1 through 4-32—transmitted by Transmittal Letter DH-33

Please note: Transmittal Letters no longer include pages for updated regulations, Subchapter 6, or appendix pages. These updated documents are on our [MassHealth Provider Manuals](#) page.