



July 30, 2014

Announcement 780

Attention Provider Types 14 and 82: Reminder Regarding Policy Change for Basic Skills Training

In January 2014, State of Nevada policy regarding Basic Skills Training (BST) was updated. Policy added criteria regarding BST service limitations after six consecutive months. Providers are referred to [Medicaid Services Manual \(MSM\)](#) Chapter 400 Section 403.6C.3 a-d. If a recipient has been receiving BST services for six consecutive months, the provider must validate that continued services are reasonable and necessary. To be considered reasonable and necessary, the following conditions must be met. Adherence is demonstrated throughout the clinical documentation on form FA-11A (Behavioral Health Authorization Request), specifically in section VII Symptoms and Significant Life Events and in section VIII Treatment Plan and Rationale.

MSM Chapter 400 Section 403.6C.3:

- a. Expectation that the patient's condition will improve significantly in a reasonable and predictable period of time, or the services must be necessary for the establishment of a safe and effective rehabilitative therapeutic design required in connection with a specific disease state.
- b. The amount, frequency and duration of BST must be reasonable under accepted standards of practice.
- c. If the rehabilitation plan goals have not been met, the re-evaluation of the rehabilitation/treatment plan must reflect a change in the goal, objectives, services and methods and reflect the incorporation of other medically appropriate services such as outpatient mental health services.
- d. Documentation demonstrates a therapeutic benefit to the recipient by reflecting the downward titration in units of service. The reduction in services should demonstrate the reduction in symptoms/behavioral impairment.

Documentation in the request for review for prior authorization (the PAR) should reflect adherence to the additional criteria noted above.