

Memo

Date: September 19, 2025

To: Alameda County Behavioral Health Department (ACBHD) Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS) Providers

From: Gina Battaglia, Quality Assurance (QA) Supervising Program Specialist *Gina Battaglia*
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Subject: Update Regarding Medi-Cal Site Visit Requirement for Public School Sites

The purpose of this memo is to provide an update to SMHS providers regarding the Medi-Cal site visit requirement for public school sites¹.

Background

Per California Code of Regulations ([CCR](#)), [Title 9, § 1810.435](#), *Mental Health Plan (MHP) Individual, Group and Organizational Provider Selection Criteria*, MHPs shall establish individual, group, and organizational provider selection criteria that comply with the requirements of this Section, the terms of the contract between the MHP and the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), and the MHP's Implementation Plan pursuant to [CCR, Title 9, § 1810.310](#).

Additionally, per CCR, Title 9, § 1810.435, the MHP's certification process shall include an on-site review in addition to a review of relevant documentation.

Update Regarding Medi-Cal Site Visit Requirement for Public School Sites

Per the MHP contract with DHCS, site visits are not required for public school or satellite² sites as part of the Medi-Cal site certification process. To be consistent with DHCS requirements, effective September 17, 2025, ACBHD's QA team will no longer conduct virtual site visits for public school sites as part of the Medi-Cal site certification process. Public school sites still require Medi-Cal site certification if covered SMHS are provided there and will need to comply with all other requirements related to this certification.

Action Required

Please communicate this information to others within your organization, as appropriate.

Support

Providers are invited to join monthly QA Brown Bag meetings where this and other relevant information is discussed. Meeting details and links can be found on the [QA Training page](#). For questions regarding this memo, please email SiteCertification@acgov.org.

¹ A public school site is defined as a school facility that is regulated by the California Department of Education (e.g. schools in unified school districts, charter schools).

² A satellite site is a site owned, leased or operated by an organizational provider at which SMHS are delivered to members fewer than 20 hours per week, or, if located at a multiagency site at which SMHS are delivered by no more than two employees or contractors of the provider.