

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

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September 1, 2011

Dear DBH Grantee Provider:

RE: **Guidance Document:** *Integrated Behavioral Health Regulations* – Transition issues involving Department Provider Approval Process

This letter serves to provide guidance and direction related to transition issues in anticipation of the new Behavioral Health Services Integrated Regulations, effective on October 1, 2011. Specifically, this letter outlines issues related to regulatory requirements on a new Department Provider Approval Process. These regulatory changes will require specific action and planning on the part of your agency staff.

When the integrated regulations take effect on October 1, 2011, all grantee providers will need a Department Approval to operate. **This Department Approval is also linked to a provider's ability to bill Medicaid.** In order to ensure that all grantee providers will be authorized to operate and continue billing Medicaid on October 1, 2011, all providers must complete the attached *Request for Department Approval* form.

Upon receipt of a completed *Request for Department Approval* form, the Division will process the request and issue a provider a Department Approval to operate. **The Division must receive a provider's *Request for Department Approval* form no later than September 15, 2011. Failure to submit this form will result in a provider's inability to operate on October 1, 2011.**

Upon completion of the form, it must be printed and signed by the Executive Director or an authorized representative of the organization and sent to the Division. Attached to the form is an instruction sheet. If you have any questions regarding this form, please contact Program Integrity at 269-3600 for assistance.

The Division recognizes that providers have been actively engaged in preparations for the implementation of the integrated regulations, and appreciate your efforts. We appreciate your patience during this major systems transition.

Sincerely,



Melissa Witzler Stone, Director
Division of Behavioral Health

Attachment: *Request for Department Approval* form.