



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Department of
Health and Social Services

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
Director's Office

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April 6, 2015

Re: Proposed Regulation Changes on Behavioral Health Services Provider Accreditation

Dear Provider:

The Department of Health & Social Services has determined that there will not be an extension to the current requirement for obtaining National Accreditation listed as June 30, 2015 in 7AAC 70.150 (b).

In an effort to minimize the impact to services and to the extent allowed under current regulations, the Division of Behavioral will be implementing the transition plan listed below for agencies that are not accredited on July 1, 2015.

On July 1, 2015 agencies that are not yet accredited will be issued a provisional department approval for two years and a letter requesting information outlining "progress toward accreditation". A response will be required within 30 days. Questions will include:

1. Do you plan to obtain National Accreditation?
 - If no confirmation received, the division will issue a letter revoking the department approval effective 60 days from the date of the letter to allow time to transfer patients.
 - If the agency confirms that they plan to obtain accreditation the following additional information must be confirmed to assess progress:
2. Has your agency chosen an accrediting body and allocated resources?
3. Has your agency paid their certification fees but not yet scheduled the survey?
4. Has your agency scheduled the survey dates for accreditation?
 - If confirmation of progress listed in questions 2-4 is not received, the department will issue a letter revoking the department approval effective 60 days from the date of the letter to allow time to transfer patients.

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- If confirmation of progress is received, the department will work with the agency to develop and manage a timeline for success. If at any time the department determines that the agency is not making sufficient progress and is out of compliance, the department would issue a letter revoking the department approval effective 60 days from the date of the letter to allow time to transfer patients.

We look forward to continuing to work with your agency on this important effort. The work you do to serve Alaskans in need is appreciated.

If you have any further questions, please contact Teri Keklak at (907) 269-2050 or Michael Powell at (907) 269- 3795.

Sincerely,



Albert E. Wall
Director