

IHCP *bulletin*

INDIANA HEALTH COVERAGE PROGRAMS BT201620 APRIL 5, 2016

IHCP allows extended time for Registered Behavior Technician credentialing

On January 19, 2016, the Indiana Health Coverage Programs (IHCP) released *IHCP Bulletin BT201606* announcing coverage of applied behavior analysis (ABA) therapy for the treatment of autism spectrum disorder (ASD) effective February 6, 2016. In the bulletin, credentialed Registered Behavior Technicians (RBTs) are included as appropriate providers that can render ABA therapy services when the policy criteria are met.

In response to access concerns, the IHCP is allowing potential RBTs extended time to complete the full credentialing process while they are providing IHCP-covered ABA therapy services. Potential RBTs have until September 1, 2016, to complete the full credentialing process, including receipt of all approval documentation from the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB). This extended time applies to potential RBTs that met the following criteria as of the policy effective date (February 6, 2016):

- Met the minimum criteria for obtaining RBT credentialing:
 - Must be at least 18 years of age
 - Must possess a minimum of a high school diploma or national equivalent
- Had already begun training under the supervision of a master-level Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA), a doctoral-level BCBA (BCBA-D), or licensed health service provider in psychology (HSPP)



Potential RBTs who met the preceding criteria as of February 6, 2016, may render IHCP-covered ABA therapy services through August 31, 2016, even though they are not yet fully credentialed. These services are eligible for reimbursement subject to the criteria outlined in *BT201606*. Potential RBTs that have already scheduled or passed the RBT examination but have not received their final credentialing documentation from the BACB are included. Potential RBTs that do not meet the criteria outlined may not render IHCP-covered ABA therapy services until full credentialing has been completed.

Beginning September 1, 2016, RBTs will no longer be reimbursed for providing ABA therapy services if they have not completed all the requirements for RBT credentialing, including completing a criminal background check, passing the RBT competency assessment, passing the RBT examination, and receiving the final credentialing documentation from the BACB.

Questions about this bulletin should be directed to policyconsideration@fssa.in.gov.

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