SOMB BUZZ! MARCH 2025

Take the sting out of Standards Revisions by BEEing Informed.

This bulletin is to keep providers and stakeholders informed about Board Business and changes happening that affect their daily practice.

Notice to Providers:

The staff of the SOMB notified the Board that a policy is being drafted regarding the Use of Interns. The proposed policy includes information and requirements from the Mental Health Practice Act regarding Interns not being required to hold a license or listing status with DORA or apply with the SOMB. SOMB Providers will be responsible to ensure interns are in compliance with the expectations set forth in the Mental Health Practice Act. We are aware that most interns are completing offense-specific work with clients who fall under the purview of the SOMB, this policy will require any work product they produce to be reviewed and approved by an Approved SOMB Clinical Supervisor. If you have any questions or concerns on this notice, please contact Erin Austin.

Pending Standards Revisions

The Board reviewed the following Action Items during the March Board Meeting.

- Revisions to Section 4 of the Adult Standards and Juvenile Standards and Guidelines, and Appendix A: SOMB Administrative Policies were proposed to update the process for providers applying with the SOMB. These revisions are to expand the definition of "conviction" to be consistent with other licensing boards within Colorado. The Board voted to send these proposed changes to Public Comment.
- 2. New language was proposed for Section 3: Standards of Practice for Treatment Providers. Standard 3.163, Language, Culture, and Ethnic Considerations and 3.164, Use of Interpreters within Treatment. The Board voted to send the proposed standards out for public comment.
- 3. New language was proposed for Section 5 of the Juvenile Standards regarding Provider Choice. The Board voted to send the new standards out for public comment.

Public Comment

Public comments will be collected electronically via Jotforms. The Jotform will be available on March 31st, and public comment will be accepted until April 11th, 2025. Comments will then be reviewed by the appropriate standards revisions committee, Application Review Committee, and Best Practices Committee.

• Submit Public Comment to Adult Standards 3.162 Language, Culture, and Ethnical Considerations and 3.163 Use of Interpreters.

- Submit Public Comment to Section 4: Qualifications of Treatment Providers, Evaluators, and Polygraph Examiners Working with Adult Sex Offenders and/or with Juveniles Who Have Committed Sexual Offenses and Appendix A: Sex Offender Management Board Administrative Policies.
- <u>Submit Public Comment to Juveniles Standards Section 5 regarding Provider Choice</u>

Standards Revisions Approved by the Board

The following Revisions are currently in the Implementation Phase and should be fully implemented by July 1, 2025

New Revisions as of March 2025:

- a. Juvenile Standards Revisions: Removal of Appendix K and subsequent revisions to Appendix 10.
- b. Juveniles Standards Revisions: Section 3.151: Individualized Treatment Plans
- c. Juvenile Standards Revisions: Section 5.000: Role of the Supervising Agency

Prior Revisions

November 2024:

- a. Adult Standards Revisions 3.500 regarding Acceptance of Responsibility and Accountability.
- b. Juvenile Standards Revisions 2.210 regarding Pre-Adjudication/Pre-Plea Evaluations.
- c. Revisions to both the Adult and Juveniles Standards Section 4: Qualifications for Polygraph Examiners.

SOMB Committees

'BEE' a part of the process! Committees are where the honey is made! ALL Meetings have a virtual option. Schedule and Links can be found on the <u>DCJ Public Calendar</u>. You can also email the assigned SOMB Staff to be added to the email distribution list.

- Best Practices 2nd Tuesday of each Month: Erin Austin
- Adult Standards Revisions 3rd Thursday of each month. Erin Austin
- Juvenile Standards Revisions 1st Monday of each month: Paige Brown
- SOMB Victim Advocacy Committee 4th Thursday of each Month: Paige Brown
- SOMB Board Meetings: 3rd Friday of each month. <u>Subscribe to our Newsletter</u> for updates from the SOMB. To see Board Agendas, please visit the <u>Board</u> <u>Meetings Website</u>

Please let us know if you have any questions.

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