

EXHIBIT B
LICENSING, CREDENTIALING, AND EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Credentialing Criteria

The following criteria, information and components are required for a service provider to be included in the Local Authority's network of providers. Licensed agencies will be evaluated and reviewed by Credentialing Committee.

1. Minimum requirements for all services being sought:

- Age of staff must be over 18, has a high school diploma or a General Education Development (GED) credential; or has documentation of a proficiency evaluation of experience and competence to perform the job tasks that includes:
 - written competency-based assessment of the ability to document service delivery and observations of the individuals to be served; and
 - at least three personal references from persons not related by blood that indicate the ability to provide a safe, healthy environment for the individuals being served.
- Current drivers license for each person that will potentially provide transportation to Local Authority consumers.
- Current Insurance Verification including:
 - Professional and general liability
 - Vehicle (if transporting consumers is likely), complete Exhibit F.
 - Workers Compensation
- Verification of criminal history checks, primary source verification, and Texas Standard applications for all staff potentially working with Local Authority consumers will be provided to MHMRA.
- Life Safety code review for site assessment if not certified by a state agency.
- If applicable, documentation from certifying agency:
 - Texas Department of State Health Services
 - Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS)

2. Qualifications of providers by service: (Services must be delivered by staff with these MINIMUM qualifications)

- a. Pharmacological management services = MD (psychiatrist), RN, PA, Pharm.D., APN
- b. Routine Case Management = QMHP or CSSP
- c. Psychotherapy-CBT = LPC, LCSW, LMFT, Licensed Psychologist
- d. Rehabilitative Services = QMHP, Licensed medical personnel, CSSP, or Peer Provider (consult Rule for specific credential requirements for sub-component services)
- e. Supported Employment = QMHP or CSSP
- f. Supported Housing = QMHP or CSSP
- g. For providers serving persons with co-occurring psychiatric and substance abuse disorder, competencies for serving this population must be demonstrated as defined by DSHS standards
- h. Qualifications of Providers – SP-4 (Assertive Community Treatment-ACT Services):
All teams must adhere to established DSHS Mental Health Community Standards regarding expertise in housing, employment, substance abuse, and psychiatric treatment. Each service provider must be a QMHP, or upon waiver from the local authority, have a high school diploma with three years of experience in providing services to persons with mental illnesses. Seventy-five percent of the ACT team members must hold a bachelor's level degree or above. Service providers must receive clinical supervision from a Licensed Practitioner of the Healing Arts. Any individual that meets the minimum

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qualifications as a provider of this service can provide ongoing administrative/programmatic supervision of this service.

3. Description for Credentialing requirements:

A. Minimum Requirements for all credentialing listed below:

1. Absence of a history of involvement in a professional liability suit, arbitration or settlement; or, in the case of an applicant with this history, evidence that history of professional liability claims does not demonstrate probable future substandard professional performance.
2. Absence of a history of denial or cancellation of professional liability insurance; or, in the case of an applicant with this history, evidence that this history does not demonstrate probable future substandard professional performance.
3. Absence of physical or mental health problems which may interfere with the ability to practice as the listed Job Description listed below.
4. Absence of a history of professional disciplinary action; or, in the case of an applicant with this history, evidence that this history does not demonstrate probable future substandard professional performance.
5. Absence of a history of criminal conviction or indictment; or, in the case of an applicant with this history, evidence that this history does not demonstrate probable future substandard professional performance. (A conviction within the meaning of this criterion includes a plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction following a plea of nolo contendere).
6. Absence of information to indicate a pattern of inappropriate utilization management of medical resources.
7. Absence of any other information which may indicate probable future substandard professional performance.
8. Absence of any other information which demonstrates that the provider has engaged in conduct unbecoming to a professional.
9. Absence of falsification or material omission of information requested in the credentialing process.

B. All additional requirements for each specific Job Descriptions listed below:

1. Psychiatrists

As a prerequisite to acceptance for participation, and to maintain participant status in the mental health provider network, a physician must demonstrate to the satisfaction of MHMRA's Credentialing Committee that he or she satisfies the following criteria.

- a) Graduation from an accredited school of medicine.
- b) Completion of an accredited clinical post-graduate training program in the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) specialty of psychiatry.
- c) Valid, current, unencumbered medical license for the state of Texas.
- d) Valid, current unrestricted Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), and Department of Public Safety (DPS) certificates
- e) Current clinical privileges at a licensed hospital; or, evidence that the applicant does not require hospital privileges in order to deliver satisfactory professional services at a specific level of care.

2. Clinical Psychologists

All providers must demonstrate to the satisfaction of MHMRA's Credentialing Committee that they satisfy the criteria listed below as a prerequisite to acceptance for participation or for continuation as a Psychologist in the mental health provider network.

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- a) Graduation from an accredited doctoral program in child development, child psychology, or clinical or counseling psychology.
 - b) Valid, current, unencumbered license for the state of Texas.
3. Clinical Social Worker
All providers must demonstrate to the satisfaction of MHMRA's Credentialing Committee that they satisfy the criteria listed below as a prerequisite to acceptance for participation or for continuation as a Social Worker in the mental health provider network.
- a) Graduation from an accredited Master's program, which grants an MSW or equivalent degree, recognized for independent practice.
 - b) Valid, current, unencumbered license for independent practice in the state(s) in which the applicant will provide care for participants.
4. Licensed Professional Counselor
All providers must demonstrate to the satisfaction of MHMRA's Credentialing Committee that they satisfy the criteria listed below as a prerequisite to acceptance for participation or for continuation as a LPC in the mental health provider network.
- a) Graduation from an accredited Master's program, which grants an MA, MS, or equivalent degrees recognized for independent clinical practice.
 - b) Valid, current, unencumbered license for independent practice issued by the Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors.
5. Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist
All providers must demonstrate to the satisfaction of MHMRA's Credentialing Committee that they satisfy the criteria listed below as a prerequisite to acceptance for participation or for continuation as a LMFT in the mental health provider network.
- a) Graduation from an accredited Master's program, which grants an MA, MS, or equivalent degrees recognized for independent clinical practice.
 - b) Valid, current, unencumbered license for independent practice issued by the Texas Board of Marriage and Family Therapy.
6. Psychiatric Nurse
All providers must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the MHMRA's Credentialing Committee that they satisfy the criteria listed below as a prerequisite to acceptance for participation or for continuation as a Psychiatric Nurse in the mental health provider network.
- a) Graduation from an accredited Masters degree program in Psychiatric Nursing which confers a MSN (Masters of Science in Nursing), MN (Masters in Nursing), or MS (Masters of Science).
 - b) Valid, current, unencumbered RN license for the state of Texas with a valid, current, unencumbered certificate or license for Psychiatric Mental Health Advanced Nurse Practitioner in the state of Texas with prescriptive authority: (1) a valid, unencumbered and unrestricted DEA registration; or, evidence that the DEA registration is not required in his or her practice and (2) written verification of prescriptive authority or privilege granted by the state of Texas.
7. QMHP-CS or qualified mental health professional-community services
All providers must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the MHMRA's Credentialing Committee that they satisfy the criteria listed below as a prerequisite to acceptance for participation or for continuation as a QMHP-CS in the mental health provider network.

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- a) An individual credentialed to provide QMHP-CS services (including those referenced in §412.314(a)-(b) and §412.315(a) of this title (relating to Crisis Services and Assessment and Treatment Planning, respectively) who has demonstrated competency in the work to be performed and:
 - b) Has a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with a minimum number of hours that is equivalent to a major (as determined by the LMHA or MMCO in accordance with §412.312(c) of this title (relating to Competency and Credentialing)) from an accredited college or university in psychology, social work, medicine, nursing, rehabilitation, counseling, sociology, human growth and development, physician assistant, gerontology, special education, educational psychology, early childhood education, or early childhood intervention; or
 - c) A registered nurse.
8. CSSP or community services specialist
All providers must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the MHMRA's Credentialing Committee that they satisfy the criteria listed below as a prerequisite to acceptance for participation or for continuation as a CSSP in the mental health provider network.
- a) A staff member who, as of August 31, 2004:
 - (i) has received:
 - (1) a high school diploma; or
 - (2) a high school equivalency certificate issued in accordance with the law of the issuing state; and
 - (ii) has had three continuous years of documented full time experience in the provision of MH case management svcs; &
 - (iii) has demonstrated competency in the provision and documentation of MH case management services in accordance with this subchapter and the MH Case Management Billing Guidelines.