



State of Connecticut
Department of Developmental Services


DDS

Ned Lamont
Governor

Jordan A. Scheff
Commissioner

Elisa F. Velardo
Deputy Commissioner

To: DDS Qualified Providers

From: Jordan A. Scheff, DDS Commissioner 

CC: Elisa Velardo, Deputy Commissioner; Katie Rock-Burns, Chief of Staff; Regional Directors; Assistant Regional Directors; Dr. Valencia Bagby-Young Director of Health & Clinical Services; MJ McCarthy, Legal Director

Date: April 4, 2022

RE: Revised Health Standard and Skilled Nursing Facility Admissions

This memo is to provide DDS staff and qualified providers with a copy of the revised health standard regarding Pre-Admission Screening for Persons Applying for Nursing Facility Admission (OBRA). DDS Health Standard 22-1 updates and replaces DDS I.E.PO.005 and DDS I.E.PR.005.

The purpose of the health standard is to ensure statewide consistency in complying with the requirements of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA) of 1987 and subsequent revisions and Section 17b-360 of the Connecticut General Statutes. OBRA is the federal legislation that outlines the preadmission screening process for individuals known to have, or suspected of having, severe mental illness, intellectual disability or a related condition and where nursing facility admission is being explored.

Along with this policy, DDS is also requiring any residential provider, inclusive of those providers that provide ICF-IDD level of care, to obtain prior approval from DDS Central Office before respite in a skilled nursing facility for a DDS funded individual is sought. The qualified provider must alert their DDS Regional Director of the request and that request will then be brought to DDS Central Office for review. No DDS qualified provider shall place an individual in a skilled nursing facility for respite without such prior approval from DDS.