State of Connecticut
Department of Developmental Services

Dannel P. Malloy
Governor

Jordan A. Scheff
Commissioner

Peter Mason
Deputy Commissioner

Operations Memo FY2019-10

TO: DDS Qualified Providers of Clinical Behavioral Supports

FROM: David David, Director of Service Development and Support, Operations Center

CC: Jordan Scheff, Commissioner, Peter Mason, Deputy Commissioner, Katie Rock-Burns, Chief of Staff, Scott McWilliams, Chief of Fiscal/Administrative Services, Regional Directors, Assistant Regional Directors, Resource Administrators, Case Manager Supervisors

DATE: November 27, 2018

SUBJECT: Realigning DDS Clinical Behavioral Supports

On February 1, 2018, Commissioner Jordan Scheff issued a revised policy and procedure designed to achieve the best outcomes for individuals who have behavioral health needs coupled with intellectual disability. The Positive Behavior Support (PBS) Program and Behavior Support Plans policy and procedure (I.E.PR.003) outlines expectations for the use of positive behavior supports in an individual's comprehensive behavior support plan. While the vast majority of individuals with intellectual disability will benefit from PBS, Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) may also be a suitable approach for individuals with co-occurring intellectual disability and autism spectrum disorder.

As PBS and ABA are distinct service delivery models, DDS has realigned its qualification and authorization systems to better match the differences in behavior intervention models, including differences in qualifications for clinicians using each approach. Qualification and authorization for Clinical Behavioral Supports will now be divided into two sub-types: 1) Positive Behavior Supports and 2) Applied Behavioral Analysis.

Please review the attached document providing information on the realignment of Clinical Behavioral Supports. The Operations Center will be sending out new authorizations effective December 1, 2018. There will be no changes to the rates for this service and the rates will remain the same for both sub-types.