

CHAPTER 245G

SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER LICENSED TREATMENT FACILITIES

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245G.01 DEFINITIONS.

Subdivision 1. **Scope.** The terms used in this chapter have the meanings given them.

Subd. 2. **Administration of medication.** "Administration of medication" means providing a medication to a client, and includes the following tasks, performed in the following order:

- (1) checking the client's medication record;
- (2) preparing the medication for administration;
- (3) administering the medication to the client;
- (4) documenting the administration of the medication, or the reason for not administering a medication as prescribed; and
- (5) reporting information to a licensed practitioner or a nurse regarding a problem with the administration of medication or the client's refusal to take the medication, if applicable.

Subd. 3. **Adolescent.** "Adolescent" means an individual under 18 years of age.

Subd. 4. **Alcohol and drug counselor.** "Alcohol and drug counselor" means a person who is qualified according to section 245G.11, subdivision 5.

Subd. 4a. **American Society of Addiction Medicine criteria or ASAM criteria.** "American Society of Addiction Medicine criteria" or "ASAM criteria" has the meaning provided in section 254B.01, subdivision 2a.

Subd. 5. **Applicant.** "Applicant" has the meaning given in section 245A.02, subdivision 3.

Subd. 6. **Capacity management system.** "Capacity management system" means a database maintained by the department to compile and make information available to the public about the waiting list status and current admission capability of each opioid treatment program.

Subd. 7. **Central registry.** "Central registry" means a database maintained by the department to collect identifying information from two or more programs about an individual applying for maintenance treatment or detoxification treatment for opioid addiction to prevent an individual's concurrent enrollment in more than one program.

Subd. 8. **Client.** "Client" means an individual accepted by a license holder for assessment or treatment of a substance use disorder. An individual remains a client until the license holder no longer provides or intends to provide the individual with treatment service. Client also includes the meaning of patient under section 144.651, subdivision 2.

Subd. 9. **Commissioner.** "Commissioner" means the commissioner of human services.

Subd. 10. **Co-occurring disorders.** "Co-occurring disorders" means a diagnosis of both a substance use disorder and a mental health disorder.

Subd. 10a. **Day of service initiation.** "Day of service initiation" means the day the license holder begins the provision of a treatment service identified in section 245G.07.

Subd. 11. **Department.** "Department" means the Department of Human Services.

Subd. 12. **Direct contact.** "Direct contact" has the meaning given for "direct contact" in section 245C.02, subdivision 11.

Subd. 13. **Face-to-face.** "Face-to-face" means two-way, real-time, interactive and visual communication between a client and a treatment service provider and includes services delivered in person or via telehealth.

[See Note.]

Subd. 13a. **Group counseling.** "Group counseling" means a professionally led psychotherapeutic substance use disorder treatment that is delivered in an interactive group setting.

Subd. 13b. **Guest speaker.** (a) "Guest speaker" means an individual who is not an alcohol and drug counselor qualified according to section 245G.11, subdivision 5; is not qualified according to the commissioner's list of professionals under section 245G.07, subdivision 3; and who works under the direct observation of an alcohol and drug counselor to present to clients on topics in which the guest speaker has expertise and that the license holder has determined to be beneficial to a client's recovery.

(b) Tribally licensed programs have autonomy to identify the qualifications of their guest speakers.

Subd. 13c. **Former student.** "Former student" means a staff person that meets the requirements in section 148F.11, subdivision 2a, to practice as a former student.

Subd. 13d. **Individual counseling.** "Individual counseling" means professionally led psychotherapeutic treatment for substance use disorders that is delivered in a one-to-one setting or in a setting with the client and the client's family and other natural supports.

[See Note.]

Subd. 14. **License.** "License" has the meaning given in section 245A.02, subdivision 8.

Subd. 15. **License holder.** "License holder" has the meaning given in section 245A.02, subdivision 9.

Subd. 16. **Licensed practitioner.** "Licensed practitioner" means an individual who is authorized to prescribe medication as defined in section 151.01, subdivision 23.

Subd. 17. **Licensed professional in private practice.** (a) "Licensed professional in private practice" means an individual who:

(1) is licensed under chapter 148F, or is exempt from licensure under that chapter but is otherwise licensed to provide alcohol and drug counseling services;

(2) practices solely within the permissible scope of the individual's license as defined in the law authorizing licensure; and

(3) does not affiliate with other licensed or unlicensed professionals to provide alcohol and drug counseling services.

(b) For purposes of this subdivision, affiliate includes but is not limited to:

(1) using the same electronic record system as another professional, except when the system prohibits each professional from accessing the records of another professional;

(2) advertising the services of more than one professional together;

(3) accepting client referrals made to a group of professionals;

(4) providing services to another professional's clients when that professional is absent; or

(5) appearing in any way to be a group practice or program.

(c) For purposes of this subdivision, affiliate does not include:

(1) conferring with another professional;

(2) making a client referral to another professional;

(3) contracting with the same agency as another professional for billing services;

(4) using the same waiting area for clients in an office as another professional; or

(5) using the same receptionist as another professional if the receptionist supports each professional independently.

Subd. 18. **Nurse.** "Nurse" means an individual licensed and currently registered to practice professional or practical nursing as defined in section 148.171, subdivisions 14 and 15.

Subd. 19. **Opioid treatment program or OTP.** "Opioid treatment program" or "OTP" means a program or practitioner engaged in opioid treatment of an individual that provides dispensing of an opioid agonist treatment medication, along with a comprehensive range of medical and rehabilitative services, when clinically necessary, to an individual to alleviate the adverse medical, psychological, or physical effects of an opioid addiction. OTP includes detoxification treatment, short-term detoxification treatment, long-term detoxification treatment, maintenance treatment, comprehensive maintenance treatment, and interim maintenance treatment.

Subd. 20. **Paraprofessional.** "Paraprofessional" means an employee, agent, or independent contractor of the license holder who performs tasks to support treatment service. A paraprofessional may be referred to by a variety of titles including but not limited to technician, case aide, or counselor assistant. If currently a client of the license holder, the client cannot be a paraprofessional for the license holder.

Subd. 20a. **Person-centered.** "Person-centered" means a client actively participates in the client's treatment planning of services. This includes a client making meaningful and informed choices about the client's own goals, objectives, and the services the client receives in collaboration with the client's identified natural supports.

Subd. 20b. [Renumbered subd 20e]

Subd. 20c. **Protective factors.** "Protective factors" means the actions or efforts a person can take to reduce the negative impact of certain issues, such as substance use disorders, mental health disorders, and risk of suicide. Protective factors include connecting to positive supports in the community, a nutritious diet, exercise, attending counseling or 12-step groups, and taking appropriate medications.

Subd. 20d. **Skilled treatment services.** "Skilled treatment services" has the meaning provided in section 254B.01, subdivision 10.

[See Note.]

Subd. 20e. **Staff or staff member.** "Staff" or "staff member" means an individual who works under the direction of the license holder regardless of the individual's employment status including but not limited to an intern, consultant, individual who works part time, or individual who does not provide direct care services.

Subd. 20f. **Psychoeducation.** "Psychoeducation" means the services described in section 245G.07, subdivision 1a, clause (2).

[See Note.]

Subd. 20g. **Psychosocial treatment services.** "Psychosocial treatment services" means the services described in section 245G.07, subdivision 1a.

[See Note.]

Subd. 20h. **Recovery support services.** "Recovery support services" means the services described in section 245G.07, subdivision 2a, paragraph (b), clause (1).

[See Note.]

Subd. 21. **Student intern.** "Student intern" means an individual who is enrolled in a program specializing in alcohol and drug counseling or mental health counseling at an accredited educational institution and is authorized by a licensing board to provide services under supervision of a licensed professional.

Subd. 22. **Substance.** "Substance" means alcohol, solvents, controlled substances as defined in section 152.01, subdivision 4, and other mood-altering substances.

Subd. 23. **Substance use disorder.** "Substance use disorder" has the meaning given in the current Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders.

Subd. 24. **Substance use disorder treatment.** "Substance use disorder treatment" means treatment of a substance use disorder, including the process of assessment of a client's needs, development of planned methods, including interventions or services to address a client's needs, provision of services, facilitation of services provided by other service providers, and ongoing reassessment by a qualified professional when indicated. The goal of substance use disorder treatment is to assist or support the client's efforts to recover from a substance use disorder.

Subd. 25. **Target population.** "Target population" means individuals with a substance use disorder and the specified characteristics that a license holder proposes to serve.

Subd. 26. **Telehealth.** "Telehealth" means the delivery of a substance use disorder treatment service while the client is at an originating site and the health care provider is at a distant site via telehealth as defined in section 256B.0625, subdivision 3b, and as specified in section 254B.0505, subdivision 2.

[See Note.]

Subd. 26a. **Treatment coordination.** "Treatment coordination" means the services described in section 245G.07, subdivision 1b.

[See Note.]

Subd. 27. **Treatment director.** "Treatment director" means an individual who meets the qualifications specified in section 245G.11, subdivisions 1 and 3, and is designated by the license holder to be responsible for all aspects of the delivery of treatment service.

Subd. 28. **Treatment week.** "Treatment week" means the seven-day period that the program identified in the program's policy and procedure manual as the day of the week that the treatment program week starts and ends for the purpose of identifying the nature and number of treatment services an individual receives weekly.

Subd. 29. **Volunteer.** "Volunteer" means an individual who, under the direction of the license holder, provides services or an activity to a client without compensation.

History: *1Sp2017 c 6 art 8 s 14; 1Sp2019 c 9 art 6 s 6-13; 1Sp2021 c 7 art 6 s 4,5; 2022 c 98 art 4 s 15; art 12 s 6,7; 2023 c 50 art 2 s 8-10; 2023 c 61 art 4 s 27; 2023 c 70 art 6 s 34; 1Sp2025 c 9 art 4 s 4-9,55*

NOTE: The amendments to subdivisions 13 and 26 by Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 7, article 6, sections 4 and 5, are effective upon federal approval. The commissioner of human services shall notify the revisor of statutes when federal approval is obtained. Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 7, article 6, sections 4 and 5, the effective dates.

NOTE: Subdivisions 13d, 20f, 20g, 20h, and 26a, as added by Laws 2025, First Special Session chapter 9, article 4, sections 5 to 9, are effective July 1, 2026, or upon federal approval, whichever is later. The commissioner of human services shall notify the revisor of statutes when federal approval is obtained. Laws 2025, First Special Session chapter 9, article 4, sections 5 to 9, the effective dates.

NOTE: Subdivision 20d is repealed by Laws 2025, First Special Session chapter 9, article 4, section 57, effective July 1, 2026, or upon federal approval, whichever is later. The commissioner of human services shall notify the revisor of statutes when federal approval is obtained. Laws 2025, First Special Session chapter 9, article 4, section 57, the effective date.

245G.011 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS FACILITIES GRANTS.

Subdivision 1. **Commissioner.** "Commissioner" means the commissioner of human services.

Subd. 2. **Eligible applicant.** "Eligible applicant" or "applicant" means a statutory or home rule charter city, county, housing and redevelopment authority, publicly owned hospital, or other public entity otherwise eligible to receive state general obligation bond proceeds that is designated to apply for a behavioral health crisis program facilities grant by the local mental health authority, established under section 245.466 or on

behalf of a regional consortium of organizations that serve individuals with mental illness or a substance use disorder.

Subd. 3. **Eligible project.** "Eligible project" or "project" means the acquisition or betterment of public land, buildings, and other public improvements of a capital nature within the meaning of the Minnesota Constitution, article XI, section 5, clause (a). It includes acquisition of land or interest in land, predesign, design, renovation, construction, furnishing, and equipping facilities in which to provide behavioral health crisis programs and services.

Subd. 4. **Project criteria.** For purposes of this section, "behavioral health crisis facilities" or "facility" means a facility whose purpose is to provide mental health or substance use disorder services. Proceeds may be up to 100 percent of project costs, up to \$5,000,000 per project. Priority must be given to proposals that:

- (1) demonstrate a need for the program in the region;
- (2) provide a detailed service plan, including the services that will be provided and to whom, and staffing requirements;
- (3) provide an estimated cost of operating the program;
- (4) verify financial sustainability by detailing sufficient funding sources and the capacity to obtain third-party payments for services provided, including private insurance and federal Medicaid and Medicare financial participation;
- (5) demonstrate an ability and willingness to build on existing resources in the community; and
- (6) agree to a comprehensive evaluation of services and financial viability by the commissioner.

Subd. 5. [Repealed, 2024 c 108 art 6 s 6]

History: 2018 c 214 art 2 s 11

245G.02 APPLICABILITY.

Subdivision 1. **Applicability.** Except as provided in subdivisions 2 and 3, no person, corporation, partnership, voluntary association, controlling individual, or other organization may provide a substance use disorder treatment service to an individual with a substance use disorder unless licensed by the commissioner.

Subd. 2. **Exemption from license requirement.** This chapter does not apply to a county or recovery community organization that is providing a service for which the county or recovery community organization is an eligible vendor under section 254B.0501. This chapter does not apply to an organization whose primary functions are information, referral, diagnosis, case management, and assessment for the purposes of client placement, education, support group services, or self-help programs. This chapter does not apply to the activities of a licensed professional in private practice. A license holder providing the initial set of substance use disorder services allowable under section 254A.03, subdivision 3, paragraph (c), to an individual referred to a licensed nonresidential substance use disorder treatment program after a positive screen for alcohol or substance misuse is exempt from sections 245G.05; 245G.06, subdivisions 1, 1a, and 4; 245G.07, subdivision 1a, clause (2); and 245G.17.

[See Note.]

Subd. 3. **Excluded hospitals.** This chapter does not apply to substance use disorder treatment provided by a hospital licensed under chapter 62J, or under sections 144.50 to 144.56, unless the hospital accepts funds for substance use disorder treatment from the behavioral health fund under chapter 254B, medical assistance under chapter 256B, or MinnesotaCare or health care cost containment under chapter 256L, or general assistance medical care formerly codified in chapter 256D.

Subd. 4. **Applicability of Minnesota Rules, chapter 2960.** A residential adolescent substance use disorder treatment program serving an individual younger than 16 years of age must be licensed according to Minnesota Rules, chapter 2960.

History: *1Sp2017 c 6 art 8 s 15; 1Sp2020 c 2 art 5 s 31; 2021 c 30 art 13 s 83; 2023 c 50 art 2 s 11; 2023 c 61 art 4 s 4; 1Sp2025 c 9 art 4 s 10,55*

NOTE: The amendment to subdivision 2 by Laws 2025, First Special Session chapter 9, article 4, section 10, is effective July 1, 2026, or upon federal approval, whichever is later. The commissioner of human services shall notify the revisor of statutes when federal approval is obtained. Laws 2025, First Special Session chapter 9, article 4, section 10, the effective date.

245G.03 LICENSING REQUIREMENTS.

Subdivision 1. **License requirements.** (a) An applicant for a license to provide substance use disorder treatment must comply with the general requirements in section 626.557; chapters 245A, 245C, and 260E; and Minnesota Rules, chapter 9544.

(b) The commissioner may grant variances to the requirements in this chapter that do not affect the client's health or safety if the conditions in section 245A.04, subdivision 9, are met.

(c) If a program is licensed according to this chapter and is part of a certified community behavioral health clinic under section 245.735, the license holder must comply with the requirements in section 245.735, subdivisions 4b to 4e, as part of the licensing requirements under this chapter.

Subd. 2. **Application.** (a) Before the commissioner issues a license, an applicant must submit, on forms provided by the commissioner, any documents the commissioner requires.

(b) The applicant must submit documentation that the applicant has notified the county as required under section 254B.03, subdivision 2.

Subd. 3. **Change in license terms.** (a) The commissioner must determine whether a new license is needed when a change in clauses (1) to (4) occurs. A license holder must notify the commissioner before a change in one of the following occurs:

- (1) the Department of Health's licensure of the program;
- (2) whether the license holder provides services specified in sections 245G.18 to 245G.22;
- (3) location; or
- (4) capacity if the license holder meets the requirements of section 245G.21.

(b) A license holder must notify the commissioner and must apply for a new license if there is a change in program ownership.

History: *1Sp2017 c 6 art 8 s 16; 1Sp2020 c 2 art 8 s 74; 2021 c 30 art 2 s 3; 2023 c 70 art 8 s 38*

245G.031 ALTERNATIVE LICENSING INSPECTIONS.

Subdivision 1. **Eligibility for an alternative licensing inspection.** (a) A license holder who holds a qualifying accreditation may request approval for an alternative licensing inspection by the commissioner when the standards of the accrediting body are determined by the commissioner to be the same as or similar to the standards set forth in this chapter. Programs licensed according to section 245G.19 to serve clients with children and opioid treatment programs licensed according to section 245G.22 are not eligible for an alternative licensing inspection.

(b) A license holder may request an alternative licensing inspection after the license holder has had at least one inspection by the commissioner that included a review of all applicable requirements in this chapter after issuance of the initial license.

(c) To be eligible for an alternative licensing inspection, the license holder must be in substantial and consistent compliance at the time of the request. For purposes of this section, "substantial and consistent compliance" means:

(1) the license holder has not had a license made conditional, suspended, or revoked within the last five years;

(2) there have been no substantiated allegations of maltreatment for which the facility was determined responsible within the past five years; and

(3) the license holder has corrected all violations and submitted required documentation as specified in the correction orders issued within the past two years.

Subd. 2. **Qualifying accreditation; determination of same and similar standards.** (a) The commissioner must accept a qualifying accreditation from an accrediting body listed in paragraph (c) after determining, in consultation with the accrediting body and license holders, which of the accrediting body's standards are the same as or similar to the licensing requirements in this chapter. In determining whether standards of an accrediting body are the same as or similar to licensing requirements under this chapter, the commissioner shall give due consideration to the existence of a standard that aligns in whole or in part to a licensing standard.

(b) Upon request by a license holder, the commissioner may allow the accrediting body to monitor for compliance with licensing requirements under this chapter that are determined to be neither the same as nor similar to those of the accrediting body.

(c) For purposes of this section, "accrediting body" means The Joint Commission.

(d) Qualifying accreditation only applies to the license holder's licensed programs that are included in the accrediting body's survey during each survey period.

Subd. 3. **Request for approval of an alternative licensing inspection status.** (a) A license holder may request an alternative licensing inspection on the forms and in the manner prescribed by the commissioner. When submitting the request, the license holder must submit all documentation issued by the accrediting body verifying that the license holder has obtained and maintained the qualifying accreditation and has complied with recommendations or requirements from the accrediting body during the period of accreditation. Prior to approving an alternative licensing inspection under this section, the commissioner must have reviewed and approved the license holder's policies and procedures required to demonstrate compliance with all applicable requirements in this chapter.

(b) The commissioner must notify the license holder in writing within 90 days whether the request for an alternative licensing inspection status has been approved.

Subd. 4. **Programs approved for alternative licensing inspection; licensing requirements.** (a) A license holder approved for alternative licensing inspection under this section is required to maintain compliance with all licensing standards according to this chapter.

(b) After approval, the license holder must submit to the commissioner changes to policies required as a result of legislative changes to this chapter.

(c) The commissioner may conduct licensing inspections of requirements that are not already covered by the accrediting body, as determined under subdivision 2, paragraphs (a) and (b), including applicable requirements in chapters 245A and 245C, and Minnesota Rules, chapter 9544.

(d) The commissioner may conduct routine licensing inspections every five years of all applicable requirements in this chapter, chapters 245A and 245C, and Minnesota Rules, chapter 9544.

(e) Within ten days of final approval of a corrective action plan by the accrediting body, if any, or if no corrections, upon receipt of the final report by the accrediting body, the license holder must mail or email to the commissioner the complete contents of all survey results and corrective responses.

(f) If the accrediting body determines the scope of noncompliance of a standard with a pattern or widespread moderate likelihood to harm a client or any high likelihood to harm a client, the commissioner may conduct an inspection.

(g) If the accrediting body does not subject a licensed location to a survey by the accrediting body, the license holder must inform the commissioner and the commissioner may conduct an inspection of that location.

(h) Upon receipt of a complaint or report regarding the services of a license holder approved for alternative licensing inspection under this section, the commissioner may investigate the complaint or report and may take any action as provided under section 245A.06 or 245A.07.

(i) The license holder must notify the commissioner in a timely manner if the license holder no longer holds a qualifying accreditation from an accrediting body.

Subd. 5. **Investigations of alleged or suspected maltreatment.** Nothing in this section changes the commissioner's responsibilities to investigate alleged or suspected maltreatment of a minor under chapter 260E or a vulnerable adult under section 626.557.

Subd. 6. **Termination or denial of subsequent approval.** The commissioner may terminate the approval of an alternative licensing inspection if after approval:

- (1) the commissioner determines that the license holder has not maintained the qualifying accreditation;
- (2) the license holder fails to provide the commissioner with documentation that demonstrates the license holder has complied with accreditation standards;
- (3) the commissioner substantiates maltreatment for which the license holder or facility is determined to be responsible; or
- (4) the license holder is issued an order for conditional license, fine, suspension, or license revocation that has not been reversed upon appeal.

Subd. 7. **Appeals.** The commissioner's decision that the conditions for approval for an alternative licensing inspection have not been met is final and not subject to appeal under the provisions of chapter 14.

History: *1Sp2021 c 7 art 2 s 68; 2024 c 108 art 4 s 6*

245G.04 SERVICE INITIATION.

Subdivision 1. **Initial services plan.** The license holder must complete an initial services plan within 24 hours of the day of service initiation. The plan must be person-centered and client-specific, address the client's immediate health and safety concerns, and identify the treatment needs of the client to be addressed during the time between the day of service initiation and development of the individual treatment plan.

Subd. 2. **Vulnerable adult status.** (a) Within 24 hours of the day of service initiation, a nonresidential program must determine whether a client is a vulnerable adult as defined in section 626.5572, subdivision 21. An adult client of a residential program is a vulnerable adult.

(b) An individual abuse prevention plan, according to sections 245A.65, subdivision 2, paragraph (b), and 626.557, subdivision 14, paragraph (b), is required for a client who meets the definition of vulnerable adult.

Subd. 3. **Opioid educational material.** The license holder must provide opioid educational material to the client on the day of service initiation. The license holder must use the opioid educational material approved by the commissioner that contains information on:

- (1) risks for opioid use disorder and dependence;
- (2) treatment options, including the use of a medication for opioid use disorder;
- (3) the risk and recognition of opioid overdose; and
- (4) the use, availability, and administration of an opiate antagonist to respond to opioid overdose.

History: *1Sp2017 c 6 art 8 s 17; 1Sp2019 c 9 art 6 s 14; 2024 c 108 art 4 s 7*

245G.05 COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT AND ASSESSMENT SUMMARY.

Subdivision 1. **Comprehensive assessment.** (a) A comprehensive assessment of the client's substance use disorder must be administered face-to-face within five calendar days from the day of service initiation for a residential program or by the end of the fifth day on which a treatment service is provided in a nonresidential program. The number of days to complete the comprehensive assessment excludes the day of service initiation.

(b) A comprehensive assessment must be administered by:

- (1) an alcohol and drug counselor;
- (2) a mental health professional who meets the qualifications under section 245I.04, subdivision 2, practices within the scope of their professional licensure, and has at least 12 hours of training in substance use disorder and treatment;
- (3) a clinical trainee who meets the qualifications under section 245I.04, subdivision 6, practicing under the supervision of a mental health professional who meets the requirements of clause (2); or

(4) an advanced practice registered nurse as defined in section 148.171, subdivision 3, who practices within the scope of their professional licensure and has at least 12 hours of training in substance use disorder and treatment.

(c) If the comprehensive assessment is not completed within the required time frame, the person-centered reason for the delay and the planned completion date must be documented in the client's file. The comprehensive assessment is complete upon a qualified staff member's dated signature. If the client previously received a comprehensive assessment, a staff member qualified under paragraph (b) may use the comprehensive assessment for requirements of this subdivision but must document a review of the comprehensive assessment and update the comprehensive assessment as clinically necessary to ensure compliance with this subdivision within applicable timelines. A staff member qualified under paragraph (b) must sign and date the comprehensive assessment review and update.

Subd. 2. MS 2022 [Repealed, 2023 c 50 art 2 s 63; 2023 c 61 art 4 s 28]

Subd. 3. **Comprehensive assessment requirements.** A comprehensive assessment must meet the requirements under section 245I.10, subdivision 6, paragraphs (b) and (c). It must also include:

(1) a diagnosis of a substance use disorder or a finding that the client does not meet the criteria for a substance use disorder;

(2) a determination of whether the individual screens positive for co-occurring mental health disorders using a screening tool approved by the commissioner pursuant to section 245.4863;

(3) a risk rating and summary to support the risk ratings within each of the dimensions listed in section 254B.04, subdivision 4; and

(4) a recommendation for the ASAM level of care identified in section 254B.19, subdivision 1.

History: *1Sp2017 c 6 art 8 s 18; 1Sp2019 c 9 art 6 s 15; 2023 c 50 art 2 s 12,13; 2024 c 108 art 4 s 8; 2025 c 38 art 4 s 21; art 5 s 13*

245G.06 INDIVIDUAL TREATMENT PLAN.

Subdivision 1. **General.** Each client must have a person-centered individual treatment plan developed by an alcohol and drug counselor within ten days from the day of service initiation for a residential program, by the end of the tenth day on which a treatment session has been provided from the day of service initiation for a client in a nonresidential program, not to exceed 30 days. Opioid treatment programs must complete the individual treatment plan within 14 days from the day of service initiation. The number of days to complete the individual treatment plan excludes the day of service initiation. The individual treatment plan must be signed by the client and the alcohol and drug counselor and document the client's involvement in the development of the plan. The individual treatment plan is developed upon the qualified staff member's dated signature. Treatment planning must include ongoing assessment of client needs. An individual treatment plan must be updated based on new information gathered about the client's condition, the client's level of participation, and on whether methods identified have the intended effect. A change to the plan must be signed by the client and the alcohol and drug counselor. If the client chooses to have family or others involved in treatment services, the client's individual treatment plan must include how the family or others will be involved in the client's treatment. If a client is receiving treatment services or an assessment via telehealth and the alcohol and drug counselor documents the reason the client's signature cannot be obtained, the alcohol and drug counselor may document the client's verbal approval or electronic written approval of the treatment plan or change to the treatment plan in lieu of the client's signature.

Subd. 1a. **Individual treatment plan contents and process.** (a) After completing a client's comprehensive assessment, the license holder must complete an individual treatment plan. The license holder must:

- (1) base the client's individual treatment plan on the client's comprehensive assessment;
- (2) use a person-centered, culturally appropriate planning process that allows the client's family and other natural supports to observe and participate in the client's individual treatment services, assessments, and treatment planning;
- (3) identify the client's treatment goals in relation to any or all of the applicable ASAM six dimensions identified in section 254B.04, subdivision 4, to ensure measurable treatment objectives, a treatment strategy, and a schedule for accomplishing the client's treatment goals and objectives;
- (4) document the ASAM level of care identified in section 254B.19, subdivision 1, under which the client is receiving services;
- (5) identify the participants involved in the client's treatment planning. The client must participate in the client's treatment planning. If applicable, the license holder must document the reasons that the license holder did not involve the client's family or other natural supports in the client's treatment planning;
- (6) identify resources to refer the client to when the client's needs will be addressed concurrently by another provider; and
- (7) identify maintenance strategy goals and methods designed to address relapse prevention and to strengthen the client's protective factors.

Subd. 2. MS 2022 [Repealed, 2023 c 50 art 2 s 63; 2023 c 61 art 4 s 28]

Subd. 2a. **Documentation of treatment services.** The license holder must ensure that the staff member who provides the treatment service documents in the client record the date, type, and amount of each treatment service provided to a client and the client's response to each treatment service within seven days of providing the treatment service. In addition to the other requirements of this subdivision, if a guest speaker presents information during a treatment service, the alcohol and drug counselor who provided the service and is responsible for the information presented by the guest speaker must document the name of the guest speaker, date of service, time the presentation began, time the presentation ended, and a summary of the topic presentation.

Subd. 2b. **Client record documentation requirements.** (a) The license holder must document in the client record any significant event that occurs at the program within 24 hours of the event. A significant event is an event that impacts the client's relationship with other clients, staff, or the client's family, or the client's treatment plan.

(b) A residential treatment program must document in the client record the following items on the day that each occurs:

- (1) medical and other appointments the client attended;
- (2) concerns related to medications that are not documented in the medication administration record; and
- (3) concerns related to attendance for treatment services, including the reason for any client absence from a treatment service.

(c) Each entry in a client's record must be accurate, legible, signed, dated, and include the job title or position of the staff person that made the entry. A late entry must be clearly labeled "late entry." A correction to an entry must be made in a way in which the original entry can still be read.

Subd. 3. **Treatment plan review.** A treatment plan review must be completed by the alcohol and drug counselor responsible for the client's treatment plan. The review must indicate the span of time covered by the review and must:

(1) document client goals addressed since the last treatment plan review and whether the identified methods continue to be effective;

(2) document monitoring of any physical and mental health problems and include toxicology results for alcohol and substance use, when available;

(3) document the participation of others involved in the individual's treatment planning, including when services are offered to the client's family or significant others;

(4) if changes to the treatment plan are determined to be necessary, document staff recommendations for changes in the methods identified in the treatment plan and whether the client agrees with the change;

(5) include a review and evaluation of the individual abuse prevention plan according to section 245A.65; and

(6) document any referrals made since the previous treatment plan review.

Subd. 3a. **Frequency of treatment plan reviews.** (a) A license holder must ensure that the alcohol and drug counselor responsible for a client's treatment plan completes and documents a treatment plan review that meets the requirements of subdivision 3 in each client's file, according to the frequencies required in this subdivision. All ASAM levels referred to in this chapter are those described in section 254B.19, subdivision 1.

(b) For a client receiving residential ASAM level 3.3 or 3.5 high-intensity services or residential hospital-based services, a treatment plan review must be completed once every 14 days.

(c) For a client receiving residential ASAM level 3.1 low-intensity services or any other residential level not listed in paragraph (b), a treatment plan review must be completed once every 30 days.

(d) For a client receiving nonresidential ASAM level 2.5 partial hospitalization services, a treatment plan review must be completed once every 14 days.

(e) For a client receiving nonresidential ASAM level 1.0 outpatient or 2.1 intensive outpatient services or any other nonresidential level not included in paragraph (d), a treatment plan review must be completed once every 30 days.

(f) For a client receiving nonresidential opioid treatment program services according to section 245G.22, a treatment plan review must be completed:

(1) weekly for the ten weeks following completion of the treatment plan; and

(2) monthly thereafter.

Treatment plan reviews must be completed more frequently when clinical needs warrant.

(g) The ten-week time frame in paragraph (f), clause (1), may include a client's previous time at another opioid treatment program licensed in Minnesota under section 245G.22 if:

(1) the client was enrolled in the other opioid treatment program immediately prior to admission to the license holder's program;

(2) the client did not miss taking a daily dose of medication to treat an opioid use disorder; and

(3) the license holder obtains from the previous opioid treatment program the client's number of days in comprehensive treatment, discharge summary, amount of daily milligram dose of medication for opioid use disorder, and previous three drug abuse test results.

(h) Notwithstanding paragraphs (e) and (f), clause (2), for a client in a nonresidential program with a treatment plan that clearly indicates less than five hours of skilled treatment services will be provided to the client each month, a treatment plan review must be completed once every 90 days. Treatment plan reviews must be completed more frequently when clinical needs warrant.

Subd. 4. **Service discharge summary.** (a) An alcohol and drug counselor must write a service discharge summary for each client. The service discharge summary must be completed within five days of the client's service termination. A copy of the client's service discharge summary must be provided to the client upon the client's request.

(b) The service discharge summary must be recorded in the six dimensions listed in section 254B.04, subdivision 4, and include the following information:

(1) the client's issues, strengths, and needs while participating in treatment, including services provided;

(2) the client's progress toward achieving each goal identified in the individual treatment plan;

(3) a risk rating and description for each of the ASAM six dimensions;

(4) the reasons for and circumstances of service termination. If a program discharges a client at staff request, the reason for discharge and the procedure followed for the decision to discharge must be documented and comply with the requirements in section 245G.14, subdivision 3, clause (3);

(5) the client's living arrangements at service termination;

(6) continuing care recommendations, including transitions between more or less intense services, or more frequent to less frequent services, and referrals made with specific attention to continuity of care for mental health, as needed; and

(7) service termination diagnosis.

History: *1Sp2017 c 6 art 8 s 19; 1Sp2019 c 9 art 6 s 16-18; 1Sp2021 c 7 art 6 s 6; 2022 c 98 art 12 s 8-10; 2023 c 49 s 5; 2023 c 50 art 2 s 14-18; 2024 c 85 s 56; 2025 c 38 art 5 s 14-16*

245G.07 TREATMENT SERVICE.

Subdivision 1. **Treatment service.** (a) A licensed treatment program must offer the treatment services in subdivisions 1a and 1b and may offer the treatment services in subdivision 2 to each client, unless clinically inappropriate and the justifying clinical rationale is documented. The treatment program must document in the individual treatment plan the specific services for which a client has an assessed need and the plan to provide the services.

(b) A treatment service provided to a client must be provided according to the individual treatment plan and must consider cultural differences and special needs of a client.

(c) A supportive service alone does not constitute a treatment service. Supportive services include:

(1) milieu management or supervising or monitoring clients without also providing a treatment service identified in subdivision 1a, 1b, or 2a;

(2) transporting clients;

(3) waiting with clients for appointments at social service agencies, court hearings, and similar activities; and

(4) collecting urinalysis samples.

(d) A treatment service provided in a group setting must be provided in a cohesive manner and setting that allows every client receiving the service to interact and receive the same service at the same time.

[See Note.]

Subd. 1a. **Psychosocial treatment service.** Psychosocial treatment services must be provided according to the hours identified in section 254B.19 for the ASAM level of care provided to the client. A license holder must provide the following psychosocial treatment services as a part of the client's individual treatment:

(1) counseling services that provide a client with professional assistance in managing substance use disorder and co-occurring conditions, either individually or in a group setting. Counseling must:

(i) use evidence-based techniques to help a client modify behavior, overcome obstacles, and achieve and sustain recovery through techniques such as active listening, guidance, discussion, feedback, and clarification;

(ii) help the client to identify and address needs related to substance use, develop strategies to avoid harmful substance use, and establish a lifestyle free of the harmful effects of substance use disorder; and

(iii) work to improve well-being and mental health; resolve or mitigate symptomatic behaviors, beliefs, compulsions, thoughts, and emotions; and enhance relationships and social skills while addressing client-centered psychological and emotional needs; and

(2) psychoeducation services to provide a client with information about substance use and co-occurring conditions, either individually or in a group setting. Psychoeducation includes structured presentations, interactive discussions, and practical exercises to help clients understand and manage their conditions effectively. Topics include but are not limited to:

(i) the causes of substance use disorder and co-occurring disorders;

(ii) behavioral techniques that help a client change behaviors, thoughts, and feelings;

(iii) the importance of maintaining mental health, including understanding symptoms of mental illness;

(iv) medications for addiction and psychiatric disorders and the importance of medication adherence;

(v) the importance of maintaining physical health, health-related risk factors associated with substance use disorder, and specific health education on tuberculosis, HIV, other sexually transmitted diseases, drug and alcohol use during pregnancy, and hepatitis; and

(vi) harm-reduction strategies.

[See Note.]

Subd. 1b. **Treatment coordination.** (a) Treatment coordination must be provided to a single client by an individual who meets the staff qualifications in section 245G.11, subdivision 7. Treatment coordination services include:

(1) coordinating directly with others involved in the client's treatment and recovery, including the referral source, family or natural supports, social services agencies, and external care providers;

(2) providing clients with training and facilitating connections to community resources that support recovery;

(3) assisting clients in obtaining necessary resources and services such as financial assistance, housing, food, clothing, medical care, education, harm reduction services, vocational support, and recreational services that promote recovery;

(4) helping clients connect and engage with self-help support groups and expand social support networks with family, friends, and organizations; and

(5) assisting clients in transitioning between levels of care, including providing direct connections to ensure continuity of care.

(b) Treatment coordination does not include coordinating services or communicating with staff members within the licensed program.

(c) Treatment coordination may be provided in a setting with the individual client and others involved in the client's treatment and recovery.

[See Note.]

Subd. 2. **Additional treatment service.** A license holder may provide or arrange the following additional treatment service as a part of the client's individual treatment plan:

(1) relationship counseling provided by a qualified professional to help the client identify the impact of the client's substance use disorder on others and to help the client and persons in the client's support structure identify and change behaviors that contribute to the client's substance use disorder;

(2) therapeutic recreation to allow the client to participate in recreational activities without the use of mood-altering chemicals and to plan and select leisure activities that do not involve the inappropriate use of chemicals;

(3) stress management and physical well-being to help the client reach and maintain an appropriate level of health, physical fitness, and well-being;

(4) living skills development to help the client learn basic skills necessary for independent living;

(5) employment or educational services to help the client become financially independent;

(6) socialization skills development to help the client live and interact with others in a positive and productive manner;

(7) room, board, and supervision at the treatment site to provide the client with a safe and appropriate environment to gain and practice new skills; and

(8) peer recovery support services must be provided one-to-one and face-to-face, by a recovery peer according to section 245I.04, subdivision 18. Peer recovery support services must be provided according to sections 254B.0505 and 254B.052, and may be provided through telehealth according to section 256B.0625, subdivision 3b.

[See Note.]

Subd. 2a. **Ancillary treatment service.** (a) A license holder may provide ancillary services in addition to the hours of psychosocial treatment services identified in section 254B.19 for the ASAM level of care provided to the client.

(b) A license holder may provide the following ancillary treatment services as a part of the client's individual treatment:

(1) recovery support services provided individually or in a group setting that include:

(i) supporting clients in restoring daily living skills, such as health and health care navigation and self-care to enhance personal well-being;

(ii) providing resources and assistance to help clients restore life skills, including effective parenting, financial management, pro-social behavior, education, employment, and nutrition;

(iii) assisting clients in restoring daily functioning and routines affected by substance use and supporting them in developing skills for successful community integration; and

(iv) helping clients respond to or avoid triggers that threaten their community stability, assisting the client in identifying potential crises and developing a plan to address them, and providing support to restore the client's stability and functioning; and

(2) peer recovery support services provided according to sections 254B.0505 and 254B.052.

[See Note.]

Subd. 3. **Treatment service providers.** (a) All treatment services must be provided by an individual specifically qualified according to the accepted credential required to provide the service.

(b) Psychosocial treatment services must be provided by an alcohol and drug counselor qualified according to section 245G.11, subdivision 5, unless the individual providing the service is specifically qualified according to the accepted credential required to provide the service. The commissioner shall maintain a current list of professionals qualified to provide psychosocial treatment services.

(c) Treatment coordination must be provided by a treatment coordinator qualified according to section 245G.11, subdivision 7.

(d) Recovery support services must be provided by a behavioral health practitioner qualified according to section 245G.11, subdivision 12.

(e) Peer recovery support services must be provided by a recovery peer qualified according to section 245I.04, subdivision 18.

[See Note.]

Subd. 3a. **Use of guest speakers.** (a) The license holder may allow a guest speaker to present information to clients as part of a treatment service provided by an alcohol and drug counselor, according to the requirements of this subdivision.

(b) An alcohol and drug counselor must visually observe and listen to the presentation of information by a guest speaker the entire time the guest speaker presents information to the clients. The alcohol and drug counselor is responsible for all information the guest speaker presents to the clients.

(c) The presentation of information by a guest speaker constitutes a direct contact service, as defined in section 245C.02, subdivision 11.

(d) The license holder must provide the guest speaker with all training required for staff members. If the guest speaker provides direct contact services one day a month or less, the license holder must only provide the guest speaker with orientation training on the following subjects before the guest speaker provides direct contact services:

(1) mandatory reporting of maltreatment, as specified in sections 245A.65, 626.557, and 626.5572 and chapter 260E;

(2) applicable client confidentiality rules and regulations;

(3) ethical standards for client interactions; and

(4) emergency procedures.

Subd. 4. **Location of service provision.** (a) The license holder must provide all treatment services a client receives at one of the license holder's substance use disorder treatment licensed locations or at a location allowed under paragraphs (b) to (f). If the services are provided at the locations in paragraphs (b) to (d), the license holder must document in the client record the location services were provided.

(b) The license holder may provide nonresidential individual treatment services at a client's home or place of residence.

(c) If the license holder provides treatment services by telehealth, the services must be provided according to this paragraph:

(1) the license holder must maintain a licensed physical location in Minnesota where the license holder must offer all treatment services in subdivision 1a physically in-person to each client;

(2) the license holder must meet all requirements for the provision of telehealth in sections 254B.0505, subdivision 2, and 256B.0625, subdivision 3b. The license holder must document all items in section 256B.0625, subdivision 3b, paragraph (c), for each client receiving services by telehealth, regardless of payment type or whether the client is a medical assistance enrollee;

(3) the license holder may provide treatment services by telehealth to clients individually;

(4) the license holder may provide treatment services by telehealth to a group of clients that are each in a separate physical location;

(5) the license holder must not provide treatment services remotely by telehealth to a group of clients meeting together in person, unless permitted under clause (7);

(6) clients and staff may join an in-person group by telehealth if a staff member qualified to provide the treatment service is physically present with the group of clients meeting together in person; and

(7) the qualified professional providing a residential group treatment service by telehealth must be physically present on-site at the licensed residential location while the service is being provided. If weather conditions or short-term illness prohibit a qualified professional from traveling to the residential program and another qualified professional is not available to provide the service, a qualified professional may provide a residential group treatment service by telehealth from a location away from the licensed residential location. In such circumstances, the license holder must ensure that a qualified professional does not provide a residential group treatment service by telehealth from a location away from the licensed residential location for more than one day at a time, must ensure that a staff person who qualifies as a paraprofessional is physically present with the group of clients, and must document the reason for providing the remote telehealth service in the records of clients receiving the service. The license holder must document the dates that residential group treatment services were provided by telehealth from a location away from the licensed residential location in a central log and must provide the log to the commissioner upon request.

(d) The license holder may provide the ancillary treatment services under subdivision 2a away from the licensed location at a suitable location appropriate to the treatment service.

(e) Upon written approval from the commissioner for each satellite location, the license holder may provide nonresidential treatment services at satellite locations that are in a school, jail, or nursing home. A satellite location may only provide services to students of the school, inmates of the jail, or residents of the nursing home. Schools, jails, and nursing homes are exempt from the licensing requirements in section 245A.04, subdivision 2a, to document compliance with building codes, fire and safety codes, health rules, and zoning ordinances.

(f) The commissioner may approve other suitable locations as satellite locations for nonresidential treatment services. The commissioner may require satellite locations under this paragraph to meet all applicable licensing requirements. The license holder may not have more than two satellite locations per license under this paragraph.

(g) The license holder must provide the commissioner access to all files, documentation, staff persons, and any other information the commissioner requires at the main licensed location for all clients served at any location under paragraphs (b) to (f).

(h) Notwithstanding sections 245A.65, subdivision 2, and 626.557, subdivision 14, a program abuse prevention plan is not required for satellite or other locations under paragraphs (b) to (e). An individual abuse prevention plan is still required for any client that is a vulnerable adult as defined in section 626.5572, subdivision 21.

[See Note.]

History: *1Sp2017 c 6 art 8 s 20; 1Sp2019 c 9 art 6 s 19; 2022 c 98 art 4 s 16; 2023 c 50 art 3 s 1; 2024 c 125 art 3 s 3; 2024 c 127 art 48 s 3; art 62 s 32; 2025 c 38 art 5 s 17; 1Sp2025 c 9 art 4 s 11-16,55*

NOTE: The amendment to subdivision 2 by Laws 2023, chapter 50, article 3, section 1, is effective upon federal approval. The commissioner of human services shall notify the revisor of statutes when federal approval is obtained. Laws 2023, chapter 50, article 3, section 1, the effective date.

NOTE: The amendments to subdivisions 1, 3, and 4, by Laws 2025, First Special Session chapter 9, article 4, sections 11, 15, and 16, are effective July 1, 2026, or upon federal approval, whichever is later. The commissioner of human services shall notify the revisor of statutes when federal approval is obtained. Laws 2025, First Special Session chapter 9, article 4, sections 11, 15, and 16, the effective dates.

NOTE: Subdivisions 1a, 1b, and 2a, as added by Laws 2025, First Special Session chapter 9, article 4, sections 12 to 14, are effective July 1, 2026, or upon federal approval, whichever is later. The commissioner of human services shall notify the revisor of statutes when federal approval is obtained. Laws 2025, First Special Session chapter 9, article 4, sections 12 to 14, the effective dates.

NOTE: Subdivision 2 is repealed by Laws 2025, First Special Session chapter 9, article 4, section 57, effective July 1, 2026, or upon federal approval, whichever is later. The commissioner of human services shall notify the revisor of statutes when federal approval is obtained. Laws 2025, First Special Session chapter 9, article 4, section 57, the effective date.

245G.08 MEDICAL SERVICES.

Subdivision 1. **Health care services.** An applicant or license holder must maintain a complete description of the health care services, nursing services, dietary services, and emergency physician services offered by the applicant or license holder.

Subd. 2. **Procedures.** The applicant or license holder must have written procedures for obtaining a medical intervention for a client, that are approved in writing by a physician who is licensed under chapter 147, advanced practice registered nurse who is licensed under chapter 148, or physician assistant who is licensed under chapter 147A, unless:

- (1) the license holder does not provide a service under section 245G.21; and
- (2) a medical intervention is referred to 911, the emergency telephone number, or the client's physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant.

Subd. 3. **Emergency overdose treatment.** A license holder must follow the emergency overdose treatment requirements in section 245A.242.

Subd. 4. **Consultation services.** The license holder must have access to and document the availability of a licensed mental health professional to provide diagnostic assessment and treatment planning assistance.

Subd. 5. **Administration of medication and assistance with self-medication.** (a) A license holder must meet the requirements in this subdivision if a service provided includes the administration of medication.

(b) A staff member, other than a licensed practitioner or nurse, who is delegated by a licensed practitioner or a registered nurse the task of administration of medication or assisting with self-medication, must:

(1) successfully complete a medication administration training program for unlicensed personnel through an accredited Minnesota postsecondary educational institution. A staff member's completion of the course must be documented in writing and placed in the staff member's personnel file;

(2) be trained according to a formalized training program that is taught by a registered nurse and offered by the license holder. A staff member's completion of the training must be documented in writing and placed in the staff member's personnel records; or

(3) demonstrate to a registered nurse competency to perform the delegated activity. A registered nurse must be employed or contracted to develop the policies and procedures for administration of medication or assisting with self-administration of medication, or both.

(c) A registered nurse must provide supervision as defined in section 148.171, subdivision 23. The registered nurse's supervision must include, at a minimum, monthly on-site supervision or more often if warranted by a client's health needs. The policies and procedures must include:

(1) a provision that a delegation of administration of medication is limited to a method a staff member has been trained to administer and limited to:

(i) a medication that is administered orally, topically, or as a suppository, an eye drop, an ear drop, an inhalant, or an intranasal; and

(ii) an intramuscular injection of an opiate antagonist as defined in section 604A.04, subdivision 1, or epinephrine;

(2) a provision that each client's file must include documentation indicating whether staff must conduct the administration of medication or the client must self-administer medication, or both;

(3) a provision that a client may carry emergency medication such as nitroglycerin as instructed by the client's physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant;

(4) a provision for the client to self-administer medication when a client is scheduled to be away from the facility;

(5) a provision that if a client self-administers medication when the client is present in the facility, the client must self-administer medication under the observation of a trained staff member;

(6) a provision that when a license holder serves a client who is a parent with a child, the parent may only administer medication to the child under a staff member's supervision;

(7) requirements for recording the client's use of medication, including staff signatures with date and time;

(8) guidelines for when to inform a nurse of problems with self-administration of medication, including a client's failure to administer, refusal of a medication, adverse reaction, or error; and

(9) procedures for acceptance, documentation, and implementation of a prescription, whether written, verbal, telephonic, or electronic.

Subd. 6. Control of drugs. A license holder must have and implement written policies and procedures developed by a registered nurse that contain:

(1) a requirement that each drug must be stored in a locked compartment. A Schedule II drug, as defined by section 152.02, subdivision 3, must be stored in a separately locked compartment, permanently affixed to the physical plant or medication cart;

(2) a documentation system that accounts for all Schedule II to V drugs listed in section 152.02, subdivisions 3 to 6;

(3) a procedure for recording the client's use of medication, including the signature of the staff member who completed the administration of the medication with the time and date;

(4) a procedure to destroy a discontinued, outdated, or deteriorated medication;

(5) a statement that only authorized personnel are permitted access to the keys to a locked compartment;

(6) a statement that no legend drug supply for one client shall be given to another client; and

(7) a procedure for monitoring the available supply of an opiate antagonist as defined in section 604A.04, subdivision 1, on site and replenishing the supply when needed.

History: *1Sp2017 c 6 art 8 s 21; 1Sp2019 c 9 art 6 s 20; 2020 c 115 art 4 s 85-87; 2022 c 58 s 107-109; 2022 c 98 art 12 s 11; 2023 c 61 art 5 s 7; 2024 c 127 art 62 s 33,34; 2025 c 38 art 5 s 18*

245G.09 CLIENT RECORDS.

Subdivision 1. **Client records required.** (a) A license holder must maintain a file of current and accurate client records on the premises where the treatment service is provided or coordinated. For services provided off site, client records must be available at the program and adhere to the same clinical and administrative policies and procedures as services provided on site. The content and format of client records must be uniform and entries in each record must be signed and dated by the staff member making the entry. Client records must be protected against loss, tampering, or unauthorized disclosure according to section 254A.09, chapter 13, and Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, chapter 1, part 2, subpart B, sections 2.1 to 2.67, and title 45, parts 160 to 164.

(b) The program must have a policy and procedure that identifies how the program will track and record client attendance at treatment activities, including the date, duration, and nature of each treatment service provided to the client.

(c) The program must identify in the client record designation of an individual who is receiving services under section 254A.03, subdivision 3, including the start date and end date of services eligible under section 254A.03, subdivision 3.

Subd. 2. **Record retention.** The client records of a discharged client must be retained by a license holder for seven years. A license holder that ceases to provide treatment service must retain client records for seven years from the date of facility closure and must notify the commissioner of the location of the client records and the name of the individual responsible for maintaining the client's records.

Subd. 3. **Contents.** (a) Client records must contain the following:

(1) documentation that the client was given:

(i) information on client rights and responsibilities and grievance procedures on the day of service initiation;

(ii) information on tuberculosis and HIV within 72 hours of service initiation;

(iii) an orientation to the program abuse prevention plan required under section 245A.65, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (4), within 24 hours of admission or, for clients who would benefit from a later orientation, 72 hours; and

(iv) opioid educational material according to section 245G.04, subdivision 3, on the day of service initiation;

(2) an initial services plan completed according to section 245G.04;

(3) a comprehensive assessment completed according to section 245G.05;

(4) an individual abuse prevention plan according to sections 245A.65, subdivision 2, and 626.557, subdivision 14, when applicable;

(5) an individual treatment plan according to section 245G.06, subdivisions 1 and 1a;

(6) documentation of treatment services, significant events, appointments, concerns, and treatment plan reviews according to section 245G.06, subdivisions 2a, 2b, 3, and 3a; and

(7) a summary at the time of service termination according to section 245G.06, subdivision 4.

(b) For a client that transfers to another of the license holder's licensed treatment locations, the license holder is not required to complete new documents or orientation for the client, except that the client must receive an orientation to the new location's grievance procedure, program abuse prevention plan, and maltreatment of minor and vulnerable adults reporting procedures.

History: *1Sp2017 c 6 art 8 s 22; 1Sp2020 c 2 art 5 s 32; 2022 c 98 art 12 s 12; 2023 c 50 art 2 s 19; 2023 c 61 art 4 s 5; 2024 c 108 art 4 s 9; 2025 c 38 art 5 s 19*

245G.10 STAFF REQUIREMENTS.

Subdivision 1. **Treatment director.** A license holder must have a treatment director.

Subd. 2. **Alcohol and drug counselor supervisor.** A license holder must employ an alcohol and drug counselor supervisor who meets the requirements of section 245G.11, subdivision 4. An individual may be simultaneously employed as a treatment director, alcohol and drug counselor supervisor, and an alcohol and drug counselor if the individual meets the qualifications for each position. If an alcohol and drug counselor is simultaneously employed as an alcohol and drug counselor supervisor or treatment director, that individual must be considered a 0.5 full-time equivalent alcohol and drug counselor for staff requirements under subdivision 4.

Subd. 3. **Responsible staff member.** A treatment director must designate a staff member who, when present in the facility, is responsible for the delivery of treatment service. A license holder must have a designated staff member during all hours of operation. A license holder providing room and board and treatment at the same site must have a responsible staff member on duty 24 hours a day. The designated staff member must know and understand the implications of this chapter, sections 245A.65, 626.557, and 626.5572, and chapter 260E.

Subd. 4. **Staff requirement.** It is the responsibility of the license holder to determine an acceptable group size based on each client's needs. Group counseling shall not exceed 16 clients. The license holder must maintain a record that documents compliance with this subdivision.

Subd. 5. **Medical emergency.** When a client is present, a license holder must have at least one staff member on the premises who has a current American Red Cross standard first aid certificate or an equivalent certificate and at least one staff member on the premises who has a current American Red Cross community, American Heart Association, or equivalent CPR certificate. A single staff member with both certifications satisfies this requirement.

Subd. 6. **Notification to commissioner of changes in key staff positions.** A license holder must notify the commissioner within five business days of a change or vacancy in a key staff position. The key positions are a treatment director as required by subdivision 1, an alcohol and drug counselor supervisor as required by subdivision 2, and a registered nurse as required by section 245G.08, subdivision 5, paragraph (c). The license holder must notify the commissioner of the staffing change on a form approved by the commissioner and include the name of the staff person now assigned to the key staff position and the staff person's

qualifications for the position. The license holder must notify the program licensor of a vacancy to discuss how the duties of the key staff position will be fulfilled during the vacancy.

History: *1Sp2017 c 6 art 8 s 23; 1Sp2019 c 9 art 6 s 21; 1Sp2020 c 2 art 8 s 75; 2024 c 127 art 62 s 35*

245G.11 STAFF QUALIFICATIONS.

Subdivision 1. **General qualifications.** (a) All staff members who have direct contact must be 18 years of age or older.

Subd. 2. MS 2020 [Repealed, 2022 c 98 art 12 s 21]

Subd. 3. **Treatment directors.** A treatment director must:

(1) have at least one year of work experience in direct service to an individual with substance use disorder or one year of work experience in the management or administration of direct service to an individual with substance use disorder;

(2) have a baccalaureate degree or three years of work experience in administration or personnel supervision in human services; and

(3) know and understand the implications of this chapter, sections 626.557 and 626.5572, and chapters 245A and 260E. Demonstration of the treatment director's knowledge must be documented in the personnel record.

Subd. 4. **Alcohol and drug counselor supervisors.** An alcohol and drug counselor supervisor must:

(1) meet the qualification requirements in subdivision 5;

(2) have three or more years of experience providing individual and group counseling to individuals with substance use disorder; and

(3) know and understand the implications of this chapter, sections 245A.65, 626.557, and 626.5572, and chapter 260E.

Subd. 5. **Alcohol and drug counselor qualifications.** (a) An alcohol and drug counselor must either be licensed or exempt from licensure under chapter 148F.

(b) An individual who is exempt from licensure under chapter 148F, must meet one of the following additional requirements:

(1) completion of at least a baccalaureate degree with a major or concentration in social work, nursing, sociology, human services, or psychology, or licensure as a registered nurse; successful completion of a minimum of 120 hours of classroom instruction in which each of the core functions listed in chapter 148F is covered; and successful completion of 440 hours of supervised experience as an alcohol and drug counselor, either as a student or a staff member;

(2) completion of at least 270 hours of drug counselor training in which each of the core functions listed in chapter 148F is covered, and successful completion of 880 hours of supervised experience as an alcohol and drug counselor, either as a student or as a staff member;

(3) current certification as an alcohol and drug counselor or alcohol and drug counselor reciprocal, through the evaluation process established by the International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse, Inc.;

(4) completion of a bachelor's degree including 480 hours of alcohol and drug counseling education from an accredited school or educational program and 880 hours of alcohol and drug counseling practicum; or

(5) employment in a program formerly licensed under Minnesota Rules, parts 9530.5000 to 9530.6400, and successful completion of 6,000 hours of supervised work experience in a licensed program as an alcohol and drug counselor prior to January 1, 2005.

(c) An alcohol and drug counselor may not provide a treatment service that requires professional licensure unless the individual possesses the necessary license. For the purposes of enforcing this section, the commissioner has the authority to monitor a service provider's compliance with the relevant standards of the service provider's profession and may issue licensing actions against the license holder according to sections 245A.05, 245A.06, and 245A.07, based on the commissioner's determination of noncompliance.

Subd. 6. **Paraprofessionals.** A paraprofessional must have knowledge of client rights, according to section 148F.165, and staff member responsibilities. A paraprofessional may not make decisions to admit, transfer, or discharge a client but may perform tasks related to intake and orientation. A paraprofessional may be the responsible staff member according to section 245G.10, subdivision 3. A paraprofessional must not provide a treatment service unless qualified to do so according to section 245G.07, subdivision 3.

[See Note.]

Subd. 7. **Treatment coordination provider qualifications.** (a) Treatment coordination must be provided by qualified staff. An individual is qualified to provide treatment coordination if the individual meets the qualifications of an alcohol and drug counselor under subdivision 5 or if the individual:

(1) is skilled in the process of identifying and assessing a wide range of client needs;

(2) is knowledgeable about local community resources and how to use those resources for the benefit of the client;

(3) has completed 15 hours of education or training on substance use disorder, co-occurring conditions, and care coordination for individuals with substance use disorder or co-occurring conditions that is consistent with national evidence-based standards;

(4) meets one of the following criteria:

(i) has a bachelor's degree in one of the behavioral sciences or related fields;

(ii) has a high school diploma or equivalent; or

(iii) is a mental health practitioner who meets the qualifications under section 245I.04, subdivision 4; and

(5) either has at least 1,000 hours of supervised experience working with individuals with substance use disorder or co-occurring conditions or receives treatment supervision at least once per week until obtaining 1,000 hours of supervised experience working with individuals with substance use disorder or co-occurring conditions.

(b) A treatment coordinator must receive the following levels of supervision from an alcohol and drug counselor or a mental health professional whose scope of practice includes substance use disorder treatment and assessments:

(1) for a treatment coordinator that has not obtained 1,000 hours of supervised experience under paragraph (a), clause (5), at least one hour of supervision per week; or

(2) for a treatment coordinator that has obtained at least 1,000 hours of supervised experience under paragraph (a), clause (5), at least one hour of supervision per month.

Subd. 8. Recovery peer qualifications. A recovery peer must:

(1) meet the qualifications in section 245I.04, subdivision 18; and

(2) provide services according to the scope of practice established in section 245I.04, subdivision 19, under the supervision of an alcohol and drug counselor.

[See Note.]

Subd. 9. Volunteers. A volunteer may provide treatment service when the volunteer is supervised and can be seen or heard by a staff member meeting the criteria in subdivision 4 or 5, but may not practice alcohol and drug counseling unless qualified under subdivision 5.

Subd. 10. Student interns and former students. (a) A qualified staff member must supervise and be responsible for a treatment service performed by a student intern and must review and sign each assessment, individual treatment plan, and treatment plan review prepared by a student intern.

(b) An alcohol and drug counselor must supervise and be responsible for a treatment service performed by a former student and must review and sign each assessment, individual treatment plan, and treatment plan review prepared by the former student.

(c) A student intern or former student must receive the orientation and training required in section 245G.13, subdivisions 1, clause (7), and 2. No more than 50 percent of the treatment staff may be student interns or former students with time documented to be directly related to the provision of treatment services for which the staff are authorized.

Subd. 11. Individuals with temporary permit. An individual with a temporary permit from the Board of Behavioral Health and Therapy may provide substance use disorder treatment services and complete comprehensive assessments, individual treatment plans, treatment plan reviews, and service discharge summaries according to this subdivision if they meet the requirements of either paragraph (a) or (b).

(a) An individual with a temporary permit must be supervised by a licensed alcohol and drug counselor assigned by the license holder. The supervising licensed alcohol and drug counselor must document the amount and type of supervision provided at least on a weekly basis. The supervision must relate to the clinical practice.

(b) An individual with a temporary permit must be supervised by a clinical supervisor approved by the Board of Behavioral Health and Therapy. The supervision must be documented and meet the requirements of section 148F.04, subdivision 4.

Subd. 12. Behavioral health practitioners. (a) A behavioral health practitioner must meet the qualifications in section 245I.04, subdivision 4.

(b) A behavioral health practitioner working within a substance use disorder treatment program licensed under this chapter has the following scope of practice:

(1) a behavioral health practitioner may provide clients with recovery support services, as defined in section 245G.07, subdivision 2a, paragraph (b), clause (1); and

(2) a behavioral health practitioner must not provide treatment supervision to other staff persons.

(c) A behavioral health practitioner working within a substance use disorder treatment program licensed under this chapter must receive at least one hour of supervision per month on individual service delivery from an alcohol and drug counselor or a mental health professional who has substance use treatment and assessments within the scope of their practice.

[See Note.]

History: *1Sp2017 c 6 art 8 s 24; 1Sp2019 c 9 art 2 s 83; art 6 s 22,23; 1Sp2020 c 2 art 8 s 76,77; 2022 c 98 art 4 s 51; art 12 s 13,14; 2023 c 50 art 3 s 2; 2023 c 70 art 6 s 35; 2024 c 108 art 4 s 10; 2025 c 38 art 4 s 22; art 5 s 20; 1Sp2025 c 9 art 4 s 17,18*

NOTE: The amendment to subdivision 6 by Laws 2025, First Special Session chapter 9, article 4, section 17, is effective July 1, 2026, or upon federal approval, whichever is later. The commissioner of human services shall notify the revisor of statutes when federal approval is obtained. Laws 2025, First Special Session chapter 9, article 4, section 17, the effective date.

NOTE: The amendments to subdivision 8 by Laws 2023, chapter 50, article 3, section 2, are effective upon federal approval. The commissioner of human services shall notify the revisor of statutes when federal approval is obtained. Laws 2023, chapter 50, article 3, section 2, the effective date.

NOTE: Subdivision 12, as added by Laws 2025, First Special Session chapter 9, article 4, section 18, is effective July 1, 2026, or upon federal approval, whichever is later. The commissioner of human services shall notify the revisor of statutes when federal approval is obtained. Laws 2025, First Special Session chapter 9, article 4, section 18, the effective date.

245G.12 PROVIDER POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.

A license holder must develop a written policies and procedures manual, indexed according to section 245A.04, subdivision 14, paragraph (c), that provides staff members immediate access to all policies and procedures and provides a client and other authorized parties access to all policies and procedures. The manual must contain the following materials:

(1) assessment and treatment planning policies, including screening for mental health concerns and treatment objectives related to the client's identified mental health concerns in the client's treatment plan;

(2) policies and procedures regarding HIV according to section 245A.19;

(3) the license holder's methods and resources to provide information on tuberculosis and tuberculosis screening to each client and to report a known tuberculosis infection according to section 144.4804;

(4) personnel policies according to section 245G.13;

(5) policies and procedures that protect a client's rights according to section 245G.15;

(6) a medical services plan according to section 245G.08;

(7) emergency procedures according to section 245G.16;

(8) policies and procedures for maintaining client records according to section 245G.09;

(9) procedures for reporting the maltreatment of minors according to chapter 260E, and vulnerable adults according to sections 245A.65, 626.557, and 626.5572;

(10) a description of treatment services that: (i) includes the amount and type of services provided; (ii) identifies which services meet the definition of group counseling under section 245G.01, subdivision 13a; (iii) identifies which groups and topics on which a guest speaker could provide services under the direct observation of an alcohol and drug counselor; and (iv) defines the program's treatment week;

(11) the methods used to achieve desired client outcomes;

(12) the hours of operation; and

(13) the target population served.

History: *1Sp2017 c 6 art 8 s 25; 1Sp2019 c 9 art 6 s 24; 1Sp2020 c 2 art 8 s 78; 2022 c 98 art 4 s 17*

245G.13 PROVIDER PERSONNEL POLICIES.

Subdivision 1. **Personnel policy requirements.** A license holder must have written personnel policies that are available to each staff member. The personnel policies must:

(1) ensure that staff member retention, promotion, job assignment, or pay are not affected by a good faith communication between a staff member and the department, the Department of Health, the ombudsman for mental health and developmental disabilities, law enforcement, or a local agency for the investigation of a complaint regarding a client's rights, health, or safety;

(2) contain a job description for each staff member position specifying responsibilities, degree of authority to execute job responsibilities, and qualification requirements;

(3) provide for a job performance evaluation based on standards of job performance conducted on a regular and continuing basis, including a written annual review;

(4) describe behavior that constitutes grounds for disciplinary action, suspension, or dismissal, including policies prohibiting personal involvement with a client in violation of chapter 604, and policies prohibiting client abuse described in sections 245A.65, 626.557, and 626.5572, and chapter 260E;

(5) describe the process for disciplinary action, suspension, or dismissal of a staff person for violating the drug and alcohol policy described in section 245A.04, subdivision 1, paragraph (c);

(6) include a chart or description of the organizational structure indicating lines of authority and responsibilities;

(7) include orientation within 24 working hours of starting for each new staff member based on a written plan that, at a minimum, must provide training related to the staff member's specific job responsibilities, policies and procedures, client confidentiality, HIV minimum standards, and client needs; and

(8) include policies outlining the license holder's response to a staff member with a behavior problem that interferes with the provision of treatment service.

Subd. 2. **Staff development.** (a) A license holder must ensure that each staff member has the training described in this subdivision.

(b) Each staff member must be trained every two years in:

(1) client confidentiality rules and regulations and client ethical boundaries; and

(2) emergency procedures and client rights as specified in sections 144.651, 148F.165, and 253B.03.

(c) Annually each staff member with direct contact must be trained on mandatory reporting as specified in sections 245A.65, 626.557, and 626.5572, and chapter 260E, including specific training covering the license holder's policies for obtaining a release of client information.

(d) Upon employment and annually thereafter, each staff member with direct contact must receive training on HIV minimum standards according to section 245A.19.

(e) The license holder must ensure that each mandatory reporter, as described in section 260E.06, subdivision 1, is trained on the maltreatment of minors reporting requirements and definitions in chapter 260E before the mandatory reporter has direct contact, as defined in section 245C.02, subdivision 11, with a person served by the program.

(f) A treatment director, supervisor, nurse, or counselor must have a minimum of 12 hours of training in co-occurring disorders that includes competencies related to philosophy, trauma-informed care, screening, assessment, diagnosis and person-centered treatment planning, documentation, programming, medication, collaboration, mental health consultation, and discharge planning. A new staff member who has not obtained the training must complete the training within six months of employment. A staff member may request, and the license holder may grant, credit for relevant training obtained before employment, which must be documented in the staff member's personnel file.

Subd. 3. Personnel files. The license holder must maintain a separate personnel file for each staff member. At a minimum, the personnel file must conform to the requirements of this chapter. A personnel file must contain the following:

(1) a completed application for employment signed by the staff member and containing the staff member's qualifications for employment;

(2) documentation related to the staff member's background study data, according to chapter 245C;

(3) for a staff member who provides psychotherapy services, employer names and addresses for the past five years for which the staff member provided psychotherapy services, and documentation of an inquiry required by sections 604.20 to 604.205 made to the staff member's former employer regarding substantiated sexual contact with a client;

(4) documentation that the staff member completed orientation and training;

(5) documentation that the staff member meets the requirements in section 245G.11;

(6) documentation demonstrating the staff member's compliance with section 245G.08, subdivision 3, for a staff member who conducts administration of medication; and

(7) documentation demonstrating the staff member's compliance with section 245G.18, subdivision 2, for a staff member that treats an adolescent client.

History: *1Sp2017 c 6 art 8 s 26; 1Sp2019 c 9 art 6 s 25; 1Sp2020 c 2 art 8 s 79,80; 2022 c 98 art 12 s 15; 2023 c 70 art 8 s 39*

245G.14 SERVICE INITIATION AND TERMINATION POLICIES.

Subdivision 1. **Service initiation policy.** A license holder must have a written service initiation policy containing service initiation preferences that comply with this section and Code of Federal Regulations, title 45, part 96.131, and specific service initiation criteria. The license holder must not initiate services for an individual who does not meet the service initiation criteria. The service initiation criteria must be either posted in the area of the facility where services for a client are initiated, or given to each interested person upon request. Titles of each staff member authorized to initiate services for a client must be listed in the services initiation and termination policies.

Subd. 2. **License holder responsibilities.** (a) The license holder must have and comply with a written protocol for (1) assisting a client in need of care not provided by the license holder, and (2) a client who poses a substantial likelihood of harm to the client or others, if the behavior is beyond the behavior management capabilities of the staff members.

(b) A service termination and denial of service initiation that poses an immediate threat to the health of any individual or requires immediate medical intervention must be referred to a medical facility capable of admitting the client.

(c) A service termination policy and a denial of service initiation that involves the commission of a crime against a license holder's staff member or on a license holder's premises, as provided under Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, section 2.12 (c)(5), and title 45, parts 160 to 164, must be reported to a law enforcement agency with jurisdiction.

Subd. 3. **Service termination policies.** A license holder must have a written policy specifying the conditions when a client must be terminated from service. The service termination policy must include:

- (1) procedures for a client whose services were terminated under subdivision 2;
- (2) a description of client behavior that constitutes reason for a staff-requested service termination and a process for providing this information to a client;
- (3) a requirement that before discharging a client from a residential setting, for not reaching treatment plan goals, the license holder must confer with other interested persons to review the issues involved in the decision. The documentation requirements for a staff-requested service termination must describe why the decision to discharge is warranted, the reasons for the discharge, and the alternatives considered or attempted before discharging the client;
- (4) procedures consistent with section 253B.16, subdivision 2, that staff members must follow when a client admitted under chapter 253B is to have services terminated;
- (5) procedures a staff member must follow when a client leaves against staff or medical advice and when the client may be dangerous to the client or others, including a policy that requires a staff member to assist the client with assessing needs of care or other resources;
- (6) procedures for communicating staff-approved service termination criteria to a client, including the expectations in the client's individual treatment plan according to section 245G.06; and
- (7) titles of each staff member authorized to terminate a client's service must be listed in the service initiation and service termination policies.

History: *1Sp2017 c 6 art 8 s 27*

245G.15 CLIENT RIGHTS PROTECTION.

Subdivision 1. **Explanation.** A client has the rights identified in sections 144.651, 148F.165, and 253B.03, as applicable. The license holder must give each client on the day of service initiation a written statement of the client's rights and responsibilities. A staff member must review the statement with a client at that time.

Subd. 2. **Grievance procedure.** On the day of service initiation, the license holder must explain the grievance procedure to the client or the client's representative. The grievance procedure must be posted in a place visible to clients, and made available upon a client's or former client's request. The grievance procedure must require that:

- (1) a staff member helps the client develop and process a grievance;
- (2) current telephone numbers and addresses of the Department of Human Services, Licensing Division; the Office of Ombudsman for Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities; the Department of Health Office of Health Facilities Complaints; and the Board of Behavioral Health and Therapy, when applicable, be made available to a client; and
- (3) a license holder responds to the client's grievance within three days of a staff member's receipt of the grievance, and the client may bring the grievance to the highest level of authority in the program if not resolved by another staff member.

Subd. 3. **Photographs of client.** (a) A photograph, video, or motion picture of a client taken in the provision of treatment service is considered client records. A photograph for identification and a recording by video or audio technology to enhance either therapy or staff member supervision may be required of a client, but may only be available for use as communications within a program. A client must be informed when the client's actions are being recorded by camera or other technology, and the client must have the right to refuse any recording or photography, except as authorized by this subdivision.

(b) A license holder must have a written policy regarding the use of any personal electronic device that can record, transmit, or make images of another client. A license holder must inform each client of this policy and the client's right to refuse being photographed or recorded.

History: *1Sp2017 c 6 art 8 s 28; 2018 c 182 art 1 s 45; 1Sp2019 c 9 art 6 s 26,27*

245G.16 BEHAVIORAL EMERGENCY PROCEDURES.

(a) A license holder or applicant must have written behavioral emergency procedures that staff must follow when responding to a client who exhibits behavior that is threatening to the safety of the client or others. Programs must incorporate person-centered planning and trauma-informed care in the program's behavioral emergency procedure policies. The procedures must include:

- (1) a plan designed to prevent a client from hurting themselves or others;
- (2) contact information for emergency resources that staff must consult when a client's behavior cannot be controlled by the behavioral emergency procedures;
- (3) types of procedures that may be used;
- (4) circumstances under which behavioral emergency procedures may be used; and
- (5) staff members authorized to implement behavioral emergency procedures.

(b) Behavioral emergency procedures must not be used to enforce facility rules or for the convenience of staff. Behavioral emergency procedures must not be part of any client's treatment plan, or used at any time for any reason except in response to specific current behavior that threatens the safety of the client or others. Behavioral emergency procedures may not include the use of seclusion or restraint.

History: *1Sp2017 c 6 art 8 s 29*

245G.17 EVALUATION.

A license holder must participate in the drug and alcohol abuse normative evaluation system by submitting information about each client to the commissioner in a manner prescribed by the commissioner. A license holder must submit additional information requested by the commissioner that is necessary to meet statutory or federal funding requirements.

History: *1Sp2017 c 6 art 8 s 30*

245G.18 LICENSE HOLDERS SERVING ADOLESCENTS.

Subdivision 1. **License.** A residential treatment program that serves an adolescent younger than 16 years of age must be licensed as a residential program for a child in out-of-home placement by the department unless the license holder is exempt under section 245A.03, subdivision 2.

Subd. 2. **Alcohol and drug counselor qualifications.** In addition to the requirements specified in section 245G.11, subdivisions 1 and 5, an alcohol and drug counselor providing treatment service to an adolescent must have an additional 30 hours of training or classroom instruction or one three-credit semester college course in adolescent development. The training, classroom instruction, or college course must be completed no later than six months after the counselor first provides treatment services to adolescents and need only be completed one time. The training must be interactive and must not consist only of reading information. An alcohol and drug counselor who is also qualified as a mental health professional under section 245I.04, subdivision 2, is exempt from the requirement in this subdivision.

Subd. 3. **Staff ratios.** A counseling group consisting entirely of adolescents must not exceed 16 adolescents. It is the responsibility of the license holder to determine an acceptable group size based on the needs of the clients.

Subd. 4. **Academic program requirements.** A client who is required to attend school must be enrolled and attending an educational program that was approved by the Department of Education.

Subd. 5. **Program requirements.** In addition to the requirements specified in the client's treatment plan under section 245G.06, programs serving an adolescent must include:

- (1) coordination with the school system to address the client's academic needs;
- (2) when appropriate, a plan that addresses the client's leisure activities without substance use; and
- (3) a plan that addresses family involvement in the adolescent's treatment.

History: *1Sp2017 c 6 art 8 s 31; 1Sp2019 c 9 art 6 s 28,29; 2025 c 38 art 5 s 21*

245G.19 LICENSE HOLDERS SERVING CLIENTS WITH CHILDREN.

Subdivision 1. **Health license requirements.** In addition to the requirements of sections 245G.01 to 245G.17, a license holder that offers supervision of a child of a client is subject to the requirements of this

section. A license holder providing room and board for a client and the client's child must have an appropriate facility license from the Department of Health.

Subd. 2. **Supervision of a child.** "Supervision of a child" means a caregiver is within sight or hearing of an infant, toddler, or preschooler at all times so that the caregiver can intervene to protect the child's health and safety. For a school-age child it means a caregiver is available to help and care for the child to protect the child's health and safety.

Subd. 3. **Policy and schedule required.** A license holder must meet the following requirements:

(1) have a policy and schedule delineating the times and circumstances when the license holder is responsible for supervision of a child in the program and when the child's parents are responsible for supervision of a child. The policy must explain how the program will communicate its policy about supervision of a child responsibility to the parent; and

(2) have written procedures addressing the actions a staff member must take if a child is neglected or abused, including while the child is under the supervision of the child's parent.

Subd. 4. **Additional licensing requirements.** During the times the license holder is responsible for the supervision of a child, except for license holders described in subdivision 5, the license holder must meet the following standards:

(1) child and adult ratios in Minnesota Rules, part 9502.0367;

(2) day care training in section 142B.70;

(3) behavior guidance in Minnesota Rules, part 9502.0395;

(4) activities and equipment in Minnesota Rules, part 9502.0415;

(5) physical environment in Minnesota Rules, part 9502.0425;

(6) physical space requirements in section 142B.72; and

(7) water, food, and nutrition in Minnesota Rules, part 9502.0445, unless the license holder has a license from the Department of Health.

Subd. 5. **Child care license exemption.** (a) License holders that only provide supervision of children for less than three hours a day while the child's parent is in the same building or contiguous building as allowed by the exclusion from licensure in section 245A.03, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (6), are exempt from the requirements of subdivision 4 if the requirements of this subdivision are met.

(b) During the times the license holder is responsible for the supervision of the child, there must always be a staff member present who is responsible for supervising the child who is trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and first aid. This staff person must be able to immediately contact the child's parent at all times.

History: *1Sp2017 c 6 art 8 s 32; 1Sp2019 c 9 art 2 s 84; 2024 c 80 art 2 s 74; 2024 c 115 art 16 s 41; 2025 c 38 art 5 s 22,23*

245G.20 LICENSE HOLDERS SERVING PERSONS WITH CO-OCCURRING DISORDERS.

A license holder specializing in the treatment of a person with co-occurring disorders must:

- (1) demonstrate that staff levels are appropriate for treating a client with a co-occurring disorder, and that there are adequate staff members with mental health training;
- (2) have continuing access to a medical provider with appropriate expertise in prescribing psychotropic medication;
- (3) have a mental health professional available for staff member supervision and consultation;
- (4) determine group size, structure, and content considering the special needs of a client with a co-occurring disorder;
- (5) have documentation of active interventions to stabilize mental health symptoms present in the individual treatment plans and treatment plan reviews;
- (6) have continuing documentation of collaboration with continuing care mental health providers, and involvement of the providers in treatment planning meetings;
- (7) have available program materials adapted to a client with a mental health problem;
- (8) have policies that provide flexibility for a client who may lapse in treatment or may have difficulty adhering to established treatment rules as a result of a mental illness, with the goal of helping a client successfully complete treatment; and
- (9) have individual psychotherapy and case management available during treatment service.

History: *1Sp2017 c 6 art 8 s 33; 2022 c 98 art 12 s 16*

245G.21 REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSED RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT.

Subdivision 1. **Applicability.** A license holder who provides supervised room and board at the licensed program site as a treatment component is defined as a residential program according to section 245A.02, subdivision 14, and is subject to this section.

Subd. 2. **Visitors.** A client must be allowed to receive visitors at times prescribed by the license holder. The license holder must set and post a notice of visiting rules and hours, including both day and evening times. A client's right to receive visitors other than a personal physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant; religious adviser; county case manager; parole or probation officer; or attorney may be subject to visiting hours established by the license holder for all clients. The treatment director or designee may impose limitations as necessary for the welfare of a client provided the limitation and the reasons for the limitation are documented in the client's file. A client must be allowed to receive visits at all reasonable times from the client's personal physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant; religious adviser; county case manager; parole or probation officer; and attorney.

Subd. 3. **Client property management.** A license holder who provides room and board and treatment services to a client in the same facility, and any license holder that accepts client property must meet the requirements for handling client funds and property in section 245A.04, subdivision 13. License holders:

- (1) may establish policies regarding the use of personal property to ensure that treatment activities and the rights of other clients are not infringed upon;
- (2) may take temporary custody of a client's property for violation of a facility policy;
- (3) must retain the client's property for a minimum of seven days after the client's service termination if the client does not reclaim property upon service termination, or for a minimum of 30 days if the client

does not reclaim property upon service termination and has received room and board services from the license holder; and

(4) must return all property held in trust to the client at service termination regardless of the client's service termination status, except that:

(i) a drug, drug paraphernalia, or drug container that is subject to forfeiture under section 609.5316, must be given to the custody of a local law enforcement agency. If giving the property to the custody of a local law enforcement agency violates Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, sections 2.1 to 2.67, or title 45, parts 160 to 164, a drug, drug paraphernalia, or drug container must be destroyed by a staff member designated by the program director; and

(ii) a weapon, explosive, and other property that can cause serious harm to the client or others must be given to the custody of a local law enforcement agency, and the client must be notified of the transfer and of the client's right to reclaim any lawful property transferred; and

(iii) a medication that was determined by a physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant to be harmful after examining the client must be destroyed, except when the client's personal physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant approves the medication for continued use.

Subd. 4. **Health facility license.** A license holder who provides room and board and treatment services in the same facility must have the appropriate license from the Department of Health.

Subd. 5. **Facility abuse prevention plan.** A license holder must establish and enforce an ongoing facility abuse prevention plan consistent with sections 245A.65 and 626.557, subdivision 14.

Subd. 6. **Individual abuse prevention plan.** A license holder must prepare an individual abuse prevention plan for each client as specified under sections 245A.65, subdivision 2, and 626.557, subdivision 14.

Subd. 7. **Health services.** A license holder must have written procedures for assessing and monitoring a client's health, including a standardized data collection tool for collecting health-related information about each client. The policies and procedures must be approved and signed by a registered nurse.

Subd. 8. **Administration of medication.** A license holder must meet the administration of medications requirements of section 245G.08, subdivision 5, if services include medication administration.

History: *1Sp2017 c 6 art 8 s 34; 2020 c 115 art 4 s 88,89; 2022 c 58 s 110,111*

245G.22 OPIOID TREATMENT PROGRAMS.

Subdivision 1. **Additional requirements.** (a) An opioid treatment program licensed under this chapter must also: (1) comply with the requirements of this section and Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, part 8; (2) be registered as a narcotic treatment program with the Drug Enforcement Administration; (3) be accredited through an accreditation body approved by the Division of Pharmacologic Therapy of the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment; (4) be certified through the Division of Pharmacologic Therapy of the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment; and (5) hold a license from the Minnesota Board of Pharmacy or meet the requirements for dispensing by a practitioner in section 151.37, subdivision 2, and Minnesota Rules, parts 6800.9950 to 6800.9954.

(b) A license holder operating under the dispensing by practitioner requirements in section 151.37, subdivision 2, and Minnesota Rules, parts 6800.9950 to 6800.9954, must maintain documentation that the practitioner responsible for complying with the above statute and rules has signed a statement attesting that

they are the practitioner responsible for complying with the applicable statutes and rules. If more than one person is responsible for compliance, all practitioners must sign a statement.

(c) Where a standard in this section differs from a standard in an otherwise applicable administrative rule or statute, the standard of this section applies.

Subd. 2. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section, the terms defined in this subdivision have the meanings given them.

(b) "Diversion" means the use of a medication for the treatment of opioid addiction being diverted from intended use of the medication.

(c) "Guest dose" means administration of a medication used for the treatment of opioid addiction to a person who is not a client of the program that is administering or dispensing the medication.

(d) "Medical director" means a practitioner licensed to practice medicine in the jurisdiction that the opioid treatment program is located who assumes responsibility for administering all medical services performed by the program, either by performing the services directly or by delegating specific responsibility to a practitioner of the opioid treatment program.

(e) "Medication used for the treatment of opioid use disorder" means a medication approved by the Food and Drug Administration for the treatment of opioid use disorder.

(f) "Minnesota health care programs" has the meaning given in section 256B.0636.

(g) "Opioid treatment program" has the meaning given in Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, section 8.12, and includes programs licensed under this chapter.

(h) "Practitioner" means a staff member holding a current, unrestricted license to practice medicine issued by the Board of Medical Practice or nursing issued by the Board of Nursing and is currently registered with the Drug Enforcement Administration to order or dispense controlled substances in Schedules II to V under the Controlled Substances Act, United States Code, title 21, part B, section 821.

(i) "Unsupervised use" or "take-home dose" means the use of a medication for the treatment of opioid use disorder dispensed for use by a client outside of the program setting.

Subd. 3. **Medication orders.** Before the program may administer or dispense a medication used for the treatment of opioid use disorder:

(1) a client-specific order must be received from an appropriately credentialed practitioner who is enrolled as a Minnesota health care programs provider and meets all applicable provider standards;

(2) the signed order must be documented in the client's record; and

(3) if the practitioner that issued the order is not able to sign the order when issued, the unsigned order must be entered in the client record at the time it was received, and the practitioner must review the documentation and sign the order in the client's record within 72 hours of the medication being ordered. The license holder must report to the commissioner any medication error that endangers a client's health, as determined by the medical director.

Subd. 4. MS 2022 [Repealed, 2024 c 108 art 4 s 28]

Subd. 5. **Drug testing.** Each client enrolled in the program must receive a minimum of eight random drug abuse tests per 12 months of treatment. Drug abuse tests must be reasonably disbursed over the 12-month period. A license holder may elect to conduct more drug abuse tests.

Subd. 6. **Criteria for unsupervised use.** (a) To limit the potential for diversion of medication used for the treatment of opioid use disorder to the illicit market, medication dispensed to a client for unsupervised use shall be subject to the requirements of this subdivision. Any client in an opioid treatment program may receive their individualized take-home doses as ordered for days that the clinic is closed for business, on one weekend day (e.g., Sunday) and state and federal holidays, no matter their length of time in treatment, as allowed under Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, part 8.12 (i)(1).

(b) For take-home doses beyond those allowed by paragraph (a), a practitioner must review and document the criteria in the Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, part 8.12 (i)(2), when determining whether dispensing medication for a client's unsupervised use is safe and it is appropriate to implement, increase, or extend the amount of time between visits to the program.

(c) The determination, including the basis of the determination must be documented by a practitioner in the client's medical record.

Subd. 7. **Restrictions for unsupervised use of methadone hydrochloride.** If a practitioner assesses, determines, and documents that a client meets the criteria in subdivision 6 and that a patient is safely able to manage unsupervised doses of methadone, the number of take-home doses the client receives must be limited by the number allowed by Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, section 8.12 (i)(3).

Subd. 8. **Restriction exceptions.** When a license holder has reason to accelerate the number of unsupervised use doses of methadone hydrochloride, the license holder must comply with the requirements of Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, section 8.12, the criteria for unsupervised use and must use the exception process provided by the federal Center for Substance Abuse Treatment Division of Pharmacologic Therapies. For the purposes of enforcement of this subdivision, the commissioner has the authority to monitor a program for compliance with federal regulations and may issue licensing actions according to sections 245A.05, 245A.06, and 245A.07 based on the commissioner's determination of noncompliance.

Subd. 9. **Guest dose.** To receive a guest dose, the client must be enrolled in an opioid treatment program elsewhere in the state or country and be receiving the medication on a temporary basis because the client is not able to receive the medication at the program in which the client is enrolled. Such arrangements shall not exceed 30 consecutive days in any one program and must not be for the convenience or benefit of either program. A guest dose may also occur when the client's primary clinic is not open and the client is not receiving unsupervised use doses.

Subd. 10. **Capacity management and waiting list system compliance.** An opioid treatment program must notify the department within seven days of the program reaching both 90 and 100 percent of the program's capacity to care for clients. Each week, the program must report its capacity, currently enrolled dosing clients, and any waiting list. A program reporting 90 percent of capacity must also notify the department when the program's census increases or decreases from the 90 percent level.

Subd. 11. **Waiting list.** An opioid treatment program must have a waiting list system. If the person seeking admission cannot be admitted within 14 days of the date of application, each person seeking admission must be placed on the waiting list, unless the person seeking admission is assessed by the program and found ineligible for admission according to this chapter and Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, part 1, subchapter A, section 8.12(e), and title 45, parts 160 to 164. The waiting list must assign a unique client identifier for each person seeking treatment while awaiting admission. A person seeking admission on a waiting list who

receives no services under section 245G.07, subdivision 1a or 1b, must not be considered a client as defined in section 245G.01, subdivision 9.

[See Note.]

Subd. 12. **Client referral.** An opioid treatment program must consult the capacity management system to ensure that a person on a waiting list is admitted at the earliest time to a program providing appropriate treatment within a reasonable geographic area. If the client was referred through a public payment system and if the program is not able to serve the client within 14 days of the date of application for admission, the program must contact and inform the referring agency of any available treatment capacity listed in the state capacity management system.

Subd. 13. **Outreach.** An opioid treatment program must carry out activities to encourage an individual in need of treatment to undergo treatment. The program's outreach model must:

- (1) select, train, and supervise outreach workers;
- (2) contact, communicate, and follow up with individuals with high-risk substance misuse, individuals with high-risk substance misuse associates, and neighborhood residents within the constraints of federal and state confidentiality requirements;
- (3) promote awareness among individuals who engage in substance misuse by injection about the relationship between injecting substances and communicable diseases such as HIV; and
- (4) recommend steps to prevent HIV transmission.

Subd. 14. **Central registry.** A license holder must comply with requirements to submit information and necessary consents to the state central registry for each client admitted, as specified by the commissioner. The license holder must submit data concerning medication used for the treatment of opioid use disorder. The data must be submitted in a method determined by the commissioner and the original information must be kept in the client's record. The information must be submitted for each client at admission and discharge. The program must document the date the information was submitted. The client's failure to provide the information shall prohibit participation in an opioid treatment program. The information submitted must include the client's:

- (1) full name and all aliases;
- (2) date of admission;
- (3) date of birth;
- (4) Social Security number or Alien Registration Number, if any; and
- (5) current or previous enrollment status in another opioid treatment program.

Subd. 15. **Nonmedication treatment services; documentation.** (a) The program must offer at least four 15-minute units of individual or group therapy treatment services as defined in section 245G.07, subdivision 1a, clause (1), per week, for the first ten weeks following the day of service initiation, and at least four 15-minute units per month thereafter. The program may offer additional levels of service when deemed clinically necessary.

(b) The ten-week time frame may include a client's previous time at another opioid treatment program licensed in Minnesota under this section if:

(1) the client was enrolled in the other opioid treatment program immediately prior to admission to the license holder's program;

(2) the client did not miss taking a daily dose of medication to treat an opioid use disorder; and

(3) the license holder obtains from the previous opioid treatment program the client's number of days in comprehensive maintenance treatment, discharge summary, amount of daily milligram dose of medication for opioid use disorder, and previous three drug abuse test results.

(c) Notwithstanding the requirements of comprehensive assessments in section 245G.05, the assessment must be completed within 21 days from the day of service initiation.

[See Note.]

Subd. 16. **Prescription monitoring program.** (a) The program must develop and maintain a policy and procedure that requires the ongoing monitoring of the data from the prescription monitoring program (PMP) for each client. The policy and procedure must include how the program meets the requirements in paragraph (b).

(b) When a medication used for the treatment of substance use disorder is administered or dispensed to a client, the license holder is subject to the following requirements:

(1) upon admission to an opioid treatment program, a client must be notified in writing that the commissioner of human services and the medical director must monitor the PMP to review the prescribed controlled drugs a client received;

(2) the medical director or the medical director's delegate must review the data from the PMP described in section 152.126 before the client is ordered any controlled substance, as defined under section 152.126, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), including medications used for the treatment of opioid addiction, and the medical director's or the medical director's delegate's subsequent reviews of the PMP data must occur at least every 90 days;

(3) a copy of the PMP data reviewed must be maintained in the client's file along with the licensed practitioner's decision for frequency of ongoing PMP checks;

(4) when the PMP data contains a recent history of multiple prescribers or multiple prescriptions for controlled substances, the physician's review of the data and subsequent actions must be documented in the client's file within 72 hours and must contain the licensed practitioner's determination of whether or not the prescriptions place the client at risk of harm and the actions to be taken in response to the PMP findings. The provider must conduct subsequent reviews of the PMP on a monthly basis; and

(5) if at any time the licensed practitioner believes the use of the controlled substances places the client at risk of harm, the program must seek the client's consent to discuss the client's opioid treatment with other prescribers and must seek the client's consent for the other prescriber to disclose to the opioid treatment program's licensed practitioner the client's condition that formed the basis of the other prescriptions. If the information is not obtained within seven days, the medical director must document whether or not changes to the client's medication dose or number of unsupervised use doses are necessary until the information is obtained.

(c) The commissioner shall collaborate with the Minnesota Board of Pharmacy to develop and implement an electronic system for the commissioner to routinely access the PMP data to determine whether any client enrolled in an opioid addiction treatment program licensed according to this section was prescribed or

dispensed a controlled substance in addition to that administered or dispensed by the opioid addiction treatment program. When the commissioner determines there have been multiple prescribers or multiple prescriptions of controlled substances for a client, the commissioner shall:

(1) inform the medical director of the opioid treatment program only that the commissioner determined the existence of multiple prescribers or multiple prescriptions of controlled substances; and

(2) direct the medical director of the opioid treatment program to access the data directly, review the effect of the multiple prescribers or multiple prescriptions, and document the review.

(d) If determined necessary, the commissioner shall seek a federal waiver of, or exception to, any applicable provision of Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, section 2.34 (c), before implementing this subdivision.

Subd. 17. Policies and procedures. (a) A license holder must develop and maintain the policies and procedures required in this subdivision.

(b) For a program that is not open every day of the year, the license holder must maintain a policy and procedure that covers requirements under subdivisions 6 and 7. Unsupervised use of medication used for the treatment of opioid use disorder for days that the program is closed for business, on one weekend day and state and federal holidays, must meet the requirements under subdivisions 6 and 7.

(c) The license holder must maintain a policy and procedure that includes specific measures to reduce the possibility of diversion. The policy and procedure must:

(1) specifically identify and define the responsibilities of the medical and administrative staff for performing diversion control measures; and

(2) include a process for contacting no less than five percent of clients who have unsupervised use of medication, excluding clients approved solely under subdivision 6, paragraph (a), to require clients to physically return to the program each month. The system must require clients to return to the program within a stipulated time frame and turn in all unused medication containers related to opioid use disorder treatment. The license holder must document all related contacts on a central log and the outcome of the contact for each client in the client's record. The medical director must be informed of each outcome that results in a situation in which a possible diversion issue was identified.

(d) Medication used for the treatment of opioid use disorder must be ordered, administered, and dispensed according to applicable state and federal regulations and the standards set by applicable accreditation entities. If a medication order requires assessment by the person administering or dispensing the medication to determine the amount to be administered or dispensed, the assessment must be completed by an individual whose professional scope of practice permits an assessment. For the purposes of enforcement of this paragraph, the commissioner has the authority to monitor the person administering or dispensing the medication for compliance with state and federal regulations and the relevant standards of the license holder's accreditation agency and may issue licensing actions according to sections 245A.05, 245A.06, and 245A.07, based on the commissioner's determination of noncompliance.

(e) The license holder must maintain a ratio of one full-time equivalent alcohol and drug counselor for every 60 clients enrolled in the program. The license holder must determine the appropriate number of clients for which each counselor is responsible based on the needs of each client. The license holder must maintain documentation of the clients assigned to each counselor to demonstrate compliance with this paragraph. For the purpose of this paragraph, "full-time equivalent" means working at least 32 hours each week.

Subd. 18. **Quality improvement plan.** The license holder must develop and maintain a quality improvement plan that:

(1) includes evaluation of the services provided to clients to identify issues that may improve service delivery and client outcomes;

(2) includes goals for the program to accomplish based on the evaluation;

(3) is reviewed annually by the management of the program to determine whether the goals were met and, if not, whether additional action is required;

(4) is updated at least annually to include new or continued goals based on an updated evaluation of services; and

(5) identifies two specific goal areas, in addition to others identified by the program, including:

(i) a goal concerning oversight and monitoring of the premises around and near the exterior of the program to reduce the possibility of medication used for the treatment of opioid use disorder being inappropriately used by a client, including but not limited to the sale or transfer of the medication to others; and

(ii) a goal concerning community outreach, including but not limited to communications with local law enforcement and county human services agencies, to increase coordination of services and identification of areas of concern to be addressed in the plan.

Subd. 19. MS 2022 [Repealed, 2023 c 50 art 2 s 63]

Subd. 20. **Duty to report suspected drug diversion.** (a) To the fullest extent permitted under Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, sections 2.1 to 2.67, a program shall report to law enforcement any credible evidence that the program or its personnel knows, or reasonably should know, that is directly related to a diversion crime on the premises of the program, or a threat to commit a diversion crime.

(b) "Diversion crime," for the purposes of this section, means diverting, attempting to divert, or conspiring to divert Schedule I, II, III, or IV drugs, as defined in section 152.02, on the program's premises.

(c) The program must document the program's compliance with the requirement in paragraph (a) in either a client's record or an incident report. A program's failure to comply with paragraph (a) may result in sanctions as provided in sections 245A.06 and 245A.07.

History: *1Sp2017 c 6 art 8 s 35; 2018 c 170 s 5; 1Sp2019 c 9 art 6 s 30-39; 2022 c 98 art 12 s 17; 2023 c 50 art 1 s 17,18; art 2 s 20; 2023 c 61 art 4 s 6; 2024 c 108 art 4 s 11-14; 2024 c 127 art 62 s 36-39; 2025 c 38 art 5 s 24-26; 1Sp2025 c 9 art 4 s 19,20*

NOTE: The amendments to subdivisions 11 and 15 by Laws 2025, First Special Session chapter 9, article 4, sections 19 and 20, are effective July 1, 2026, or upon federal approval, whichever is later. The commissioner of human services shall notify the revisor of statutes when federal approval is obtained. Laws 2025, First Special Session chapter 9, article 4, sections 19 and 20, the effective dates.