Psychosocial Rehabilitation (PSR) Rule Revisions Based on Public Comment

The following information is the revised content of rules in IDAPA 16.03.10.130-131 Medicaid intends to publish following the adjournment of the 2011 legislative session. The information is in paragraph form and may likely appear in a modified format when formally published due to the protocols required for the presentation of information in IDAPA. Regarding the three (3) cohorts of PSR Specialists, please be aware that for compliance purposes the rules that were in place at the time of their hire are applicable regarding the person's qualifications to be hired as a PSR Specialist. Please direct inquiries regarding this document to the Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse at (208) 334-0767.

Supervision

The agency must provide staff with adequate supervision to insure that the tasks on a participant's individualized treatment plan can be implemented effectively in order for the individualized treatment plan objectives to be achieved. An agency staff person without a Master's degree must be supervised by a licensed master's level professional, as defined in IDAPA 16.03.09, "Medicaid Basic Plan Benefits," Subsection 715.03. Certified Psychiatric Rehabilitation Practitioners (CPRP) may provide supervision to PSR Specialist applicants who are working toward their USPRA CPRP credential when the certified professional is supervised by a Master's level staff person. PSR Specialist applicants who are working toward or have achieved the USPRA Certificate in Children's Psychiatric Rehabilitation must be supervised by a licensed master's level professional. Supervisors must ensure that the individual staff members demonstrate sufficient competency to work with all populations assigned to them.

PSR Specialist Staff Qualifications

First Cohort

As of June 30, 2009, persons who are working as PSR Specialists delivering Medicaid-reimbursable mental health services may continue to do so until January 1, 2012, at which time they must have completed a certificate program or earned a certification in psychiatric rehabilitation based upon the predominant population with whom they work in accordance with the requirements set by the USPRA.

Second Cohort

PSR Specialist applicants who were hired between July 1, 2009 and October 31, 2010 may work as a PSR Specialist for a period not to exceed thirty (30) months. In order to continue as a PSR Specialist beyond a total period of thirty (30) months, the worker must have earned one of USPRA's credentials in psychiatric rehabilitation based upon the predominant population with whom they work.

Third Cohort

PSR Specialist applicants hired as of November 1, 2010, must have a bachelor's degree or higher in any field. Within thirty months of the first date of hire each applicant must become educationally prepared in the core competencies of psychiatric rehabilitation principles as defined by USPRA at www.USPRA.org.

Credential Required for PSR Specialists Working Primarily with Adults

Applicants who intend to work primarily with adults, age 18 and older, must become a Certified Psychiatric Rehabilitation Practitioner in accordance of USPRA's requirements. Applicants who primarily work with adults but also intend to work with participants under the age of eighteen (18) must have training addressing children's developmental milestones or have evidence of classroom hours in an equivalent course. The worker's supervisor must determine the scope and amount of training the worker needs in order to work with children assigned to the worker's caseload.

Credential Required for PSR Specialists Working Primarily with Children

Applicants who intend to work primarily with children under the age of 18 must obtain a Certificate in Children's Psychiatric Rehabilitation in accordance with USPRA's requirements. Applicants who primarily work with children but also intend to work with participants over the age of 18 must have training or have evidence of classroom hours addressing adult issues in psychiatric rehabilitation. The worker's supervisor must determine the scope and amount of training the worker needs in order to work with adults assigned to the worker's caseload.

Annual Requirement for Continuing Education
Classroom hours and trainings completed for a USPRA credential may be used toward a PSR specialist applicant's continuing education requirements as described in Subsection 130.09 of these rules. The completion of required classroom hours and trainings must be evidenced by documentation maintained by the applicant.

Staff Educated in Fields Other than PSR
An individual who is qualified to apply for licensure to the Idaho Bureau of Occupational Licenses, in the professions identified under Subsections 131.01 through 131.03 of this rule, who has failed his licensing exam or has been otherwise denied licensure is not eligible to provide services under the designation of PSR Specialist with the exception of those individuals who have obtained one of the USPRA credentials.