
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 976 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY SCHWANK, FONTANA, ARGALL, KANE, KEARNEY AND
CAPPELLETTI, DECEMBER 10, 2021

REFERRED TO HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DECEMBER 10, 2021

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), entitled
2 "An act providing for and reorganizing the conduct of the
3 executive and administrative work of the Commonwealth by the
4 Executive Department thereof and the administrative
5 departments, boards, commissions, and officers thereof,
6 including the boards of trustees of State Normal Schools, or
7 Teachers Colleges; abolishing, creating, reorganizing or
8 authorizing the reorganization of certain administrative
9 departments, boards, and commissions; defining the powers and
10 duties of the Governor and other executive and administrative
11 officers, and of the several administrative departments,
12 boards, commissions, and officers; fixing the salaries of the
13 Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and certain other executive
14 and administrative officers; providing for the appointment of
15 certain administrative officers, and of all deputies and
16 other assistants and employes in certain departments, boards,
17 and commissions; providing for judicial administration; and
18 prescribing the manner in which the number and compensation
19 of the deputies and all other assistants and employes of
20 certain departments, boards and commissions shall be
21 determined," in powers and duties of the Department of Drug
22 and Alcohol Programs, providing for survey of drug and
23 alcohol treatment facilities and recovery houses.

24 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
25 hereby enacts as follows:

26 Section 1. The act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known
27 as The Administrative Code of 1929, is amended by adding a
28 section to read:

1 Section 2303-A. Survey of drug and alcohol treatment facilities
2 and recovery houses.

3 (a) Annual survey.--The Department of Drug and Alcohol
4 Programs shall submit an annual survey to each drug and alcohol
5 treatment facility licensed or certified under 28 Pa. Code Pt. V
6 (relating to Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs) and each
7 licensed or certified drug and alcohol recovery house under
8 section 2312-A within this Commonwealth to allow individuals
9 seeking drug and alcohol treatment or recovery services to
10 evaluate drug and alcohol treatment programs, including any
11 deviations from evidence-based drug and alcohol treatment and
12 recovery practices. The Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs
13 shall post the responses to the survey on its publicly
14 accessible Internet website. If a drug and alcohol treatment
15 facility or drug and alcohol recovery house fails to respond to
16 the survey, the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs shall
17 post that the drug and alcohol treatment facility or drug and
18 alcohol recovery house failed to respond to the survey on its
19 publicly accessible Internet website.

20 (b) Contents.--The annual survey under subsection (a) shall
21 be in a form substantially similar to the following:

22 (1) What is the name and address of your drug and
23 alcohol treatment facility or drug and alcohol recovery
24 house? If you have multiple locations, provide information
25 for each location.

26 (2) Which of the following do you operate?

27 (i) Inpatient treatment.

28 (ii) Inpatient/outpatient treatment.

29 (iii) Drug and alcohol recovery house.

30 (iv) Other.

1 (3) What is the size of your drug and alcohol treatment
2 facility or drug and alcohol recovery house based on the
3 following?

4 (i) Number of beds.

5 (ii) Maximum number of inpatients or residents.

6 (iii) Maximum number of outpatients.

7 (4) Do you have onsite medical facilities? If so,
8 describe the onsite medical facilities.

9 (5) How long has your drug and alcohol treatment
10 facility or drug and alcohol recovery house been in
11 operation?

12 (6) Provide a description of the staff as follows:

13 (i) Total number of full-time staff.

14 (ii) Total number of part-time staff.

15 (iii) The number of staff with special licenses or
16 specialties, including a description of the special
17 licenses.

18 (iv) The average years of staff experience in
19 working with substance use disorder treatment and
20 recovery.

21 (7) What is the cost structure of your drug and alcohol
22 treatment facility or drug and alcohol recovery house and
23 what does the cost structure include based on the following?

24 (i) Daily, weekly or monthly cost.

25 (ii) Additional cost for treatment or board that is
26 not included in subparagraph (i).

27 (8) Which of the following do you accept as payment?

28 (i) Private insurance, including each insurance
29 plan.

30 (ii) Medicare or Medicaid.

1 (9) Is financial assistance available? If so, describe
2 the financial assistance available.

3 (10) What specific substance use diagnoses do you
4 accept? If you do not accept all substance use diagnoses,
5 which are excluded?

6 (11) Are you a dual diagnosis drug and alcohol treatment
7 facility or drug and alcohol recovery house accepting
8 patients with co-occurring mental health issues? If so, do
9 you exclude any specific mental health diagnoses? If so,
10 which mental health diagnoses do you exclude?

11 (12) Describe how you manage security and ensure the
12 safety of all residents.

13 (13) Have there been any reportable incidents of
14 violence in your drug and alcohol treatment facility or drug
15 and alcohol recovery house during the previous year?

16 (14) How are incidents of violence at your drug and
17 alcohol treatment facility or drug and alcohol recovery house
18 managed?

19 (15) Has any employee of your drug and alcohol treatment
20 facility or drug and alcohol recovery house been the subject
21 of a complaint regarding making threats against a patient or
22 resident during the previous year?

23 (16) What level of support does your drug and alcohol
24 treatment facility or drug and alcohol recovery house provide
25 based on the standard for recovery residences established by
26 National Alliance for Recovery Residences?

27 (17) Which standards under paragraph (16) have you not
28 yet attained?

29 (18) Do you accept individuals who are pursuing
30 medication-assisted recovery regimes? If so, how are the

1 medications managed?

2 (19) How often are individuals directly treated by a
3 licensed substance use disorder or mental health expert?

4 (20) How often are individual sessions conducted at your
5 drug and alcohol treatment facility or drug and alcohol
6 recovery house?

7 (21) How often are group sessions conducted at your drug
8 and alcohol treatment facility or drug and alcohol recovery
9 house?

10 (22) Is contact with a primary care doctor established
11 at your drug and alcohol treatment facility or drug and
12 alcohol recovery house? If a patient or resident does not
13 have a primary care doctor, do you introduce the patient or
14 resident to a primary care doctor?

15 (23) How often are individuals who require mental health
16 treatment seen by a medical doctor, psychiatrist or
17 psychologist?

18 (24) Is access to Narcotics Anonymous or Alcoholics
19 Anonymous meetings provided at your drug and alcohol
20 treatment facility or drug and alcohol recovery house? If so,
21 how often? Is transportation provided to the location of
22 Narcotics Anonymous or Alcoholics Anonymous meetings?

23 (25) What additional treatment or activities do you
24 provide at your drug and alcohol treatment facility or drug
25 and alcohol recovery house? For example, do you provide art
26 therapy, writing/poetry therapy, music therapy, exercise
27 therapy, yoga, acupuncture therapy, contact with religious
28 organizations for attending services, etc.? Is transportation
29 provided to the location of the additional treatment or
30 activities?

1 (26) Do you have a formal program to assist residents
2 after they leave your drug and alcohol treatment facility or
3 drug and alcohol recovery house? If so, describe the formal
4 program, including whether the formal program assists
5 residents in finding an appropriate next residence, relapse
6 prevention, life skill training, etc.

7 (27) What is the average length of stay per resident at
8 the drug and alcohol treatment facility or drug and alcohol
9 recovery house during the previous year?

10 (28) Do you track the ongoing wellness of residents who
11 have received treatment at your drug and alcohol treatment
12 facility or drug and alcohol recovery house? If so, what is
13 the average consecutive days of wellness per resident during
14 the previous year? What is the average consecutive days of
15 wellness per resident for residents pursuing medication-
16 assisted recovery regimes during the previous year? What is
17 the average consecutive days of wellness per resident for
18 residents not pursuing medication-assisted recovery regimes
19 during the previous year?

20 (29) How many patients or residents suffered relapses or
21 overdoses while in your drug and alcohol treatment facility
22 or drug and alcohol recovery house during the previous year?

23 (30) How many patients or residents suffered death while
24 in your drug and alcohol treatment facility or drug and
25 alcohol recovery house during the previous year?

26 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.