
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 191 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY BARTOLOTTA, BREWSTER, YAW, J. WARD, SCARNATI,
COLLETT, K. WARD AND BROOKS, FEBRUARY 1, 2019

REFERRED TO HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, FEBRUARY 1, 2019

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, providing for office-based opioid and
3 non-narcotic opioid treatment provider certification; and
4 establishing the Opioid Treatment Certification Fund.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Title 35 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
8 Statutes is amended by adding a chapter to read:

9 CHAPTER 52B

10 OFFICE-BASED OPIOID AND NON-NARCOTIC OPIOID

11 TREATMENT PROVIDER CERTIFICATION

12 Sec.

13 52B01. Definitions.

14 52B02. Certification.

15 52B03. Enforcement.

16 52B04. Fees.

17 52B05. Opioid Treatment Certification Fund.

18 52B06. Regulations.

19 § 52B01. Definitions.

1 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter
2 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
3 context clearly indicates otherwise:

4 "Department." The Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs of
5 the Commonwealth.

6 "FDA." The United States Food and Drug Administration.

7 "Non-narcotic opioid treatment." Treatment for opioid
8 dependence using an FDA-approved drug, including a full opioid
9 antagonist, offered in a primary care setting. The term does not
10 include office-based opioid treatment.

11 "Non-narcotic opioid treatment provider." A health care
12 practitioner as defined in section 103 of the act of July 19,
13 1979 (P.L.130, No.48), known as the Health Care Facilities Act,
14 who provides non-narcotic opioid treatment to at least 100
15 opioid-addicted patients over an aggregate period.

16 "Office-based opioid treatment." Treatment for opioid
17 dependence using a Schedule III, IV or V controlled substance
18 narcotic, including a partial opioid antagonist, offered in a
19 primary care setting.

20 "Office-based opioid treatment provider." A health care
21 practitioner as defined in section 103 of the Health Care
22 Facilities Act, who is permitted to provide office-based opioid
23 treatment under 21 U.S.C. § 823(g) (2) (A) (relating to
24 registration requirements) to at least 100 opioid-addicted
25 patients over an aggregate period.

26 "Opioid." As defined in section 5202 (relating to
27 definitions).

28 "Opioid treatment." Treatment provided at a health care
29 facility as defined in section 5202 that uses pharmacological
30 interventions, including full opiate antagonist medications to

1 provide treatment, support and recovery to opioid-addicted
2 patients.

3 § 52B02. Certification.

4 (a) Establishment.--The department shall establish a program
5 for the certification of office-based opioid treatment providers
6 and non-narcotic opioid treatment providers. Within one year of
7 the effective date of this chapter, each office-based opioid
8 treatment provider and non-narcotic opioid treatment provider
9 must be certified under this chapter.

10 (b) Renewal.--Office-based opioid treatment providers and
11 non-narcotic opioid treatment providers shall be required to
12 obtain the certifications required by this chapter every 36
13 months.

14 (c) Additional requirements.--In addition to department-
15 established requirements promulgated under section 52B06
16 (relating to regulations), each office-based opioid treatment
17 provider and non-narcotic opioid treatment provider shall do all
18 of the following:

19 (1) Follow department-established treatment protocols
20 consistent with section 303 of the Controlled Substances Act
21 (Public Law 91-513, 84 Stat. 1236).

22 (2) Follow standard medical practices in opioid
23 treatment that require all of the following:

24 (i) Appropriate use of overdose reversal, relapse
25 prevention, counseling and other services.

26 (ii) Require training and experience for qualifying
27 practitioners as that term is defined under 21 U.S.C. §
28 823(g) (2) (G) (iii) (relating to registration
29 requirements), who treat and manage opiate dependent
30 patients, including training on how to reduce drug abuse

1 and diversion, and requiring a plan to handle drug abuse
2 and diversion through proper education.

3 (iii) Review the prescription drug monitoring
4 program, including the requirements for prescribers and
5 training under sections 8 and 9.1 of the act of October
6 27, 2014 (P.L.2911, No.191), known as the Achieving
7 Better Care by Monitoring All Prescriptions Program (ABC-
8 MAP) Act.

9 (iv) Obtain informed consent from a patient
10 concerning all available FDA-approved opioid treatment
11 drug options, including each option's risks and benefits
12 before being prescribed.

13 (3) Develop an individualized treatment plan for each
14 patient, which must be signed by the patient.

15 (4) Require each patient to actively participate in
16 appropriate behavioral counseling or treatment for the
17 patient's substance abuse and document each visit that the
18 patient is attending sufficient behavioral health treatment.

19 (5) Provide ongoing toxicological testing.

20 (6) Develop a drug abuse and diversion plan.

21 (7) Physically secure and maintain the confidentiality
22 of all patient records in accordance with 42 CFR 2.22
23 (relating to notice to patients of federal confidentiality
24 requirements) and 28 Pa. Code § 709.28 (relating to
25 confidentiality). Patient records, regardless of format,
26 shall be readily accessible for a minimum of four years
27 following the discharge of a patient.

28 § 52B03. Enforcement.

29 (a) Powers of department.--If the department determines that
30 an office-based opioid treatment provider or non-narcotic opioid

1 treatment provider or primary care facility has violated any
2 provision of this chapter or department regulation, the
3 department may:

4 (1) Direct the office-based opioid treatment provider or
5 non-narcotic opioid treatment provider to implement a
6 corrective action plan.

7 (2) Deny, suspend, revoke or refuse to renew the
8 certification of an office-based opioid treatment provider or
9 non-narcotic opioid treatment provider.

10 (3) Impose a monetary penalty up to \$5,000 per
11 violation.

12 (4) Impose other conditions and penalties as deemed
13 appropriate.

14 (b) Licensing boards.--An office-based opioid treatment
15 provider or non-narcotic opioid treatment provider violating
16 provisions of this chapter shall also be subject to sanctions
17 under the provider's professional practice act and by the
18 appropriate licensing board.

19 § 52B04. Fees.

20 The department shall, by regulation, set fees for
21 applications for certification and certification renewals.

22 § 52B05. Opioid Treatment Certification Fund.

23 (a) Establishment.--The Opioid Treatment Certification Fund
24 is established in the State Treasury. Money in the fund shall be
25 used for the implementation and administration of this chapter.

26 (b) Deposit.--All penalties and fees collected under this
27 chapter shall be deposited into the Opioid Treatment
28 Certification Fund.

29 § 52B06. Regulations.

30 (a) Authorization.--The department, in consultation with the

1 Department of Health, is authorized to promulgate regulations to
2 implement and administer the certification and certification
3 renewals of office-based opioid treatment providers and non-
4 narcotic opioid treatment providers.

5 (b) Temporary regulations.--In order to facilitate the
6 prompt implementation of this chapter, the department may issue
7 temporary regulations. The following shall apply:

8 (1) The temporary regulations shall expire no later than
9 two years after publication of the temporary regulations.

10 (2) The temporary regulations issued by the department
11 shall not be subject to:

12 (i) Sections 201, 202, 203, 204 and 205 of the act
13 of July 31, 1968 (P.L.769, No.240), referred to as the
14 Commonwealth Documents Law.

15 (ii) Section 204(b) of the act of October 15, 1980
16 (P.L.950, No.164), known as the Commonwealth Attorneys
17 Act.

18 (iii) The act of June 25, 1982 (P.L.633, No.181),
19 known as the Regulatory Review Act.

20 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 180 days.