

## Bed-Based Services Update

### Louisiana Medicaid Special Behavioral Health Services Manual

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The Louisiana Office of Behavioral Health (OBH) has updated Section 2.2 Bed-Based Services in the [Medicaid Special Behavioral Health Services Manual](#), effective Jan. 6, 2026. Here are the changes made with this update:

#### Assessment and Treatment Planning

- A plan of care must be developed and implemented no later than 14 days after the patient's admission. Previously, care plans had to be developed/implemented within 72 hours after admission.

#### Provider Qualifications – Agency

- In outlining requirements for agencies that operate as Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF), the reference to being accredited by an LDH-approved accrediting body has been changed to OBH-approved accrediting body.
- Added the Certified Nurse Aide Registry to the list of data sources that must be checked prior to hiring or contracting with any licensed and non-licensed staff, interns and contractors who are compensated with Medicaid/Medicare funds.

#### Team Qualifications

- In outlining the roles required as part of a team, the options for staffing the psychologist role has been expanded to include a psychologist possessing a master's degree in clinical psychology.
  - This additional staffing option is in addition to the previous options of the role being filled by a licensed psychologist or medical psychologist

#### New Service – Specialty Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility Serving Youth with Co-Occurring Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Needs

- This service is specifically targeted to youth with needs related to both behavioral health and development disabilities. A specialty PRTF must comply with all standard PRTF licensing regulations and requirements, as well as additional outlined standards. Providers and staff are encouraged to review the manual for additional information.