

Provider Alert

RIDOH Provider Advisory

July 19, 2023

Notice of New DEA Training Requirements for Practitioners

Earlier this year, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 eliminated the federal requirement for practitioners to have a DATA waiver to prescribe buprenorphine and instituted new training requirements.

New substance use disorder (SUD) training requirements for all practitioners with prescriptive authority, except veterinarians, are now in place. All new and renewing Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) registrants must now attest to completion of eight (8) hours of training in SUDs and the use of Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved medications to treat substance use disorders.

The new requirement went into effect on June 27, 2023. This is a one-time requirement and is not required for subsequent DEA registration renewals.

Educational materials from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the DEA are available on SAMHSA's Training Requirements (MATE Act) Resources webpage. These include:

- MATE Act Training Requirement Public Service Announcement, June 2023
- Frequently Asked Questions
- SAMHSA DEA Webinar: The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023
- Links to online training resources that meet the eight-hour educational training requirement

What does this mean for me as a practitioner?

The passage of section 1263 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 means that when it is time to renew your DEA Registration or when you apply for a new DEA

Registration to prescribe any Schedule II – V controlled medications, you will need to attest on your DEA application that you have either:

Completed at least eight (8) hours of training (training can be cumulative; it does not have to be completed in one session) on opioid/other substance use disorders that has been approved by certain specified organizations; or

Hold a current board certification in addiction medicine or addiction psychiatry from the American Board of Medical Specialties, American Board of Addiction Medicine, or the American Osteopathic Association; or

Graduated within five (5) years in good standing from a medical, advanced practice nursing, or physician assistant school in the United States that included successful completion of an opioid or other substance use disorder curriculum. Training must include the treatment and management of patients with opioid and other substance use disorders, and the appropriate clinical use of all drugs approved by the FDA for the treatment of a substance use disorder.

What if I took the training to obtain an X-waiver and prescribed buprenorphine for opioid use disorder?

If you previously held a waiver from the DEA and SAMHSA that was granted because you met the training requirements to prescribe buprenorphine, you have already met the criteria, and can attest to meeting the training requirement. However, practitioners who received a 30E waiver (one in which they did not have to complete any special training), must meet the new training criteria under section 1263 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023.

For more information, please contact Dr. Collette Onyejekwe, Chief Program Administrator, Rhode Island Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.