

Provider Compliance panel

OACB recommendations to enhance Ohio's systems

Precertification process

We believe a more robust process prior to provider certification is important for new providers. This may include one or more of the following activities: initial contact with a county board representative to explain HCBS waiver services, viewing the OACB "So you want to be a provider" video, mandatory site visits for Adult day services providers, and other potential strategies. In addition, we recommend that all agency providers have access to ITS reports on PPIs so they can do a search up front prior to hiring.

Within first six months of certification

We support a compliance review be conducted within the first six months after certification to ensure all rule requirements are met. Of critical importance would be a check on ALL employees to ensure BCI checks have been conducted. If BCI checks are lacking, we recommend harsh penalties at this stage which may include a fine or other sanctions.

Provider Compliance reviews

All Provider compliance reviews should be posted on line in a CMO report. The reports should be easy to navigate and written in language that individuals families can understand. The role of the county board should be clarified so that they can encourage and assist individuals and families in reviewing and understanding the reports. Immediate citations, such as lack of BCI checks, should be "redflagged" and posted immediately along with a written notice to the county board. In addition, add language to rules that permit individuals and families to request and receive all BCI and related background checks for staff working with them directly.

We would like to assist DODD in revising the current "letter of suspension" that is sent out. When a letter of suspension is being sent to providers, we believe that the county board of DD should have the ability to add information to the letter to strengthen and personalize the message to individuals and families.

We support revisions to the current decertification process that will expedite the timeframes for providers that pose immediate risks to health and safety of individuals. This process should include the ability to remove providers or individuals from settings where DODD or the county board of DD have identified immediate risk of harm.

Related parties issues

We support the expansion of the definition of "related parties" and recommend that county boards of DD work collaboratively with DODD to identify these providers when they become aware of them. The rules need to ensure that these providers are unable to become certified as a new agency in Ohio.