

## Peer support services

**Background:** The Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) has authorized local governing entities (LGEs) to provide peer support services effective March 1, 2021, in line with the *Louisiana Medicaid Behavioral Health Services Provider Manual* as indicated in the following resources:

- Louisiana Medicaid provider manuals: <https://ldh.la.gov/index.cfm/page/3680>
- Peer support services section: <https://bit.ly/3k6ZQWs>

### What is the impact of this issue?

Louisiana's LGEs are permitted to serve as peer support providers. To request an authorization, LGEs can complete the *Behavioral Health Outpatient Treatment Request Form* at <https://bit.ly/2OP95Pb> (found on our public provider portal under Provider Support > Forms > Behavioral Health). Submit the completed form using our preferred method online at <https://providers.healthybluela.com> or by fax to **1-844-432-6028**. Please fill out the form completely to avoid delays.

Instructions for providers:

- Please write *Peer Support Request* on the top of the first page of the *Behavioral Health Outpatient Treatment Request Form*.
- Include the written Licensed Mental Health Professional's (LMHP) request for peer support services, the clinical need/reason for these peer support services, the overall treatment plan and anticipated outcomes for the peer support services. **These must be signed by the LMHP supervising the peer support specialist.**
- Include a behavioral health assessment that is less than six months old.

Authorization requests shall be reviewed using *MCG Peer Support Criteria*. Peer support authorization criteria can be located on the Healthy Blue website at <https://anthemla.access.mcg.com/index>.

Healthy Blue's system will be updated by February 23, 2021, and any claims affected by this issue will be automatically reprocessed.

### What if I need assistance?

If you have questions about this communication or need assistance with any other item, contact your local Provider Relations representative or call Provider Services at **1-844-521-6942**.

<https://providers.healthybluela.com>

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