



**Date:** March 12, 2024

**To:** Oregon Behavioral Health Providers

**From:** Cissie M. Bollinger, Licensing & Certification Manager  
Nicole Corbin, LPC, Addiction Treatment, Recovery, and Prevention Services  
Manager

**Subject:** Reconciling of *The ASAM Criteria, Third Edition* and *The ASAM Criteria, Fourth Edition*

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) is in the process of licensing and certifying providers to *The American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) Criteria, Third Edition*, via an application process. The updated licenses and certificates of approval will indicate the approved ASAM level of care. This will help to demonstrate our compliance with the Medicaid 1115 SUD Demonstration Waiver approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

For any licensing and/or certification renewal reviews that occur prior to July 1, 2025, all ASAM levels of care previously approved by OHA's Licensing and Certification Unit (L&C) will be extended in alignment with the renewal period. This will allow OHA and the providers 16 months to change over to *The ASAM Criteria, Fourth Edition*.

### Why is this happening?

At the time of the ASAM implementation, *The ASAM Criteria, Third Edition* was in place; it was incorporated in the Oregon Administrative Rules April 2023 with an effective date of April 2024. Since then, *The ASAM Criteria, Fourth Edition* has been released. In conversations with providers, OHA acknowledges the need to support providers where they are now and as they move to the updated edition. OHA intends the 16 month glide path to alleviate administrative burden and to improve services in Oregon while transitioning to the most current ASAM edition available.

This timeline identified above will allow 16 months for providers to implement *The ASAM Criteria, Fourth Edition*. This will also allow the time needed to convene a workgroup to revise the Oregon Administrative Rules, focusing on identifying the appropriate level of specificity as it relates to ASAM as well as other areas identified by the workgroup. This

engagement work will be followed by the required rule activities to include a Rules Advisory Committee.

### **What should you do?**

If you have not already submitted your ASAM application or follow up materials requested, please do so immediately. To ensure continued eligibility for Medicaid reimbursement, the provider must be certified and/or licensed and have each level of care reflected on their license/certificate.

OHA will be offering one training per individual clinician during the 2023-2025 biennium. See Memorandum from Nicole Corbin dated March 8, which is attached for your convenience. Each provider can determine whether to get training on the *Third Edition* or the *Fourth Edition*. Please ensure you are able to move forward with the implementation of *The ASAM Criteria, Fourth Edition* effective July 1, 2025.

### **Questions?**

- If you have any questions about this memorandum related to your license or certificate of approval, contact Cissie Bollinger at [Cissie.M.Bollinger@oha.oregon.gov](mailto:Cissie.M.Bollinger@oha.oregon.gov) or (503) 602-1403.
- If you have questions about this memorandum related to the implementation of ASAM Version 4, contact the SUD Waiver Project Team at [sud.waiver@oha.oregon.gov](mailto:sud.waiver@oha.oregon.gov).

Thank you for your continued support of Oregon's behavioral health system and for the services you provide.