

Certified Mental Health Clinics: 2024 Legislative changes and program implementation plan

The 2024 Legislature made changes to several laws that impact Department of Human Services (DHS) certified mental health clinics. The sections below contain an overview of each change, instructions for what programs need to do about the change, a link to the change in law, and the date the change is effective.

The hyperlinks within this document go to where the new law can be found. The hyperlink will go to the exact section in session law, but it may take a few seconds for the page to scroll down to the right spot. When reviewing the new law:

- Text that is stricken with a line through it reflects words that are being removed from the law.
- Text that is underlined reflects words that are being added to the law.
- Text that is unchanged reflects what the law was before and continues to be the law.

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Mental health professional disciplines

Overview

Clinics must continue to have at least two mental health professionals who are employed by or under contract with the mental health clinic for a minimum of 35 hours per week each. The requirement for these two mental health professionals to specialize in different disciplines is eliminated.

See [Chapter 127, Article 61, Section 11 \(2024 Minnesota Statutes, section 245I.20\)](#).

Effective July 1, 2024.

What programs need to do

Programs may allow these mental health professionals to be of the same discipline.

Clinical trainee qualifications

Overview

Changes were made to the statutory language for clinical trainee qualifications. This adds a qualification option for a clinical trainee who has completed a practicum or internship but not yet taken or received the results from the required test or is waiting for the final licensure decision. However, a person may only use this qualification if it is allowed by their prospective or current licensing board. The qualifications in chapter 245I **do not** supersede the licensing boards' authority to determine the scope of practice, supervision, and licensure requirements for clinical trainees and mental health professionals.

See [Chapter 127, Article 61, Section 7 \(2024 Minnesota Statutes, section 245I.04\)](#).

Effective July 1, 2024.

What programs need to do

Certification holders must ensure that a person's prospective or current licensing board allows a person with these qualifications to complete the functions in the [clinical trainee scope of practice](#). The personnel file must contain documentation that the clinical trainee complies with all requirements of the applicable professional licensing board.

Public email address

Overview

The certification holder's email address will become public data. The certification holder can choose which email to provide as their public certification holder email address.

See [MN Laws, Chapter 115, Article 19, Section 1 \(2024 Minnesota Statutes, section 13.46\)](#).

Effective January 1, 2025.

What programs need to do

Programs do not need to make any changes at this time. DHS Licensing will provide further guidance prior to January 1, 2025.

Reporting maltreatment of minors definitions

Overview

The following two revisions are made to definitions in the maltreatment of minors reporting statute.

The definition for threatened injury (a type of maltreatment) adds the term parent.

[Chapter 115, Article 18, Section 45 \(2024 Minnesota Statutes, section 260E.03\)](#)

Effective July 1, 2024.

The definition for substantial child endangerment (another type of maltreatment) adds labor trafficking.

[Chapter 115, Article 12, Sections 13 and 16 \(2024 Minnesota Statutes, section 260E.03\)](#)

Effective July 1, 2025.

What programs need to do

Programs should update any program materials if they contain these definitions including maltreatment of minors reporting policies, procedures, client and patient orientation material, staff training material, and postings. Staff should be trained according to the new definitions upon orientation or at their next annual training.

Questions

If you have questions about this implementation plan or other certification requirements, please contact your licensor directly or email dhs.mhcdlicensing@state.mn.us.