



PROVIDER ALERT:

ABA Provider Reminder: Temporary Registration of Behavior Technicians (BT) during State of Emergency

December 23, 2020

Optum Maryland and the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) would like to remind ABA providers of the following requirements as it relates to the temporary enrollment of Behavior Technicians (BT) during the State of Maryland COVID-19 emergency.

MDH temporarily waived the requirement that rendering providers obtain their Registered Behavior Technician™ (RBT®) certification from the Behavior Analyst Certification Board, Inc.® (BACB®) **prior to** enrolling with Medicaid through electronic Provider Revalidation and Enrollment Portal ([ePREP](#)) due to Pearson Vue testing site closures. It is still expected that providers **schedule an RBT exam as soon as possible**. [Pearson Vue](#) testing sites are open according to the local jurisdictions' COVID protocols, operating by appointment or on a limited number of days per week.

The temporary waiver to allow a BT to enroll with Maryland Medicaid is still in effect through the State of Maryland COVID-19 emergency. ABA providers must enroll each individual BT with Medicaid via the ePREP system. ABA providers should complete the following instructions for their applications in ePREP when submitting for a behavior technician (BT):

1. Select the specialty code 318 for RBTs.
2. Enter "RBT Pending" for the license number.
3. Enter the application date for the issuance date.
4. Enter the date one year from the application date as the expiration date.
5. Attach a copy of MDH's guidance in place of the copy of the RBT certification
 - a. Guidance is located [here](#).

Please monitor applications closely by checking for status updates weekly.

Additionally, MDH has been made aware that some ABA providers may have received correspondence from the provider enrollment team stating that an RBT license is required to be uploaded to ePrep by 12/31/2020. **This correspondence was sent in error. There is no current date expectation of when a BT will be required to have their RBT certification.** Therefore, if you receive such correspondence it can be disregarded at this time. However, as stated above, it is still expected that providers

continue to monitor the testing situation and **schedule an RBT exam as soon as possible**. ABA providers are strongly encouraged to keep internal records of their providers who are enrolled this way.

Finally, the following link contains pertinent details as it relates to the State of Maryland COVID-19 guidance, orders, and updates:

<https://mmcp.health.maryland.gov/Pages/COVID-19-Provider-Updates.aspx>

Please contact mdh.aba@maryland.gov with any additional questions

Thank you,

Maryland Department of Health (MDH)