

December 21, 2022 To: County Managers, CCI, CCAT CC: County Commissioners Re: Behavioral Health Secure Transportation URGENT

On January 1, 2023, behavioral health secure transportation providers must have licenses issued by the county to provide services according to <u>House Bill 21-1085</u>. Additionally, those providers must have permits for their vehicles. With the deadline approaching, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF), and the Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) wanted to provide additional information to assist secure transportation providers to meet the county requirements and to address commonly received questions.

The regulations that were written as a result of House Bill 21-1085 allow for reciprocal licensing and permitting agreements across counties and neighboring states [6 CCR 1011-4 3.1 B] and allow select entities exception to licensure and permitting [6 CCR 1011-4 3.2 A, 1-4]. The <u>Colorado Counties, Inc. (CCI) website</u> has already developed materials that may be helpful in the licensing and permitting process.

CDPHE, HCPF, and the BHA recommend transportation providers contact the county's licensing authority regarding licensing and permitting if not already done so. With the deadline approaching, it is important to have those conversations as soon as possible.

Frequently asked questions:

Q: Who is the licensing authority in my county?

A: CDPHE, HCPF, and the BHA may not know which staff member in each county is the licensing authority. Each county is unique and secure transportation agencies should contact the county directly to determine that information.

Q: If I do not have a license or permit on January 1, 2023 can I still provide secure transportation services?

A: CDPHE, HCPF, and the BHA are not able to provide legal guidance on this matter.

Q: Which governmental agency provides licenses and permits for secure transportation agencies?

A: Licenses for secure transportation agencies and permits for vehicles are issued by the county's licensing authority.



Q: What is the enforcement action if my secure transportation company does not get a license or permit by January 1, 2023?

A: According to House Bill 21-1085 CDPHE, HCPF, and the BHA do not have enforcement authority for secure transportation agencies that do not acquire licenses and permits. That authority rests with the county's licensing authority.

Q: Where can I find additional information about secure transportation licensing and permitting?

A: CDPHE, HCPF, and the BHA can provide resources about the House Bill, the regulations created from the bill, and general information about the requirement. For more specific information on your county's licensing and permitting process, contact the county's licensing authority directly.

- House Bill 21-1085
- CDPHE Regulations <u>6 CCR 1011-4</u>
- CDPHE Background FAQ Page
- CDPHE Secure Transportation Implementation Toolkit
- <u>Colorado Counties, Inc.</u>
 <u>Sample Implementation Documents</u> (shared by Archuleta County)
 <u>Colorado Counties FAQ</u>

Q: Where can I direct questions about the Secure Transportation Services regulations?

A: monica.billig@state.co.us and kara.johnson-hufford@state.co.us

Q: Where can I direct questions about Medicaid reimbursement?

A: meghan.morrissev@state.co.us or review the HCPF Website

Q: When can I ask questions directly of CDPHE, HCPF, and the BHA?

A: HCPF/CDPHE/BHA Stakeholder Meeting Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2023, 4 to 5 p.m. Click here to join the online meeting.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter, CDPHE, HCPF, BHA