

DVOMB Guidance to Approved Providers Regarding COVID-19

September 30, 2020

Dear DVOMB Approved Providers:

The Division of Criminal Justice, Office of Domestic Violence and Sex Offender Management (ODVSOM) has been monitoring the COVID-19 virus and assessing the situation along with its impact. In light of the increasing COVID-19 cases, Providers who submitted a Teletherapy or E-Therapy Variance and received an approval letter from the DVOMB staff have approval to continue conducting treatment and evaluation services under the variance and adjustment period until **December 31, 2020**. There is no need to submit any additional paperwork as this extension is automatic. While the goal of this period is to transition back to face-to-face services, the DVOMB understands this may not be possible for all providers or clients. As we monitor the situation, the DVOMB may grant another extension of the **Teletherapy or E-Therapy Variance** prior to December 31, 2020. Should the DVOMB choose to decline a subsequent extension of the variance, Providers will have the option of individually requesting an extension to continue providing **Teletherapy or E-Therapy** services beyond December 31, 2020.

Please note, these dates are subject to change based on the ever-changing situation regarding the COVID-19 virus and recommended precautions in the interest of public health and safety.

Due to the circumstances regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, beginning on July 1st, 2020, the requirement for applicants per Section 9.0 (II) will be modified to the following:

- Applicant Requirements - Co-facilitation hours required for an application may be accumulated via teletherapy or E-Therapy sessions with a Full Operating Level (FOL) Provider or a Domestic Violence Clinical Supervisor (DVCS) who has an approved teletherapy variance through the DVOMB. This extends to co-facilitation hours for all domestic violence services, including but not limited to individual sessions, group sessions, evaluations and any other domestic violence related services governed by the Standards. Applicants may also obtain co-facilitation hours using face-to-face means if available and appropriate. Each applicant will be expected to delineate how many co-facilitation hours were accumulated face-to-face or via teletherapy.
- Supervisor Requirements - DVCSs will be required to assess applicant competencies in providing services face-to-face, via teletherapy, or both. In the event that the applicant has not had the opportunity to conduct face-to-face services with domestic violence offenders, the DVCS shall describe any considerations or concerns with the applicant in their letter to the Application Review Committee (ARC).

These changes will remain in effect until further notice and the ARC will consider each application on a case-by-case basis. Please note that the absence of face-to-face co-facilitation hours with domestic violence offenders may result with an offer for conditional approval until a DVCS can observe and assess an applicant's competencies conducting face-to-face services.



COLORADO
Division of Criminal Justice
Department of Public Safety

Additional Guidance Regarding Legal Matters

The DVOMB is not authorized to speak on any legal matters pertaining to the presiding court or Parole Board for which are affected by COVID-19. Questions involving the requirements or modifications for a court order, a parole agreement, or protection orders should be directed through the appropriate legal channels.

State and Federal COVID-19 Resources

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) is leading the state response to COVID-19. The CDPHE website (colorado.gov/cdphe/2019-novel-coronavirus) has the most up-to-date information on state efforts to contain and treat the virus. You can also find national updates about the novel coronavirus from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) at cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov.