



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

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TO: DSHS Contract Substance Abuse Providers

FROM: Philander Moore, Substance Abuse Services Unit
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Division

SUBJECT: Policy and Practice Clarification

Background: Persons who have insurance coverage for substance abuse treatment services and meet the financial and residential criteria for Department of State Health Services (DSHS) funded services are sometimes unable to meet the deductible requirements of their insurance plans.

Clarification: Based upon a sliding scale, DSHS will assume payment responsibility for the amount of the deductible, or for the actual cost of services provided, whichever is the lower amount. For this to occur, the following conditions must be met:

- Client or potential client meets financial and residency criteria
- Client has insurance that provides for addiction treatment
- Client has not exhausted his/her benefits as they pertain to Substance Abuse services
- Client's inability to pay the deductible amount is verified in a hard copy of the client's file or is included in the client's CMBHS electronic file.