



DATE: July 7, 2026

Behavioral Health Information Notice No: 26-024

TO: California Alliance of Child and Family Services
California Association for Alcohol/Drug Educators
California Association of Alcohol & Drug Program Executives, Inc.
California Association of DUI Treatment Program
California Association of Mental Health Peer Run Organizations
California Association of Social Rehabilitation Agencies
California Consortium of Addiction Programs and Professional
California Behavioral Health Association
California Hospital Association
California Opioid Maintenance Providers
California State Association of Counties
Coalition of Alcohol and Drug Associations
County Behavioral Health Directors
County Behavioral Health Directors Association of California
County Drug & Alcohol Administrators

SUBJECT: Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Regulations superseded by Interim Guidance Provided through the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) County Policy Manual.

PURPOSE: To notify Counties that the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) regulations are superseded, effective July 1, 2026, by the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) County Policy Manual. The Manual will be the authoritative source until July 1st, 2033.

REFERENCE: Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) § 5963.05(a) and (b); WIC § 5898; Title 9 California Code of Regulations, Division 1, Chapter 14

California Department of Health Care Services

Deputy Director's Office, Behavioral Health
P.O. Box 997413 | Sacramento, CA | 95899-7413
MS Code 2710 | Phone (916) 440-7800

www.dhcs.ca.gov

State of California

Gavin Newsom, Governor



California Health and Human Services Agency

July 7, 2026

BACKGROUND:

In March 2024, California voters passed Proposition 1 to implement the statutory changes in Senate Bill 326 (Chapter 790, Statutes of 2023), rename the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) and modernize and reform the public behavioral health care system. With the passage of Proposition 1, the underlying statutory authorities for regulations promulgated in the California Code of Regulations were amended or repealed, effective July 1, 2026.

Pursuant to WIC section 5963.05(a), DHCS may implement, interpret, or make specific the amendments made pursuant to the BHSA by plan or county letters, information notices, plan or provider bulletins, or other similar instructions without taking further regulatory action. Pursuant to WIC section 5963.05(b), this authority is effective through July 1, 2033.

POLICY:

Title 9 of the California Code of Regulations, Division 1, Chapter 14 is superseded effective July 1, 2026. Until DHCS adopts new regulations pursuant to WIC section 5963.05(b), and WIC section 5898, the BHSA County Policy Manual will serve as the authoritative source for policy and program guidance for counties implementing BHSA. Counties should utilize the [BHSA County Policy Manual](#) instead of the regulations for guidance until new regulations are promulgated by or after July 1st, 2033.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Marlies Perez

Community Services Division, Chief

Behavioral Health Transformation, Project Executive