



DATE: June 17, 2025

Behavioral Health Information Notice No: 25-008

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 Council of Community Behavioral Health Agencies
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: Narcotic Treatment Programs Regulation Changes

PURPOSE: To notify licensed Narcotic Treatment Programs (NTPs) of changes to the NTP regulations in Chapter 4 of Division 4 of Title 9 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), effective October 1, 2025.

REFERENCE: [Assembly Bill 2115](#) (Haney, Stats. 2024, Chapter 634)

BACKGROUND:

DHCS has the sole authority to license NTPs that provide detoxification and maintenance treatment (replacement narcotic therapy) with medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) to patients with opioid use disorder. (Health and Safety Code (HSC), Division 10.5, Chapter 10, Sections 11839.3, 11839.5, 11839.7). DHCS is responsible for overseeing all activities associated with NTP licensure, administration, and operation, including compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements, patient eligibility for treatment with MOUD, and the provision of unsupervised, or take-home MOUD. The state regulations governing NTPs are found in [Chapter 4](#) of Division 4 of Title 9 of the CCR, beginning at section 10000.



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11839.01 to the HSC directing DHCS to amend its NTP regulations to comply with [Part 8](#) of Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) (as [published](#) in the Federal Register on February 2, 2024), which are federal regulations governing opioid (narcotic) treatment programs. AB 2115 also provides that if the new federal regulations render state regulations inconsistent with, but not in violation of, federal requirements, then DHCS may amend its regulations to align with the federal regulations.

In a final rule issued on February 2, 2024, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) updated its regulations governing opioid (narcotic) treatment programs. SAMHSA made extensive changes to its treatment standards, including to patient admission criteria, criteria for take-home MOUD eligibility, guidelines for the initial dosage of methadone, and restrictions on patient supply of take-home methadone.

POLICY:

In accordance with the authority granted by HSC section 11839.01, DHCS revised the NTP Regulations in Chapter 4 of Division 4 of Title 9 of the CCR to align with federal requirements for opioid treatment programs in Part 8 of Title 42 of the CFR (see [Attachment 1](#)). The regulations in Attachment 1 are effective on October 1, 2025.

COMPLIANCE:

NTPs shall comply with the revised regulations in Attachment 1 no later than October 1, 2025. NTPs shall submit an amended protocol to DHCS demonstrating compliance with the regulatory changes in this BHIN no later than November 1, 2025.

Questions regarding this information notice should be directed to the Narcotic Treatment Programs Section by email at DHCSNTP@dhcs.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Janelle Ito-Orille, Chief
Licensing and Certification Division

Attachments