CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES
Michelle Baass | Director

October 12, 2026

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to share that the California Child and Adolescent Mental Health Access Portal (Cal-MAP) can support you in addressing the behavioral health needs, including mental health and substance use concerns, of your patients. Cal-MAP is available at no cost to all California primary care clinicians serving patients ages 0-25, regardless of insurance status.

Cal-MAP helps clinicians care for youth and families, often across multiple generations, at a time when mental and behavioral health concerns are increasing. Primary care clinicians may be called upon to manage these needs while awaiting specialty mental health linkage or continuing care within their own practices.

That's why we want to ensure you are aware of Cal-MAP and the broad support available. Eligible clinicians, including pediatricians, family and internal medicine physicians, obstetrician-gynecologists (OB-GYN), nurse practitioners, and physician assistants, can request a consult online at https://cal-map.org (registration required) or call 800-253-2103 Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. to speak directly with a behavioral health expert.

Services include:

- **On-demand provider-to-provider consultation*** with a behavioral health expert, such as child and adolescent psychiatrists, to discuss specific patient cases. Time spent consulting may be billable (see Cal-MAP Billing Tips).
- **24/7 e-consults**, with a response within one business day.
- **Free continuing medical education (CME)-eligible trainings**, available live and on-demand
- A **comprehensive library** of evidence-informed resources for clinicians, youth, and caregivers

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- **Referral navigation services**, including care coordination for patients with complex needs
- **Specialized consultation** in autism, eating disorders, substance use, and more.

Cal-MAP Uses an Evidence-Based Model Adopted in All 50 States

Cal-MAP utilizes the pediatric mental health access program (PMHCAP) model, an evidence-based approach implemented nationally and shown to increase statewide access to pediatric mental health care. This model supports clinicians across primary care, school-based and emergency settings, perinatal and early childhood care, and substance use treatment. As of August 2026, Cal-MAP has registered nearly 6,000 pediatric primary care clinicians—more than one-third of all eligible users—and completed more than 9,000 consults. In 2025 alone, Cal-MAP users completed more than 2,200 education sessions, and training recordings have been viewed more than 91,000 times since launch.

Cal-MAP users report increased knowledge, skills and confidence in managing mental health and substance use conditions, leading to more timely and equitable patient care. Many clinicians describe a multiplier effect, applying what they learn across similar clinical presentations, and report reduced burnout risk and increased professional connectedness.

Partner with Cal-MAP to Improve Access in Your Community

We encourage you to explore these opportunities:

1. **Request a demo and training**: The Cal-MAP team can provide virtual or onsite demonstrations, review common consultation questions, and highlight how Cal-MAP can support your practice.
2. **Cal-MAP News**: Feature Cal-MAP in provider newsletters and communications. Monthly Clinical Pearl newsletters offer helpful content and tips for clinicians.
3. **Group enrollment**: Cal-MAP offers group enrollment to onboard all clinicians at a practice or site at once.

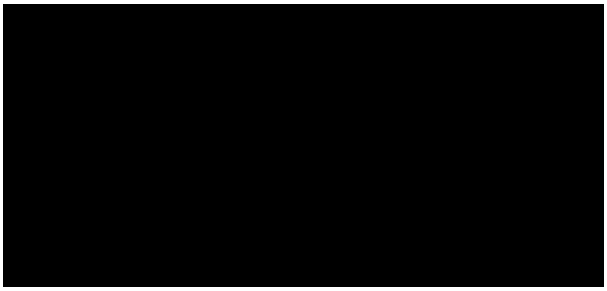
Cal-MAP is here to support you in caring for patients with behavioral health needs, including mental health and substance use concerns. The Cal-MAP team looks forward

to partnering with you. Thank you for your continued commitment to the health and well-being of California's children, youth, and families. Contact Cal-MAP at info@cal-map.org.

Sincerely,



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