

## ASAM UPDATE

### October 7, 2019

#### STATUS REPORT:

- To date, about 8,500 individuals have received in-person, 2-day ASAM Skill Building Training.
- In January 2020, online training will be added as a DDAP-approved training option. See DDAP website for details.
- The ASAM criteria has been utilized by contracted assessors and treatment providers across the state since July 1, 2018 as a level of care placement tool.
- DDAP has received few concerns from providers regarding use of the criteria.
- Of data received by DDAP, there has been little to no negative impact resulting from the transition to the ASAM criteria related to length of stay authorizations, denials, etc.
- DDAP has updated the “Pennsylvania Guidance for Applying *The ASAM Criteria, 2013*” in August 2019 (with 2 minor edits in 9/19), in response to feedback from the field and to streamline the document, in general.

#### NEXT STEPS:

- DDAP and DHS will be moving toward adopting the service descriptions, hours of service, staffing qualifications as noted in *The ASAM Criteria, 2013*. Guidance will be issued to the field about any exceptions to the descriptions that might be applied as a result of regulatory alignment.
- Efforts are underway to assist the field in applying individualized care through the development of a best practice guide.
- DDAP and DHS are working to revise the Co-Occurring Bulletin issued by DHS (DPW) in 2006. This will assist providers in the delivery of co-occurring services ambulatory clinical services.

#### IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

- DDAP has an open forum for accepting questions and comments regarding use of *The ASAM Criteria, 2013* through the following email: [ra-daasam@pa.gov](mailto:ra-daasam@pa.gov).
- Announcements and information related to application of *The ASAM Criteria, 2013* is released via DDAP’s listserv. To be added to DDAP's listserv and receive updates from the department, please email [RA-DAPressOffice@pa.gov](mailto:RA-DAPressOffice@pa.gov) with your name(s), organization, and email address(es). Please include "Listserv" in the subject line. Updates are also posted on DDAP’s website: [www.ddap.pa.gov](http://www.ddap.pa.gov).