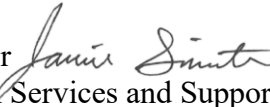




Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Meena Seshamani, M.D., Ph.D., Secretary

MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
EPSDT Nursing Services Transmittal No. 58
October 7, 2026

TO: Residential Service Agencies

FROM: Jamie Smith, Director 
Office of Long Term Services and Support

RE: Implementation of Pediatric Training Program Exception

NOTE: **Please ensure that appropriate staff members in your organization are informed of the contents of this transmittal.**

This transmittal announces the implementation of the 2026 House Bill 1284, On-Site Nurse Training Programs, effective October 1, 2026.

Under House Bill 1284 (Article - Health - General § 19-4A-03.2), current Residential Service Agencies (RSAs) providing Private Duty Nursing services may employ licensed Registered Nurses (RNs) and Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) who do not meet the standard one-year pediatric direct clinical experience requirement, provided the agency establishes an approved training program with adequate clinical supervision for trainees. To utilize this exception, agencies must submit a Training and Competency Evaluation Program to Maryland Medicaid for approval to ensure nurses achieve and demonstrate the necessary competencies for safe, complex care of vulnerable pediatric participants.

Provider information sessions were held on September 4, 2026 and September 8, 2026 to review the training program requirements established by Maryland Medicaid, based upon American Nurses Credentialing Center professional standards. Interested providers who were unable to attend may request reference materials by emailing mdh.pdnpreauthorization@maryland.gov.

Training and Competency Evaluation Programs for nurses lacking the standard one-year pediatric direct experience requirement must meet the following standards:

- (1) Providers must establish and implement a training program formally approved by Maryland Medicaid to ensure participant-centered, safe care;
- (2) Providers must ensure all training program nurses receive continuous clinical supervision by a qualified RN clinical supervisor;

- (3) Providers must assign every trainee to a qualified preceptor for side-by-side clinical training until all initial baseline competencies are validated;
- (4) Providers must document satisfactory performance of all required baseline and participant-specific competency standards; and
- (5) Providers must conduct formal competency evaluations at least annually, or more frequently if directed by Maryland Medicaid for safety reasons.

Training and Competency Evaluation Programs proposals will be evaluated across six key areas that providers must describe in detail:

- (1) Ensure strict alignment with state pediatric training standards and regulations;
- (2) Specify training locations, equipment, and dedicated pediatric simulation resources;
- (3) Describe the qualifications, experience, and clinical certifications of program instructors;
- (4) Outline clinical placement sites, hands-on training pathways, and affiliate agreements;
- (5) Define pedagogical structures, educational modules, and core pediatric skill sets of the curriculum; and
- (6) Establish continuous assessment methodologies, performance tracking, and quality controls.

Maryland Medicaid's Division of Nursing Services will evaluate training proposals through a desk review of submitted materials and an on-site visit to the proposed pediatric training facility. Providers must submit training proposals to mdh.pdnpreauthorization@maryland.gov. Upon completing the desk review and on-site visit, Maryland Medicaid will issue a determination on the training proposal. Maryland Medicaid will verify ongoing compliance through annual audits and evaluations.

Providers must obtain approval from Maryland Medicaid before implementing the program or enrolling nurses. Providers who violate the regulatory requirements pertaining to the Training and Competency Evaluation Programs may be subject to sanctions, including suspension or termination from the program, and recovery of payments for services rendered by a nurse prior to completion of the training program or if the provider fails to maintain adequate documentation of annual competency evaluations.

For questions regarding this transmittal, please email mdh.pdnpreauthorization@maryland.gov.