

**TITLE 450. DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE  
SERVICES  
CHAPTER 17. STANDARDS AND CRITERIA FOR COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH  
CENTERS**

**RULEMAKING ACTION:**

Notice of proposed PERMANENT rulemaking

**PROPOSED RULES:**

Chapter 17. Standards and Criteria for Community Mental Health Centers  
[AMENDED]

**SUMMARY:**

In accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act the proposed rule revisions to Chapter 17 are part of the Department's review of Title 450. The proposed rules are intended to clarify existing rules, improve processes, and are intended to comply with statutory changes.

In an effort to provide increased clarity and uniformity, Chapter 17 definitions have been changed to be more congruent with like definitions in Chapter 18. Other changes have also been made throughout Chapter 17 to further clarify terms used and to reflect terms that are more current, and additional language has been added to further operationalize service functions. Additional changes include reorganization of information within Chapter 17 to improve clarity, and changes to the process for identifying detailed requirements for clinical documentation in an effort to improve effectiveness and flexibility. Also, qualifications for individual's providing behavioral health services at state-operated facilities or pursuant to contract with the Department have been deferred to Chapter 1 to allow for greater consistency in defining similar terms as well as ease in locating.

**AUTHORITY:**

Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Board; 43A O.S. §§ 2-101, 3-306, 3-306.1 and 3-315; 74 O.S. §85.9G.

**COMMENT PERIOD:**

Persons wishing to submit written comments may do so until 5:00 p.m., March 18, 2010, to the attention of Stephanie Kennedy, Administrative Rules Liaison. Written comments may be mailed to the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, P.O. Box 53277, Oklahoma City, OK 73152-3277, e-mailed to [skennedy@odmhsas.org](mailto:skennedy@odmhsas.org), hand-delivered to the Department at 1200 N.E. 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Oklahoma City, OK or by facsimile, at (405) 522-0401.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

The Department will conduct a public hearing on March 19, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. in Conference Room A of the Department at the address given above.

**REQUESTS FOR COMMENTS FROM BUSINESS ENTITIES:**

ODMHSAS asks business entities affected by the proposed rules to provide written information to the Department, in dollar amounts if possible, about the increase in the level of direct costs, indirect costs, or other costs expected to be incurred by the business entity due to compliance with the proposed rules. Business entities may submit this information in writing to Stephanie Kennedy, at the above address, before the close of the comment period on March 18, 2010.

**COPIES OF PROPOSED RULES:**

Copies of the proposed rules may be obtained from Stephanie Kennedy, Administrative Rules Liaison, at the above address or through the ODMHSAS website at [odmhsas.org](http://odmhsas.org).

**RULE IMPACT STATEMENT:**

Pursuant to 75 O.S. § 303(D) ODMHSAS will prepare a rule impact statement which will be available beginning February 19, 2010. Copies may be obtained from Stephanie Kennedy, Administrative Rules Liaison, at the above address or through the ODMHSAS website at [odmhsas.org](http://odmhsas.org).

**CONTACT PERSON:**

Stephanie Kennedy, Administrative Rules Liaison, (405) 522-3871 or [skennedy@odmhsas.org](mailto:skennedy@odmhsas.org).