



**Lehigh County & Northampton County
Magellan Behavioral Health of Pennsylvania**

Request for Information

**Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services (PRS)
Youth (Ages 14–17)**

Date Issued: Monday, July 20, 2026

Date Due: Monday, August 31, 2026

Contact: Arlene Edwards at edwardsa3@magellanhealth.com

1. Purpose

Lehigh County, Northampton County, and Magellan Behavioral Health of Pennsylvania are issuing this Request for Information (RFI) to identify one or more providers interested in delivering **Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services (PRS) for youth ages 14–17**.

This RFI will:

- Assess provider **interest, readiness, and capacity**
- Identify providers capable of meeting **youth PRS regulatory requirements**
- Support development of a **compliant and accessible provider network**
- Inform future **contracting and network expansion**

2. Background

Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services (PRS) are **recovery-oriented, skill-based services** that help individuals develop skills needed to function successfully in daily life, including living, learning, working, socializing, and wellness.

PRS is:

- Non-clinical (i.e., not therapy)
- Voluntary and self-directed
- Focused on functional improvement and recovery

Recent Regulatory and Program Changes

PRS Regulation (Effective January 18, 2025)

The Commonwealth updated Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services regulations through final-form rulemaking published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin:

- <https://www.pacodeandbulletin.gov/Display/pabull?file=/secure/pabulletin/data/vol55/55-3/79.html>

These regulations:

- Expand eligibility to individuals **age 14 and older**
- Establish youth-specific requirements
- Define staffing, supervision, and service delivery standards

The regulation became effective upon publication and is being incorporated into Title 55 of the Pennsylvania Code.

Medicaid State Plan Inclusion (Effective January 1, 2026)

PRS was added as a covered Medicaid service:

<https://www.pa.gov/content/dam/copapwp-pagov/en/dhs/documents/docs/publications/documents/forms-and-pubs-omhsas/2026-02-06-omhsas-26-01-prs-ma-fee-schedule-bulletin-final.pdf>

This change:

- Requires PRS to be included in provider networks
- Establishes reimbursement
- Expands statewide access

3. HealthChoices Program Requirements

This RFI is issued in alignment with the Pennsylvania Behavioral Health HealthChoices Program Standards and Requirements (PSR): <https://www.pa.gov/content/dam/copapwp-pagov/en/dhs/documents/healthchoices/documents/2025-01-01-hc-bh-program-standards-requirements-psr.pdf>

These standards are issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services and are incorporated into HealthChoices agreements governing service delivery and network requirements. Under HealthChoices, Counties and BH-MCOs must ensure:

- Timely access to services
- Sufficient provider networks
- Coordination of care

Application to PRS

As of January 1, 2026, PRS is a covered Medicaid State Plan behavioral health service. Therefore, it must be:

- Available
- Accessible
- Included in the provider network

This RFI supports compliance with these requirements.

- **Regulatory Basis and Resources**

Providers must review:

- a. **Pennsylvania Bulletin – PRS Final Regulation**

- <https://www.pacodeandbulletin.gov/Display/pabull?file=/secure/pabulletin/data/vol55/55-3/79.html>

- b. **OMHSAS PRS FAQ**

- <https://www.pa.gov/content/dam/copapwp-pagov/en/dhs/documents/docs/publications/documents/forms-and-pubs-omhsas/5230-prs-ta-session-faq-erp.pdf>

In addition to regulatory and program requirements, Behavioral Health Managed Care Organizations (BH-MCOs) may establish performance and operational standards for contracted providers.

- c. **PRS MA Fee Schedule Bulletin**

- <https://www.pa.gov/content/dam/copapwp-pagov/en/dhs/documents/docs/publications/documents/forms-and-pubs-omhsas/2026-02-06-omhsas-26-01-prs-ma-fee-schedule-bulletin-final.pdf>

4. Services Being Solicited

Providers must deliver Youth PRS services that:

- Address moderate to severe functional impairment.
- Provide skill-building across:
 - Living
 - Learning
 - Working
 - Socializing
 - Wellness
- Support transition to adulthood

5. Network Adequacy Requirement

- The network must include a minimum of two (2) PRS providers to ensure adequate access to services.
- At least **1 provider within 30/60-minute access standard**

Providers must demonstrate ability to ensure access across:

- Lehigh County
- Northampton County

6. Provider Eligibility

Licensure

- Licensed OR demonstrate a plan to obtain licensure by January 1, 2027

Youth Requirements

- Serve ages 14–17
- Maintain separation of youth and adult services
- Required clearances

Staffing

- Plan to meet CFRP certification requirements
- Ability to meet psychiatric rehabilitation specialist staffing ratios (minimum 25%)
- Supervision structure aligned with PRS regulatory standards

7. Information Requested

Respondents must provide the following information in sufficient detail to demonstrate organizational readiness and the ability to meet applicable regulatory, programmatic, and operational requirements. Responses should be organized using the headings below and should clearly address each section. Responses that do not meet these minimum conditions may be excluded from further consideration.

Minimum Conditions for Consideration:

- Provider must demonstrate a feasible staffing plan
- Provider must demonstrate a viable path to licensure (if not currently licensed)
- Provider must demonstrate ability to meet geographic access expectations

Failure to meet these conditions may result in exclusion from further consideration.

Organization Overview

Provide a brief description of the organization, including:

- Legal name and contact information
- Current service lines and populations served
- Licensure status (PRS or other behavioral health services)
- Current PRS licensure status (if applicable)
 - For organizations not currently licensed, a detailed plan and timeline to obtain PRS licensure

- Description of organizational readiness to meet PRS regulatory requirements at time of implementation
- Counties currently served

Experience Serving Youth

Describe the organization's experience serving youth (ages 14–17), including:

- Estimated number of youth served annually
- Types of services currently provided
- Experience serving youth with moderate to severe functional impairment
- Experience engaging youth with complex behavioral health needs
- Strategies to engage and retain adolescents in voluntary services, including approaches to family involvement

Community Connections and Referral Relationships

Describe existing partnerships and referral relationships, including:

- Schools and educational systems
- County agencies and systems (e.g., CASSP, child welfare, juvenile justice)
- Behavioral health providers or systems of care
- Other relevant community-based organizations

Respondents should describe how these relationships will support **referral flow and service coordination**.

Staffing Plan (Current and Prospective)

Current Capacity (if applicable)

- Current staffing structure and roles
- Number of staff currently serving youth
- Staff credentials (e.g., CPRP, CFRP)
- Relevant experience with PRS or rehabilitation services

Prospective Staffing Plan (Required)

Respondents must demonstrate a **realistic and achievable plan**, even if requirements are not currently met. Provide specific hiring timelines by role and month, including projected onboarding and certification milestones.

- Position types and number of staff to be hired.
- **Hiring timeline by role (month/quarter)**

- Timeline to achieve **CFRP certification requirements**.
- Plan to meet **minimum psychiatric rehabilitation specialist ratio (≥25%)**
- **Supervision structure**, including frequency, format, and supervisory qualifications.
- **Training plan**, including PRS-specific and youth-focused training.

Service Delivery Model

Responses must clearly distinguish psychiatric rehabilitation (skill-building) from clinical or therapy services. Provide a detailed description of the proposed PRS service model, including:

- Approach to skill-building (not therapy)
- Structure of individual and group services
- Daily/weekly program design
- Settings (facility-based, community/mobile, or both)
- Plan to ensure **separation of youth and adult services, transition from youth-facing to adult services, and how this service intervention will be managed by the agency**
- Strategies to engage and retain adolescents in voluntary services.
- Clearly distinguish PRS services from clinical/therapy services

Geographic Coverage and Access

Describe the geographic area to be served, including:

- County or counties served
- Service locations and/or mobile coverage areas
- Provide estimated travel times or service radius demonstrating compliance with 30/60-minute access standards
- Transportation or outreach strategies (if applicable)

Implementation Timeline

Provide a timeline for implementation, including:

- Anticipated start date for services
- Key milestones (staff hiring, training, service initiation)
- Timeline to begin serving youth (if not currently doing so)
- Timeline to obtain PRS licensure (if not currently licensed; must align with January 1, 2027, requirement)

Capacity and Sustainability

Describe anticipated program capacity, including:

- Estimated number of referrals within the first 6–12 months
- Target average census
- Minimum census required for sustainability
- Operational considerations for maintaining services
- Preliminary program budget

Barriers and Supports Needed

Identify potential challenges to implementation, including:

- Workforce or certification barriers
- Space or infrastructure needs
- Training or technical assistance needs

Respondents may also identify supports that would assist in successful implementation.

Minimum Threshold Review

Prior to full evaluation, responses will be reviewed to determine whether the following minimum criteria are met:

- Demonstrated **feasible and realistic staffing plan**
- Demonstrated **viable pathway to PRS licensure by January 1, 2027**
- Demonstrated **ability to meet geographic access requirements (30/60-minute standard)**

Responses that do not meet these minimum criteria may be **excluded from further evaluation and scoring** at the discretion of the Counties and BH-MCO.

8. Submission Instruction

Please submit Letters of Interest and any questions related to the RFI to Arlene Edwards at edwardsa3@magellanhealth.com by **Friday, August 7, 2026**.

Responses will be compiled and sent to interested parties by **Friday, August 14, 2026**.

RFI Response Deadline: **Monday, August 31, 2026**.

9. Scoring

Scoring of the RFI will follow the matrix below.

#	Evaluation Area	Max Points
1	Youth Population & Experience	15
2	Community Integration	10
3	Staffing Plan (Prospective)	20
4	Youth Engagement Approach	10
5	Service Delivery Model	20
6	Geographic Access	15
7	Licensure & Readiness	15
8	Implementation Timeline	10
	TOTAL	115