



PROVIDER ALERT

CANS – Service and Provider Requirements

April 4, 2019

Dear Provider:

On September 10, 2018, Optum and the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare sent a joint communication outlining the Person Centered Planning Process. Due to provider feedback, **the requirement that the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) updates be completed by the primary treating therapist was revised.**

Please see the updated provider requirement below:

- **Updates can be completed by a qualified, CANS-certified provider.** This modification allows **any qualified, CANS-certified provider** to manage CANS updates for the Member. The initial and annual CANS should be completed in conjunction with the Comprehensive Diagnostic Assessment for the Member by a Master's Level Clinician.
- Additionally, the CANS can be entered into the ICANS system by any CANS certified individual that has access to the ICANS system. Once entered, the CANS must still be signed by a provider who can bill for the CANS.

If the agency does not have a CANS certified provider on staff, a referral to another agency will be necessary for the CANS assessment/update(s).

Please see the service requirements below:

- The CANS will become the state-required functional assessment tool for all Members under 19 years of age beginning **July 1, 2019**. All treatment plans that address a functional need (i.e. Psychotherapy) **must be based on the CANS beginning July 1, 2019**.
- Not all providers are required to be CANS certified, but any who treat children need to be trained in the use of the CANS. Providers who treat children must be able to utilize the information in a CANS to inform their treatment planning, even if they are not CANS certified themselves.

NOTE: The CANS is required prior to a child or adolescent member receiving any outpatient behavioral health services except those that do not address a functional need. Services that do not require a CANS are as follows: Neuro/Psych Testing, Medication Management, and Crisis Services.

To bill and be reimbursed for the CANS, providers must use the ICANS platform. To register for the ICANS platform, providers are required to sign and submit an Agency Agreement, Authorized User Agreement for each staff, and attend ICANS System training. For more information about this requirement, please navigate to <https://icans.dhw.idaho.gov>. For help with this process, you may contact the Idaho Division of Behavioral Health's ICANS Help Desk at (208) 332-7316 or submit a ticket via email at icanshelpdesk@dhw.idaho.gov.

If you have any questions, please contact your Network Manager.

The Optum Idaho Team