August 9, 2019

Christianne Strange, PhD, ATR-BC, CEDCAT-S
President
The American Art Therapy Association
4875 Eisenhower Avenue, Suite 240
Alexandria, VA 22304

Dear Dr. Strange:

The Mississippi Division of Medicaid (DOM) is in receipt of your letter dated April 30, 2019, requesting information and clarification related to the status of Licensed Professional Art Therapist as qualified providers of services to Medicaid-eligible beneficiaries in quasi-governmental and Private Community Mental Health Centers.

As referenced in your letter, Administrative Code, Title 23, Part 206, Chapter 1, refers to services provided at a Community Mental Health Center (CMHC) or Private Mental Health Center (PMHC). These centers must be certified by the Mississippi Department of Mental Health (DMH) in addition to being enrolled as a Mississippi Medicaid provider. The Mississippi Medicaid State Plan (SPA) for Rehabilitative Services, Attachment 3.1-A, Exhibit 13.d. allows for Professional Art Therapists (ATR-BC), who hold a Master’s degree in art therapy and licensed by the Mississippi Department of Health, to provide individual, family, and group therapy in a CMHC or PMHC. This SPA does not allow for Art Therapists to provide services outside of a CMHC or PMHC.

Not all licensed professionals who hold a master’s degree are given their own individual DOM provider number. This includes Licensed Master Social Workers, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists, Art Therapist, DMH Certified Mental Health Therapist, DMH Certified Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Therapist, or a DMH Certified Addiction Therapist.

DOM will be revising the Administrative Code, Part 206, Chapter 1 to include Licensed Professional Art Therapists as a covered service provider when eligible services are provided through a CMHC or PMHC.

Please feel free to contact me should you have further questions.

Sincerely,

Kim Sartin Holloway
Interim Office Director, Office of Mental Health