



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION
SEX OFFENDER TREATMENT BOARD
FIFTH FLOOR, RACHEL JACKSON BUILDING
320 SIXTH AVENUE NORTH
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-0465
OFFICE (615) 741-1000 x 360-4366 • FAX 615-401-7640

MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL SEX OFFENDER TREATMENT PROVIDERS

FROM: SUSAN SIEDENTOP, PRESIDING OFFICER

DATE: JULY 14, 2017

SUBJECT: CLARIFICATION REGARDING APPROVED EVALUATOR LIST

This memo is to clarify and address questions regarding the Approved Evaluator list and submission process. This is an application process to be an Approved Evaluator that conducts **sex offender risk evaluations** in the State of Tennessee after January 1, 2018. Because of the Board's decision to create a separate Approved Provider List, we are requesting supporting documentation from all providers requesting to be considered for the Approved Evaluator list. This list will be a separate list from those that conduct sex offender treatment. Certainly, some Providers will be on both lists.

Many have expressed concerns regarding the qualification standards for those eligible to be placed on the Approved Evaluator list. Please note that the Board did not change its long established qualifications for Providers that conduct risk evaluations. These qualifications have been in place for many years and the Board is simply asking providers to provide documentation that the standards have been met as part of the selection and approval process. This includes a minimum of 250 hours of supervised clinical experience in completing sex offender risk assessments.

Many providers, who have been licensed for a number of years, have requested clarification on how to provide the documentation requested. For providers who are currently licensed and no longer have access to the specific paperwork of their clinical supervision, please provide a signed statement with the approximate dates of supervision, the approximate number of hours in working with sex offenders while supervised, as well as the name of the clinical supervisor.

In addition, please note that while we commonly use the term "psychosexual evaluation", this term is not the term that is defined in Board's statutory charge. Evaluations conducted by providers are evaluations of sex offender risk and as such, can be completed by anyone with the qualifications listed in the bylaws.

Because evaluations are such an important area, as part of this year's SOTB Conference, we will be offering a six (6) hour training on Thursday that is specific to sex offender risk evaluations. Current providers who are unable to provide documentation of the 10 hours of specific training in sex offender risk evaluations may attend this training to assist in fulfilling this requirement. However, we note that attendance and documentation alone will not necessarily guarantee a provider's acceptance onto the Approved Provider list. In addition, we want to be very clear that any evaluations that have been submitted to the Board for review by TDOC, the courts, district attorneys, public defenders, or any part of the criminal justice process, will also be considered as part of the approval process.

Several providers expressed concerns with submitting two most recent evaluations for review. The Board is the governing regulatory authority over all sex offender treatment providers in Tennessee; and by statute, the Board has the authority to review those confidential records in furtherance of its regulatory oversight of approving providers. Therefore, the evaluations are being requested without any redactions beyond the identifying name.

As stated in the previous communication, providers must submit the following information:

1. Proof of the all conditions;
2. Curriculum Vitae; and
3. Two recent psychosexual evaluations (with only identifying name redacted)

To be considered for the approved evaluator list, Providers shall deliver the requested documentation NO LATER than September 1, 2017 to:

Sex Offender Treatment Board
c/o Carissa Miniard
5th Floor, Rachel Jackson Building
320 Sixth Avenue North
Nashville, Tennessee 37243