



## **Adolescent Endorsement Frequently Asked Questions**

**Q: Do CCBHC integrated care programs also qualify for this Endorsement?**

A: We encourage anyone who is certified to provide treatment and serve adolescents to apply for the Endorsement.

**Q: Is this pilot limited to OASAS programs already providing adolescent services?**

A: Yes, the Adolescent Endorsement is designed for treatment providers currently serving adolescents. The endorsement material can serve as a guideline to those providers expanding their services to adolescents.

**Q: Who completes this application?**

A: The application is to be completed by a team of individuals consisting of the Program Director or Supervisor responsible for the delivery of adolescent services, the clinical team providing services to adolescents and the Executive Director.

**Q: As a hospital based article 28 program we are permitted to participate?**

A: Yes, as long as you are applying through your OASAS Certified Part 822, you are eligible to apply.

**Q: What type of training happens during the 8 month collaborative? What will the 8 month learning collaborative look like?**

A: The Learning Collaborative is designed to be a combination of interactive monthly meetings that will provide technical assistance and trainings on topics such as using data to assist in an Quality Practice Improvement process, groups skills for working with adolescents, family engagement strategies, taking the services into the community, LGBTQ affirming care and other issues as determined by the group.

**Q: Are there any special considerations for how this all translates in a mostly telehealth environment right now?**

A: Providers will be expected to follow current OASAS telehealth guidance and we would strongly encourage applicants to apply to receive an OASAS designation. One of our hopes is that we will be able to assist providers in broadening their reach through the use of telehealth and in community services.

**Q: At what point will the Adolescent Endorsement become mandatory for serving youth under the 822?**

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A: At this time there is no plan on mandating the Adolescent Endorsement, however we believe that providers will see the value of seeking the endorsement from clinical, marketing and fiscal perspectives. The endorsement will allow referral sources and people seeking treatment to identify programs that have specialized expertise in treating adolescents and families.

**Q: When will the application be available and where can we access it?**

A: The application is currently available on the Adolescent Endorsement website at: <https://oasas.ny.gov/providers/adolescent-endorsement-pilot-program>.

**Q: What is the planned time frame for the learning collaborative and what is the time commitment?**

A: The learning collaborative is an 8-month commitment involving once a month hour long meetings. We anticipate that any provider seeking the endorsement would develop a QPI process to improve their services and through the self-assessment process and the learning collaborative calls that they meet internally as a team to discuss and improve their agency's services.

**Q: How does telehealth only services impact this endorsement, or is it too early to tell?**

A: As stated previously, we expect providers who are seeking the endorsement to want to use telehealth and in community services to expand their reach in the community.

**Q: Our agency provides services for all individuals not adolescent specific; can we apply?**

A: As long as your agency serves adolescents, you may apply.

**Q: We currently provide adolescent services in all of our Outpatient PRUs. If we participate with one PRU will the designation then apply to all of our PRUs?**

A: At this time the Adolescent Endorsement is PRU specific. If your agency wishes to apply for multiple PRU's, an application must be submitted for each PRU desired to have the Endorsement.

**Q: What age group is considered adolescent for the Adolescent Endorsement Pilot?**

A: For the purposes of the pilot we are considering providers who serve individuals under the age of 18.

**Q: We do not provide adolescent services in our 822 but we do have an OMH Child & Adolescent clinic. Would we be eligible to apply?**

A: The Adolescent Endorsement is available to OASAS Certified Part 822's in good standing who currently serve the adolescent population.

**Q: Can for profit certified program apply for the Adolescent Endorsement?**

A: Yes, for profit certified OASAS programs are welcome to apply.

**Q: What's the biggest benefit of being in the pilot vs. waiting until it's open to all?**

A: The biggest benefit of engaging in the pilot is the 8-month learning collaborative and technical assistance that your agency will receive by participating that cannot be guaranteed to be available

outside of the pilot period.

**Q: If a PRU has multiple addresses will the designation apply to all addresses within that PRU?**

A: Yes.

**Q: Will there also be enhanced reimbursement for those providers with the endorsement?**

A: The Adolescent Endorsement is designed to improve Clinical Practice with this specific population. These services are likely to be valuable to a network, IPA and/or managed care plans.

**Q: Once designated, does the agency need to renew the designation?**

A: The designation will be reviewed upon the regularly scheduled review of your agency's operating certificate.

**Q: Do we have to be providing adolescent treatment in our programs at this time? What if we provide other adolescent services, but not treatment specific at this time?**

A: Yes. The Adolescent Endorsement applies to the treatment of adolescents and is a requirement of the endorsement to be a treatment provider serving young people.

**Q: Can you apply for the Endorsement without applying to be in the pilot?**

A: Absolutely -- the Endorsement will go live Spring 2021 and at that time, anyone will be able to apply, whether or not they've been part of the pilot.

**Q: Is there a minimum number of adolescents that should be in the program?**

A: No, there is no minimum number of adolescents that can be in an adolescent serving program.

**Q: If you are not selected to participate in the pilot phase will you be able to get certified at some other point and will that involve a similar 8-month training phase?**

A: Yes, we have targeted the Spring off 2021 for the Adolescent Endorsement to be available to the all interested providers. We expect to run a second learning collaborative and/or give providers access to materials that were developed as part of the pilots learning collaborative.

**Q: If you are not an 822 Provider, but rather a community-based organization working with this population, is there a list of certified 822 providers that we can see for possible collaboration?**

A: Though it is not available currently, that is something OASAS can put together as a resource and post to the Adolescent Endorsement webpage.

**Q: What happens if we are part of an 822 but do not choose to have the endorsement?**

A: The Adolescent Endorsement is a voluntary business decision at this time.

**Q: Does the Designation on an 822 Certification differ from obtaining an 823 Certification?**

A: Yes. The Adolescent Endorsement is a designation on the 822 operating certificate representing that an agency serves adolescents in a quality manner. Under the Part 823, a provider can utilize and bill for the Children and Family Treatment Support Services (CFTSS) which are community-based services for young people under 21. Community based services differing from CFTSS may be utilized under the 822.