

# Services by Virtual Means

## GUIDANCE FOR HOUSE BILL 147 IMPLEMENTATION

Provisions related to Autism and Jon Peterson scholarship services provided by virtual means included in House Bill 147 are **effective October 24, 2024**.

**House Bill 147 authorizes individuals holding the following credentials to provide direct services by virtual means:**

- A behavior analyst certified by a nationally recognized organization that certifies behavior analysts;
- A behavior analyst certified in Ohio;
- A psychologist licensed to practice in this state;
- An independent school psychologist or school psychologist licensed to practice in this state;
- A person carrying out specific tasks under the supervision of a licensed psychologist, independent school psychologist, or school psychologist;
- An unlicensed person holding a doctoral degree in psychology or special education from a program approved by the Department of Education and Workforce\*;
- A registered behavior technician working under the supervision and following the intervention plan of a certified behavior analyst\*;
- An occupational therapist or physical therapist licensed to practice in Ohio;
- A speech-language pathologist licensed to practice in Ohio;
- Intervention services provided by an intervention specialist who holds a valid license issued by the State Board of Education;
- A literacy intervention specialist certified through pathways recognized by the Ohio Dyslexia Committee;

*\*Autism Scholarship only*

This legislation does not alter the status of individuals previously authorized to provide services by virtual means. (House Bill 147 includes some credentialed individuals that are already authorized to provide services by virtual means.) The Department may request a copy of applicable credentials.

**This legislation does not authorize services provided virtually by aides or instructional assistants.**

## GETTING STARTED PROVIDING SERVICES BY VIRTUAL MEANS

### *PRIOR TO PROVIDING SERVICES*

- Please contact the respective scholarship program email box to ensure that your provider application has been updated to include “Virtual Services” for all the authorized services you will be providing through virtual means.
- Please contact the respective scholarship email box to request all your authorized, licensed staff have “Virtual Services” added to their list of Services Provided in order to invoice for services correctly.
- Please upload a completed Request to Modify Services document that shows virtual services have been agreed upon between the parent and provider. Notify the respective scholarship program email box and include the Qualified Electronic Signature (QES) documentation.
- Please ensure that the direct services provided by virtual means point of service notes capture all of the following:
  - **Who** is providing the direct services through virtual means.
  - **When** are the services being provided through virtual means.
  - **What** date(s) and length of time are the direct services being provided through virtual means.
  - **Which** goals/objectives were taught through direct services provided through virtual means.
  - **How** were the services provided through virtual means in 1:1 sessions or small group sessions.
- If you are invoicing for in-person aide services for a student that is also receiving intervention services provided through virtual means, please upload the signed Aide Verification document under the Document TAB within the student’s application. Please note, aides are not authorized to provide services by virtual means.

A model Aide Verification Form is available and may be found under the User Manuals & Forms Tab within the Electronic Application System.