



AB 1267: Consolidated Licensing and Certification

Introduced 02.21.2025

BACKGROUND

The State Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) oversees alcohol and other drug (AOD) treatment facilities. Even if they are located within the same geographic area, each facility and program must apply for and maintain individual licenses and certifications. This process imposes administrative burdens on providers and creates regulatory inefficiencies for the state, diverting resources away from treatment services.

CURRENT LAW

DHCS issues licenses for residential nonmedical AOD treatment facilities and certifies various AOD treatment programs according to specific sections within Division 10.5 of the Health and Safety Code. Facilities and programs must apply separately for each required license or certification. Providers operating multiple services in close proximity must undergo separate inspections and oversight processes for each license or certification. CA Health & Safety Code § 11833 allows DHCS to charge fees for each individual license and certification.

PROBLEM

Currently, the state requires separate licenses and certifications for each facility or program operating within the same geographic area. Administrative redundancy forces providers to submit multiple applications, undergo multiple fiscal and programmatic audits, and maintain separate compliance documentation for each license or certification. Regulatory inefficiencies result in DHCS expending additional time and

resources conducting multiple inspections and overseeing duplicative licensing and certification processes, which results in unnecessary administrative burdens for providers. Barriers to service integration discourage program expansion for programs offering a continuum of care for treating substance use disorders in the same location.

SOLUTION

AB 1267 establishes a consolidated license and certification process that allows providers to operate multiple facilities and programs under a single license and certification when they are located in the same geographic area. This legislation creates a unified application process, enabling providers to apply for one license and certification that covers all facilities and programs they operate within that area. It simplifies oversight by requiring DHCS to conduct unified inspections and regulatory oversight for all facilities and programs under the consolidated license and certification. The same regulatory standards will apply as if separate licenses and certifications were issued, ensuring the quality and accountability of services provided. Providers will pay a consolidated licensing fee equal to the total cost of the individual licenses and certifications, which reduces administrative burdens without incurring financial loss to the state.

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