1. The ASAM transition implementation date remains effective July 1, 2018.

2. DDAP and DHS realize that some essential / key staff who utilize criteria for the determination of

 admission to a level-of-care may not have received the training as of July 1, 2018. While the

 expectation is/continues to be that staff should be trained by July 1 or as soon thereafter, the

 following has been determined for those who are not trained by July 1:

* Supervisors are expected to review and sign off on any level of care determinations for staff who have not had the appropriate training;
* All key / essential staff should receive the two-day, in-person training as soon as possible, but no later than December 31, 2018.

3. The PA-WITS data system will have placement summary sheets for both the use of the PCPC and

 The ASAM Criteria to facilitate the interim until all essential / key staff are trained in

The ASAM Criteria. After July 1, 2018, the availability of both summary sheets in PCPC is only to accommodate those who have not yet received ASAM training and not for the discretion of or preference of the assessor/clinician. The PCPC is targeted to be fully discontinued by December 31, 2108.

4. While DDAP is considering training alternatives once the field has made this initial system’s

 transformation to the use of the ASAM Criteria, no decisions have been made to date to waive

 the in-person ASAM Skill Building training.

5. DDAP expects that providers are working with their SCAs and BH-MCO’s to make a good-faith

 effort in receiving the required, two-day in-person training.

6. DDAP has issued an ASAM Crosswalk and the Guidance for Application of ASAM in PA’s SUD

 System of Care to address the nuances of how to apply The ASAM Criteria in light of

 PA’s regulations, contractual agreements, and service definition. The Train for Change trainers

 Providing the ASAM Skill Building training are experts in The ASAM Criteria and *not* on how it

 applies to these identified nuances. Assessors and clinicians should rely on this supplemental

 documentation when applying the ASAM Criteria to PA services. Resources can be found at:

 <http://www.ddap.pa.gov/Professionals/Documents/ASAM%20Crosswalk%20final.pdf>

 <http://www.ddap.pa.gov/Professionals/Documents/ASAM%20Application%20Guidance%20Final.pdf>

7. In June, DDAP will be holding web-based listening sessions to further address the ASAM Transition.

 Please stay tuned for specifics on the dates and how to access these sessions.