

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
BUREAU OF HUMAN SERVICES LICENSING
Community Homes for Individuals with Mental Retardation
(55 Pa.Code Chapter 6400)

Q/A - Regulatory Clarifications – October 2015

The clarifications and interpretations below will remain on the Department's web site until the information is included in the next updated Regulatory Compliance Guide (RCG).

Regulation: § 6400.44(b)(1) – Program Specialist

§ 6400.44(b) - The program specialist shall be responsible for the following:

(1) Coordinating and completing assessments.

Question: Must a program specialist complete the assessment and the form in total, or can a "house supervisor" complete the assessment and form and then have it be reviewed and signed by the program specialist?

ANSWER: A program specialist must complete the assessment and form in total. A house supervisor may assist the program specialist in providing detailed information about the individual, but it is the responsibility of the program specialist to complete the assessment and form in total.

Regulation: § 6400.107 – Portable Space Heaters

§ 6400.107 - Portable space heaters, defined as heaters that are not permanently mounted or installed, are not permitted in any room including staff rooms.

Question: Must PTAC units (Packaged Terminal Air Conditioner) be hard-wired?

ANSWER: If the PTAC unit is designed to be plugged into a normal outlet, and is installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, then the PTAC unit does not need to be hard-wired.

**Regulation: § 6400.141(c)(6) – Individual Physical Examination;
§ 6400.151(c)(2) – Staff Physical Examination**

§ 6400.141(c) - The physical examination shall include:

(6) Tuberculin skin testing by Mantoux method with negative results every 2 years for individuals 1 year of age or older; or, if tuberculin skin test is positive, an initial chest x-ray with results noted.

§ 6400.151(c) - The physical examination shall include:

(2) Tuberculin skin testing by Mantoux method with negative results every 2 years; or, if tuberculin skin test is positive, an initial chest x-ray with results noted. Tuberculin skin testing may be completed and certified in writing by a registered nurse or a licensed practical nurse instead of a licensed physician, licensed physician's assistant or certified nurse practitioner.

Question: Can the T-Spot test be used for tuberculosis skin testing instead of the Mantoux method?

ANSWER: Yes. The T-Spot test is a blood test used for tuberculosis skin testing. It is FDA-approved and can be performed in one visit to a physician's office.

Question: Can the QuantiFERON-TB Gold test be used for tuberculosis skin testing instead of the Mantoux method?

ANSWER: Yes. The QuantiFERON-TB Gold test is a blood test used for tuberculosis skin testing. It is FDA-approved and can be performed in one visit to a physician's office.