



Medical Assistance Advisory Committee

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Office of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services
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988 Updates

988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

- 13,870 calls routed to PA call centers in March 2026; 12,392 answered in-state; 89.3% answer rate
- 8,321 texts/chats routed to PA call centers in March 2026; 822 answered in-state; 9.9% answer rate
- Funding and capacity remain the primary concern for 988. Chat/text continues to see rapid growth in demand with no additional funding to support the modality.
- Pennsylvania again registered an in-state answer rate under 10%.
- Voice metrics continue a slow decline due to lack of funding and capacity, while volume reached an all-time high of 13,870 in March.
- OMHSAS is working on securing funding through the Rural Health Transformation Program to support 988 capacity and public awareness, though this work is ongoing.
- The SAMHA [grant opportunity forecast](#) was delayed again and is now slated for May 2026. Given lead time for application, review, award, and procurement, Pennsylvania's 988 centers may be without funding starting in October 2026 due to the delays.
- With the current SAMHSA grant ending, there is currently no 988 funding beyond September of this year.



Regulatory Updates

Crisis Regulations – Licensing

- OMHSAS has made significant progress on processing of 950+ comments and making changes to the package based on the comments received.
- Listening sessions will be held in June 2026 to give a high-level overview of the changes planned for the final form regulation package to receive stakeholder input.
- Will need to go back through DHS/Gov's Office Review.
- Tentatively planning to have at the IRRC in Spring 2027

Crisis Regulations – Payment

- Moved forward to the Gov's Office for review. Will then go to Office of the Attorney General.
- Tentatively hoping to have the regulations out for public comment end of summer 2026

5100 Confidentiality Regulations

- Final Form Package now in DHS Review.
- Will go to Gov's office after that. (no OAG on final form, they see after IRRC, not before unlike proposed where they see it pre-IRRC)
- Tentatively planning a Fall 2027 IRRC

Regulatory Updates Continued

PRTF Regulations

- Final form package now in DHS review
- Deadline to have final form package to IRRC is November 2027

On-Hold Due to Staffing

- 1223 D&A Payment Regulations
- Inpatient Regulations

