

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

Q/A - Regulatory Clarifications – September 2014

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(c) – Program Specialist

A program specialist shall have one of the following groups of qualifications:

(1) A master's degree or above from an accredited college or university and 1 year work experience working directly with persons with mental retardation.

(2) A bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university and 2 years work experience working directly with persons with mental retardation.

(3) An associate's degree or 60 credit hours from an accredited college or university and 4 years work experience working directly with persons with mental retardation.

Question: Could a staff person who does not yet meet the qualifications for a program specialist have the title and perform the duties, but have the CEO who meets the qualifications sign off on any documents/assessments required to be completed by the program specialist?

ANSWER: No. It is not permissible to have someone who does not meet the qualifications of a program specialist perform the duties of a program specialist.