



Ohio Revised Code

Section 5119.44 Providing goods and services to certain departments, agencies, and institutions.

Effective: September 30, 2025

Legislation: House Bill 96 - 136th General Assembly

As used in this section, "free clinic" has the same meaning as in section 2305.2341 of the Revised Code.

(A) The department of behavioral health may provide certain goods and services for the department of behavioral health, the department of developmental disabilities, the department of rehabilitation and correction, the department of youth services, and other state, county, or municipal agencies requesting such goods and services when the department of behavioral health determines that it is in the public interest, and considers it advisable, to provide these goods and services. The department of behavioral health also may provide goods and services to agencies operated by the United States government and to public or private nonprofit agencies, other than free clinics, that are funded in whole or in part by the state if the public or private nonprofit agencies are designated for participation in this program by the director of behavioral health for community addiction services providers and community mental health services providers, the director of developmental disabilities for community developmental disabilities agencies, the director of rehabilitation and correction for community rehabilitation and correction agencies, or the director of youth services for community youth services agencies.

Designated community agencies or services providers shall receive goods and services through the department of behavioral health only in those cases where the designating state agency certifies that providing such goods and services to the agency or services provider will conserve public resources to the benefit of the public and where the provision of such goods and services is considered feasible by the department of behavioral health.

(B) The department of behavioral health may permit free clinics to purchase certain goods and services to the extent the purchases fall within the exemption to the Robinson-Patman Act, 15 U.S.C. 13 et seq., applicable to nonprofit institutions, in 15 U.S.C. 13c, as amended.



(C) The goods and services that may be provided by the department of behavioral health under divisions (A) and (B) of this section may include:

(1) Procurement, storage, processing, and distribution of food and professional consultation on food operations;

(2) Procurement, storage, and distribution of medical and laboratory supplies, dental supplies, medical records, forms, optical supplies, and sundries;

(3) Procurement, storage, repackaging, distribution, and dispensing of drugs, the provision of professional pharmacy consultation, and drug information services;

(4) Other goods and services.

(D) The department of behavioral health may provide the goods and services designated in division (C) of this section to its institutions and to state-operated community-based mental health or addiction services providers.

(E) After consultation with and advice from the director of developmental disabilities, the director of rehabilitation and correction, and the director of youth services, the department of behavioral health may provide the goods and services designated in division (C) of this section to the department of developmental disabilities, the department of rehabilitation and correction, and the department of youth services.

(F) The cost of administration of this section shall be determined by the department of behavioral health and paid by the agencies, services providers, or free clinics receiving the goods and services to the department for deposit in the state treasury to the credit of the Ohio pharmacy services fund, which is hereby created. The fund shall be used to pay the cost of administration of this section to the department.

(G) Whenever a state agency fails to make a payment for goods and services provided under this section within thirty-one days after the date the payment was due, the office of budget and management may transfer moneys from the state agency to the department of behavioral health. The



amount transferred shall not exceed the amount of overdue payments. Prior to making a transfer under this division, the office of budget and management shall apply any credits the state agency has accumulated in payments for goods and services provided under this section.

(H) Purchases of goods and services under this section are not subject to section 307.86 of the Revised Code.