

ATTACHMENT A

Eligible Population for the Behavioral Bridge Housing Program

Eligible individuals must meet both of the following:

A. Definition of Homeless

The BHBH Program uses the definition of “homeless” included in the CalAIM Enhanced Care Management (ECM) program, which has recently been updated. Please see the [ECM Policy Guide](#) (September 2023). Effective immediately, the BHBH Program will use the following definition for determining eligibility:

Individual experiencing homelessness is defined as meeting one or more of the following conditions:

- Lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence;
- Having a primary residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground;
- Living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter, designed to provide temporary living arrangements (including hotels and motels paid for by federal, state, or local government programs for low income individuals or by charitable organizations, congregate shelters, and transitional housing);
- Exiting an institution into homelessness (regardless of length of stay in the institution);
- Will imminently lose housing in the next 30 days,*
- Fleeing domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and other dangerous, traumatic, or life-threatening conditions relating to such violence

* This definition of homelessness is based on the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) 42 CFR § 11302 - General definition of homeless individual with the modification to Clause (v) timeframe for an individual who will imminently lose housing has been extended from 14 days (HHS definition) to 30 days. The wording of this definition has also been slightly modified for clarity, relative to the originally released definition.

The BHBH Program definition will continue to align with the ECM definition, so if there are future changes to the ECM definition, they will be reflected in the BHBH Program as well.

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B. Serious Behavioral Health Condition

The BHBH Program eligibility criteria are adapted from the Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS) access criteria (BHIN 21-073) and the Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System/Drug Medi-Cal access criteria (BHIN 21-071; BHIN 23-001), including all CARE Program participants. There are no age restrictions on BHBH Program participants. To be eligible for a BHBH Program-funded project, an individual must meet one of the following criteria:

1. The individual has one or more of the following:
 - a. Significant impairment, where “impairment” is defined as distress, disability, or dysfunction in social, occupational, or other important activities, including education and family relationships
 - b. A reasonable probability of significant deterioration in an important area of life functioning
 - c. A need for SMHS, regardless of presence of impairment (for individuals under age 21)

AND

The individual’s condition, as defined in a, b, and/or c, is due to either of the following:

- a. A diagnosed mental and/or substance-related or addictive disorder, according to the criteria of the current editions of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) and the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD)
- b. A suspected mental and/or substance-related or addictive disorder that has not yet been diagnosed

OR

2. The individual has at least one of the following:
 - a. At least one diagnosis from the current edition of the DSM for Substance-Related and Addictive Disorders, with the exception of Tobacco-Related Disorders and NonSubstance-Related Disorders
 - b. At least one suspected diagnosis from the current edition of the DSM for Substance-Related and Addictive Disorders, with the exception of Tobacco-Related Disorders and NonSubstance-Related Disorders

OR

3. The individual is a CARE Program participant, regardless of whether they meet the criteria in paragraph (1) or (2), above