

Sacramento County Department Health and Human Services

Division of Behavioral Health Services

Mental Health Provider Minimum Qualifications

Short Term Residential Therapeutic Program Specialty Mental Health Services

Open Enrollment

The Sacramento County Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Behavioral Health Services (DBHS), in compliance with the statewide Continuum of Care Reform outlined in AB 403, has developed minimum qualifications (MQs) for all Rate Classification Level (RCL) Group Homes transitioning to Short Term Residential Therapeutic Programs (STRTPs) that are seeking to contract with DBHS to provide specialty mental health services. Please see the MQs on pages 2 and 3 of this document.

Important information:

- Beginning July 1, 2017, RCL Group Homes transitioning to STRTPs that are seeking to contract with DBHS to provide specialty mental health services must meet the MQs whether or not they currently have a contract with DBHS to provide these services.
- Full compliance with the MQs can be achieved at any time during the fiscal year; however, the MQs must be met before a provider submits a request to contract with DBHS to provide specialty mental health services.
- An executed contract with DBHS will qualify the provider to be reimbursed for all specialty mental health services provided during a client's STRTP stay via the client's Medi-Cal Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment benefit.
- Single year contracts will be developed for those applicants that meet all of the STRTP MQ's. Contracts expire on June 30th each year, and may be renewed if the applicant continues to meet all STRTP MQ's.

RCL Group Homes requesting a specialty mental health services contract with Sacramento County DBHS should respond to the STRTP Open Enrollment process by contacting Paul Vossen with questions or to submit MQ documentation (vossenp@saccounty.net/916-876-9799).

RCL Group Home Applicants must meet all of the following STRTP MQs:

1. Have an existing interim California Department of Social Services license to operate as an STRTP; **or** an approved Group Home extension *and* must have either submitted their STRTP program plan to Sacramento County for letter of approval or submitted their program plan to the California Department of Social Services.
2. Be nationally accredited per California Department of Social Services guidelines; **or** have an accreditation target date of one year or less.
3. Be currently providing residential care for Sacramento County Foster youth (Probation or Child Welfare/CPS); **or** have served a Sacramento County foster youth in the 6 months prior to submitting the STRTP contract request.
4. The facility serving Sacramento County foster youth (Probation or Child Welfare/CPS), must be located within Sacramento County.
5. Applicant must have a letter of recommendation from Sacramento County Probation or Sacramento County Child Welfare (CPS) Department, dated within the month prior to the contract request.
6. Applicant must not have simultaneous holds on placement from Sacramento County Probation or Sacramento County Child Welfare (CPS).
7. Applicant must provide their latest complete audited financial statement with accompanying notes, completed by an independent Certified Public Accountant, for a fiscal period not more than 24 months old at the time of submission. Financial statements will be screened by the Department's Accounting Manager for the demonstration of financial stability.
8. Applicant must be willing to serve commercially sexually exploited children.
9. Applicant must have a demonstrated commitment to not reject or eject youth from service because of the severity or nature of their needs.
10. Applicant must have mental health program approval and become Medi-Cal site certified prior to the execution of the contract.
11. Applicant must be able to meet the following staffing requirements:
 - a. California Board Certified Child/Adolescent Psychiatrist on staff or on contract
 - b. Licensed clinical head of service (Ph.D, LMFT, LCSW, etc.)
 - c. Designated quality management staff for continuous quality improvement and Medi-Cal billing/claiming integrity
 - d. Clinical oversight/supervision manager
 - e. Additional clinical staffing requirements as stipulated by California Department of Health Care Services

Sacramento County DBHS STRTP MQs, continued:

12. Applicant must have the technology infrastructure in place, per the [Sacramento County Department of Health and Human Services Avatar support page](#), to successfully bill and claim specialty mental health services using Avatar -- the Sacramento County mental health services treatment tracking system.