

AMHI Reform: Funding Formula Workgroup

Questions and Answers

Is this going to now be considered Behavioral Health Fund?

No, AMHI funding is in the AMHI Integrated Fund. There are no changes to the fund name or its source. The state funding is still limited to adult mental health services. Behavioral Health Fund is a completely separate fund.

Is the reporting structure going to change for providers or those allocated dollars from the grant?

No, there is no change to the reporting structure.

How will previous work be incorporated?

Any work related to funding has already been incorporated into the funding formula development. This workgroup is specific to the funding formula. Overall reform planning has been built on the previous work. Specific elements of previous reform work can be raised as the project continues and other workgroups are initiated.

Is the formula going to be based on new programs or ideas? Is this tied to the mandated services that are required in each region? Will the structure of the AMHI be a factor?

The formula is based on broader variables that apply to each region, rather than program specific features. The formula includes population data, social determinants of health and risk data, and indexes of poverty and rural needs. Program-specific information is not incorporated into the formula. Regions will still be able to apply their allocations to programs based on their regional needs and gaps.

A region's infrastructure is also not part of the formula. We attempted to explore this idea and found there are vast differences between the structures of each AMHI to allow this to be incorporated at this time. This is an item to be explored in the future.

What will the application look like? Will it be graded? What can we expect in the next grant cycle?

We have not built the new application yet. That work will happen after we have finalized the funding formula and determined the method of rolling out the allocation changes. Additionally, we do not have the answer yet as to what exactly things will look

like for the CY2025-2026 contract. That is dependent on the final formula and the implementation plan, which will inform the CY2025-2026 allocations.

How competitive will the formula be?

The formula is not competitive. Allocations will be based on the same factors for all regions. However, the way the different inputs impact a region will vary based on the makeup of each region. For example, regions all have a different poverty index score.

Who will make the decision about allocations? How will this group's feedback impact the end decisions?

DHS will make the final decisions. The AMHI team will review the recommendations from this workgroup and present final recommendations to BHD leadership. This workgroup will have all of the information shared with BHD leadership so you can see exactly what was used in determining the funding formula.

How will the new formula impact current programs and contracts?

The funding formula will not impact the 2021-2022 AMHI Contracts. The new formula will change allocations for future contract cycles beginning CY2025-2026. Therefore, the region will have a new allocation from which to fund individual providers or subcontracts. Regions will still have the flexibility to apply their allocation as they see fit within the open BRASS Codes for AMHIs. How that looks, however, is dependent on both the final formula and the way it will be implemented. For example, if the formula is rolled out in phases, allocations may change gradually over time.

How does AMHI reform impact the Moose Lake funds?

Moose Lake Alternative funds were incorporated into the AMHI Integrated Fund in 2003, and thus are part of the total pool of funding to which the funding formula is applied.

Will other state funding in a region be accounted for?

At this time, the funding formula does not include other funding sources as a variable.

When will the formula go into effect and how much notice will regions receive?

The first contract that will have allocations based on the funding formula is scheduled to be CY2025-2026. DHS will release the final implementation plan and announce formula-based allocations in February 2023. This gives regions time to plan before CY2025-2026 applications are released in April 2024.