



## Thursday Connections with SUD at DHS June 25, 2026

Brought to you by Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Unit in the Behavioral Health Administration (BHA).

# Agenda

Time	Topic
9:00	Legislative Changes
9:05	New Process
9:10	Subsequent Eligibility Requests
9:15	Agency / County of Financial Responsibility
9:20	Form Enhancements
9:35	Website Enhancements
9:45	Action Items
9:50	Q & A

# Meeting Logistics



All attendees, except presenters, will remain muted.



To save bandwidth, please keep cameras off.



We will work to address questions during the time allotted.



A summary of questions, comments and responses will be posted on the Thursday Connections with SUD webpage.

1. Submit questions in the chat
2. Questions submitted via chat will be addressed during Q&A portion of meeting
3. Post chat questions to everyone to allow for all attendees to see conversation



# Behavioral Health Fund (BHF) Eligibility

**Emilie Volkman** | Behavioral Health Fund Eligibility Supervisor

[Emilie.Volkman@state.mn.us](mailto:Emilie.Volkman@state.mn.us)

# What is the Behavioral Health Fund?

- **Behavioral Health Fund pays for SUD treatment for eligible clients:**
  - Meet income / household limits
  - No ACTIVE Medical Assistance (incarcerated = suspended MA)
  - Do NOT have insurance/3rd party payer that covers 100% of SUD treatment cost
  - MN Resident
- **Designed to help individuals engage in SUD treatment with minimal barriers while pursuing other long-term funding source(s)**

# Legislative Changes Effective July 1, 2026

- Eligibility Determination:
  - ❑ Tribes/Counties **TO** MN DHS
- County/Agency Financial Responsibility Determination:
  - ❑ Tribes/Counties **TO** MN DHS
- Appeals (Eligibility Denial, CFR Determination)
  - ❑ Tribes/Counties **TO** MN DHS
- Eligibility Spans:
  - ❑ 1 year **TO** 60 days (with ability to request subsequent 60-days spans)
- Administrative Allocation:
  - ❑ Received by Tribes & Counties **TO** Received by Tribes
- Eligibility Determination Timeframes
  - ❑ 5 Business Days

# Before/After: June 30, 2026

- BHF eligibility determined by tribes/counties **on or before 6/30/2026**
  - 12-month eligibility span (no shortening of BHF eligibility spans for these cases)
- BHF Eligibility Determined by DHS **on/after 7/1/2026:**
  - 60-consecutive calendar day eligibility spans (even if start date is back-dated to before 7/1/2026)
  - BHF Requests received by tribes/counties after 6/30/2026:
    - Send on to DHS (w/ HIPAA compliance): [MN DHS BHF@state.mn.us](mailto:MN_DHS_BHF@state.mn.us)
    - Direct clients to apply to DHS: [Need help paying for substance use disorder treatment? / Minnesota Department of Human Services](#)

# The New Process

## July 1, 2026

1. Requests submitted to DHS
2. DHS determines BHF eligibility AND County of Financial Responsibility within 5 business days of request receipt.
3. Eligibility span entered in MMIS (if eligible); 60-day OO span entered in MMIS within 5 business days of request receipt.
4. Notices sent to client & county (& other parties/providers identified on application)
  - Client receives eligibility notice with MA application guidance and appeal instructions
    - If selected for audit; this notice is also included
  - County (CFR) notified of both eligible and ineligible determinations
    - Includes notice of Living Arrangement & Third-Party Liability updates (to be entered by county)
5. Incomplete = Denied:
  - Missing information triggers a denial notice to the client identifying what's missing and how to resubmit.

# THE NEW PROCESS - BHF Program Integrity Audit Starting July 1

1. BHF Eligibility Approved
2. Audit Selection: 10% of approved requests (every 10th approval)
3. Documentation Requested (sent with eligibility notice)
  - Selected recipients will receive request to provide documentation to validate their prospective 1-year household income and household size within 60 days
  - At application, applicants may voluntarily provide documentation of 1-year-prospective household income and household size. These documents will not be used to determine eligibility; will be retained for use if selected for program integrity audit.
4. DHS Verifies Eligibility
  - Notice sent to applicant and other parties noted on application
5. Determined Ineligible: Eligibility Span closed, Fund Recovery
  - Notice sent to applicant and other parties noted on application
6. No Response = Ineligible, no further funding without documentation provided and eligibility verification

# Subsequent Eligibility Requests

- **When Clients Need More Than 60 Days in a Calendar Year**
  - One 60-consecutive-day eligibility span (Initial Request)
    - Subsequent request approved if client continues to meet eligibility requirements.
  - Subsequent requests do not have a separate process; uses SAME:
    - tools
    - forms
    - timelines
  - If ongoing need, be sure to apply for subsequent eligibility >5 business days before need
    - No limit on number of subsequent requests

# Subsequent Eligibility Requests

- **We Expect Most Subsequent Requests From:**
  - Completed MA Application (awaiting eligibility determination)
  - MA Denial
  - Individuals Experiencing Incarceration

# County/Agency Of Financial Responsibility

- **Determined ([Sec. 256G.02 MN Statutes](#))**
  - **Tribal Members:** Member Tribe
  - **Open Social Services Case:** If client has an open, uninterrupted social service case, CFR = county with that case (earliest date)
  - **Residence:** County of residence at time of application
  - **Excluded Time:** If in excluded-time residence, use county of residence immediately preceding excluded time (if in MN)
    - **Non-MN Preceding Excluded Time:** CFR = county of residence at time of application

# BHF Form Enhancements

- DHS BHF Inbox: to receive questions ([dhs.BHF@state.mn.us](mailto:dhs.BHF@state.mn.us))
- Updated BHF Request Form (DHS-2780A)
  - Submit by mail / electronically
  - Can give permission to communicate with others / providers / etc...
- Development of standardized communication forms for:
  - BHF Eligibility Application Received (sent to applicant)
  - BHF CFR Determination Notice (sent to tribe/county)
  - BHF CFR Dispute Form (to submit to DHS)
  - BHF Eligibility Approval Notice (sent to applicant / other identified parties)
  - BHF Eligibility Denial Notice (sent to applicant / other identified parties)
  - BHF Audit: Income & Household Size Documentation Form (to submit to DHS)

# DHS BHF Website Enhancements

- BHF Website: [Need help paying for substance use disorder treatment? / Minnesota Department of Human Services](#)
- Submit BHF Request
  - Submit Audit Forms
  - Submit CFR Dispute Form
- What is BHF
- Find SUD Treatment Providers
- Eligibility Criteria
  - How to determine household size
  - How to calculate household income (w/ calculator)
  - Household Income Eligibility Chart
- How to Appeal Denial / CFR
- Links to MnSure / MnBenefits

# Action Items

- **Tribes:**

- Determine interest in moving forward with contract development w/ DHS to complete future BHF Eligibility Determination for tribal members

- **Tribes / Counties:**

- Identify contact email to receive notice of financial responsibility from DHS. Send to: [Emilie.Volkman@state.mn.us](mailto:Emilie.Volkman@state.mn.us)
- Consider pursuit of expanded SUD service offerings (ie: treatment coordination)

- **SUD Providers / Jails:**

- Familiarize with updated website and resource information
- Check MN-Its Inbox for ongoing communication
- Verify client BHF eligibility
  - Encourage clients to complete permission to share eligibility determination on application form



# Questions & Answers

# Other Resources

- State Residency:

- [1.4 MHCP State Residency](#)
- [1.4.4 MHCP Temporary Absence](#)

- Agency/County of Financial Responsibility:

- [Sec. 256G.02 MN Statutes](#)
- [Sec. 256G.09 MN Statutes](#)
- [Sec. 256G.07 MN Statutes](#)
- [County financial disputes / Minnesota Department of Human Services](#)
- [Household Size - Behavioral Health Fund / Minnesota Department of Human Services](#)

- SUD Provider Enrollment:

- [Substance Use Disorder \(SUD\) Services Enrollment Criteria and Forms](#)

- BHF Legislative Changes Summary

- [Behavioral Health Fund Reform tcm1053-699180.pdf](#)

- BHF Eligibility

- [Sec. 254B.03 MN Statutes](#)
- [Sec. 254B.04 MN Statutes](#)



# Reminders

# Next Thursday Connections with SUD at DHS

**July 16th**

**\*extended 2 hour\***

**2 – 4 p.m.**

Held the third Thursday of each month. No registration required, [join Webex](#) via the webpage.





Sincere THANK YOU for your continued partnership.

For updates about future meetings and responses to questions not answered during this meeting, please visit the [Thursday Connections with SUD at DHS webpage](#).