



NHSC Site Application Process: Comprehensive Primary Behavioral Health Services

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How to Meet NHSC Site Eligibility Requirements

To become a National Health Service Corps (NHSC)-approved site, your facility must meet the requirements in the [NHSC Site Reference Guide](#) (PDF - 807 KB) and [NHSC Site Agreement](#) (PDF - 291 KB).

This page provides an overview of NHSC eligibility requirements.

Give Feedback

<https://nhsc.hrsa.gov/sites/eligibility-requirements>

Comprehensive Primary Behavioral Health Services

COMPREHENSIVE PRIMARY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

Facilities offering comprehensive primary behavioral health services must be located in and serve their mental health designated Health Professional Shortage Area.

Your behavioral health service site should:

- Provide core comprehensive behavioral health services *on-site*, which include:
 - Screening and assessment
 - Treatment plan
 - Care coordination
- Offer non-core comprehensive behavioral health services either *on-site*, *in-network*, or *off-site*, through referral, affiliation, or contract, which include:
 - Diagnosis
 - Therapeutic services
 - Crisis/emergency services
 - Consultative services
 - Case management

Documentation Needed

Your site must provide at least one of the following for services provided on-site (Core and Non-Core):	Your site must provide at least one of the following for each service provided off-site or out-of- network (Non-Core):
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Operating certificate issued by the state, territory, county, etc.• Site brochure listing the behavioral health services• Site policy that outlines the behavioral health services• Document that includes the website link and screenshot of available behavioral health services• Other documentation that outlines behavioral health services provided on-site	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Affiliation agreements• Memorandums of understanding/agreement• Contracts• Letters of referral• Letters of support/commitment• Referral and follow-up policy and procedures

APPENDIX E: NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE CORPS COMPREHENSIVE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES CHECKLIST

****Only National Health Service Corps Site Administrators are permitted to submit certification documents****

Site Name _____

Address _____

Section I. Core Comprehensive Behavioral Health Service Elements

National Health Service Corps-approved Comprehensive Primary Behavioral Health Service sites must upload documentation demonstrating that Core Comprehensive Behavioral Health Services are provided on-site. Core service elements *must* be provided on-site; these services cannot be offered in-network, through referral, affiliation, or contract.

Service	Check the box and upload supporting documentation for each Core service provided on-site
1. Screening and Assessment: <i>Screening</i> is the practice of determining the presence of risk factors, early behaviors, and biomarkers which enables early identification of behavioral health disorders (e.g., warning signs for suicide, substance abuse, depression) and early access to care. <i>Assessment</i> is a structured clinical examination that analyzes patient bio-psych-social information to evaluate a behavioral health complaint.	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Treatment Plan: A formalized, written document that details a patient's current clinical symptoms, diagnosis, and outlines the therapeutic strategies and goals that will assist the patient in reducing clinical symptoms and overcoming his or her behavioral health issues. The plan also identifies, where indicated, clinical care needs and treatment(s) to be provided by affiliated health and behavioral health care providers and settings.	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Care Coordination: <i>Care Coordination</i> is the practice of navigating and integrating the efforts primary care, specialty health care and social service providers to support a patient's health, wellness, and independence.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section II. Additional Comprehensive Behavioral Health Service Elements (Non-Core Elements)

National Health Service Corps-approved Comprehensive Primary Behavioral/Mental Health Service sites must upload documentation demonstrating patient access to non-core service elements, which may be provided on-site, in-network, through referral, affiliation, or contract. Acceptable documentation includes: affiliation agreements; memorandums of understanding/agreement; contracts; letters of referral; letters of support/commitment; or referral and follow-up policy.

Service	Select On-site or Off-site and upload supporting documentation	
	Provided On-site	Provided Off-site
1. Diagnosis: The practice of determining a patient's emotional, socio-emotional, behavioral, or mental symptoms as a diagnosable disorder in accordance with the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM; most current edition) and International Classification of Disease (ICD; most current edition).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Therapeutic Services (including, but not limited to, psychiatric medication prescribing and management, chronic disease management, and Substance Use Disorder Treatment): Broad range of evidence-based or promising behavioral health practice(s) with the primary goal of reducing or ameliorating behavioral health symptoms, improve functioning, and restore/maintain a patient's health (e.g., individual, family, and group psychotherapy/ counseling; psychopharmacology; and short/long-term hospitalization).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a. Psychiatric Medication Prescribing and Management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Substance Use Disorder Treatment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Short/long-term hospitalization	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Other (Please list)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Other (Please list)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Crisis/Emergency Services (including, but not limited to, 24-hour crisis call access): The method(s) used to offer immediate, short-term help to individuals who experience an event that produces emotional, mental, physical, and behavioral distress or problems. In some instances, a crisis may constitute an imminent threat or danger to self, to others, or grave disability. (Note: generic hotline, hospital emergency room referral, or 911 is not sufficient).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Consultative Services: The practice of collaborating with health care and other social service providers (e.g., education, child welfare, and housing) to identify the biological, psychological, medical, and social causes of behavioral health distress, to determine treatment approach(s), and to improve patient functioning.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Case Management: The practice of assisting and supporting patients in developing their skills to gain access to needed health care, housing, employment, social, educational, and other services essential to meeting basic human needs and consistent with their health care treatment, symptom management, recovery, and independent functioning.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section III. Off-Site Behavioral Health Service Details

Under this section, the National Health Service Corps-approved site must provide basic information for each entity that supports access to non-core behavioral health services.

Provider		Provider	
Address		Address	
Services Offered		Services Offered	

Provider		Provider	
Address		Address	
Services Offered		Services Offered	

Section IV. Certification of Compliance with Behavioral Health Clinical Practice Requirements

Certify that the behavioral health site adheres to the clinical practice requirements for behavioral health providers under the National Health Service Corps and supports National Health Service Corps participants in meeting their obligation related to the clinical practice requirements.

	Provided On-site	Not Provided On-site
Full-time: The site offers employment opportunities that adhere to the National Health Service Corps definition of full-time clinical practice. Refer to the National Health Service Corps Scholarship Program or National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Program webpage for a detailed definition of Full-Time Clinical Practice.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Half-time: The site offers employment opportunities that adhere to the National Health Service Corps definition of half-time clinical practice. Refer to the National Health Service Corps Scholarship Program or National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Program webpage for a detailed definition of Half-Time Clinical Practice.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section V. Site Certification:

By signing below, you (the National Health Service Corps Site Administrator) are affirming the truthfulness and accuracy of the information in this document.

I, _____, hereby certify that the information provided above, and all supporting information, is true and accurate. I understand that this information is subject to verification by the National Health Service Corps.

Signature

Date

OFFICIAL NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE CORPS USE ONLY

Recommended By: _____

COMMENTS

Certified	Not Certified
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Who Submits CPBH

Exempt Facilities

- ▶ Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs)
- ▶ Federally Qualified Health Center Look-Alikes
- ▶ Indian Health Service Facilities
- ▶ Federal/State Prisons
- ▶ ICE Facilities
- ▶ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration-Certified Opioid Treatment Programs

Non-exempt Facilities

- ▶ All other eligible National Health Service Corps site types

For questions, email

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