



Thursday Connections with SUD at DHS

August 20, 2026

Brought to you by Substance Use Disorder Unit in the Behavioral Health Administration.

Agenda

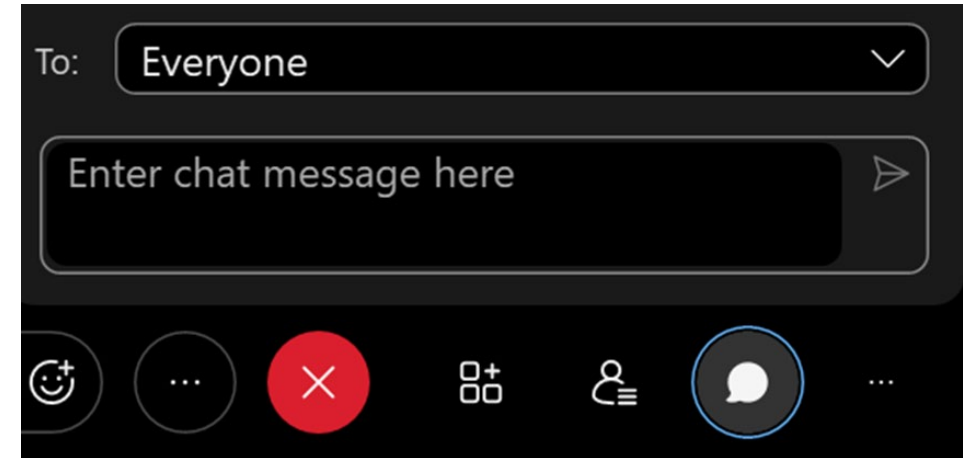
Time	Topic
3:00	Logistics & Introductions
3:05	BHF Eligibility Determination Transition from Counties to State Update
3:25	Review: SUD Treatment Services & Outpatient Procedure Code Changes
3:40	Recovery Residence Certification Update
3:55	Reminders
4:00	Close

Meeting Logistics

- ➔ All attendees, except presenters, will remain muted.
- ➔ To save bandwidth, please keep cameras off.
- ➔ We will work to address all questions during the time allotted.
- ➔ A summary of questions, comments and responses will be posted on the Thursday Connections with SUD webpage.

Using Chat

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
4. Refrain from using chat during presentations



Use chat feature to enter questions



Behavioral Health Fund (BHF) Eligibility Update

What is the Behavioral Health Fund?

- The Behavioral Health Fund (BHF) pays for substance use disorder treatment for those individuals who apply for the program and meet eligibility requirements.
- The goal of BHF is to help individuals **engage in SUD treatment** with minimal barriers **while pursuing other long-term funding source(s)**.
- Qualified and approved applicants will be granted 60 consecutive calendar days of eligibility “span” to seek substance use disorder treatment paid for by the Behavioral Health Fund.
- The Behavioral Health Fund will make payment directly to the substance use disorder treatment provider enrolled as a Minnesota Health Care Program provider.

BHF Eligibility Criteria

1. Under income limit for household size
(eligibility guidance found on BHF [webpage](#))
2. Not actively enrolled in Medical Assistance
(EXCEPT if they are incarcerated - since MA would be suspended)
3. No other insurance/third party payer that covers 100% of SUD treatment cost
4. Resident of Minnesota
(according to [MHCP definition](#))

BHF Eligibility Team Staffing Progress

- On July 1, 2026, the administration of the Behavioral Health Fund program moved from Tribal and county agencies to Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS).
- DHS created a **Behavioral Health Fund Eligibility Team** within the SUD Division of the Behavioral Health Administration.
- **Staffing Progress:**
 - 3 permanent BHF Staff are on board, another next week.
 - Plus 1 staff on temporary assignment to the BHF Eligibility Team.
 - 3 additional positions are currently posted ([Careers](#) , [Careers](#)).
 - In the meantime, the entire SUD Unit has stepped in to help manage the workload. As a result, you may receive correspondence from various SUD staff members at DHS.

Complete BHF Application (Form 2780A, dated 7-26) and submit by:

1. Uploading to [BHF submission portal](#)



2. U.S. Mail



Minnesota Department of Human Services
Attn: BHF request
540 Cedar St.
St. Paul, MN 55101-0977



Portal Submission: Updates

Behavioral Health Fund Document Sub

YOUR NAME

Submission Type*

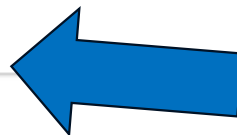
- ☐ Behavioral Health Fund Eligibility Application
- ☐ County of Financial Responsibility Dispute Form
- ☐ Program Integrity: Income & Household Size Documentation

Last Name (legal name)*

First Name (legal name)

Middle Initial

Email of person submitting application



8/13 Update:

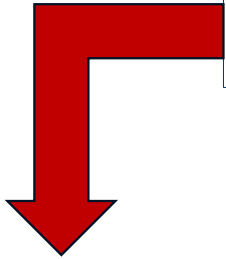
Line for person submitting application to enter an email address.

If a valid email is entered:

- DHS can reach out if the application is blank or cannot be opened
- System will immediately send a **confirmation email** with **BHF case number**
- If you enter an email and no confirmation email (check spam) within 3-4 minutes, please try submitting again.

Portal Submission: Updates

If you “submit” without attaching a document, a small orange message will pop up: **“Enter Document Upload”**



Enter Document Upload

Behavioral Health Fund Document Submission

YOUR NAME

Submission Type*

- ☒ Behavioral Health Fund Eligibility Application
- ☐ County of Financial Responsibility Dispute Form
- ☐ Program Integrity: Income & Household Size Documentation

Last Name (legal name)*

**Also updated
8/13:**

Requires an
attached
document to
submit.

Errors with Portal Submission?

We have heard of a few instances in which the portal was not functioning properly. However, it can be hard to tell if on our end or not. We test regularly and it continually works.

If you do encounter an error, please try:

- Closing the browser window (just the BHF portal) and re-open to try again.
- Checking that you saved document as an Adobe pdf
- If still encountering error:
 - Press “FN” and “Print screen” (or in web browser select “take a screenshot”) to capture image of the error. Please copy the error snapshot into an *encrypted* email to DHS.BHF@state.mn.us and attach your application submission. Subject line “Application submission- portal error” would be helpful.

BHF Process & Timeline: Application Determination

Process	Timeline	Action	Method
Application Determination (decision)	2-3 business days after submission	Applications are determined as approved or denied. Approvals have spans entered in MN-ITS.	BHF team reviews applications and collateral information. Denials have a secondary review to confirm decision.
CFR Notification			
Applicant & Secondary Contact Notification			

BHF Process & Timeline: CRF Notification

Process	Timeline	Action	Method
Application Determination (decision)	2-3 business days after submission	Applications are determined as approved or denied. Approvals have spans entered in MN-ITS.	BHF team reviews applications and collateral information. Denials have a secondary review to confirm decision.
CFR Notification	3-5 business days after submission	Tribal nations and counties identified as CFR are notified of determinations	Encrypted email(s) sent with applicant list, identifiers, eligibility determination
Applicant & Secondary Contact Notification			

BHF Process & Timeline: Applicant & Secondary Contract Notification

Process	Timeline	Action	Method
Application Determination (decision)	2-3 business days after submission	Applications are determined as approved or denied. Approvals have spans entered in MN-ITS.	BHF team reviews applications and collateral information. Denials have a secondary review to confirm decision.
CFR Notification	3-5 business days after submission	Tribal nations and counties identified as CFR are notified of determinations	Encrypted email(s) sent with applicant list, identifiers, determination and BHF application
Applicant & Secondary Contact Notification	4-7 business days after submission	<i>If Email address provided:</i> Applicants and secondary contacts are notified of determination <i>If Mailing address only:</i> letters are mailed out to applicants or secondary contacts	Encrypted email with eligibility approval/denial, BHF span (if approved), PMI #, and, if approval is selected for audit, additional information on audit process

BHF Process & Timeline: Audit

Process	Timeline	Action	Details
Audit (if selected)	Response requested within 60 days after the applicant or secondary contact is notified of BHF approval	Applicants selected for audit must complete and submit: “Income and Household Size Documentation Request” (2780D) by mail or upload to BHF submission portal .	• Applicants are selected for audit at random (every 10th approval). • There are no exemptions for individuals who report no income, are incarcerated, or are minors. • Selected applicants could meet this requirement by proactively completing the optional household member section on their initial 2780A application submission and attaching income documentation.

BHF Process & Timeline: Audit

If an applicant selected for audit is unable to submit form 2780D within 60 days:

- **It will not affect current BHF span**
- Upon submitting a future BHF eligibility application request, they will be notified of the need to complete and pass the audit before the new application can be reviewed.
- An applicant will **not** be eligible for future BHF eligibility spans if they fail to respond to the audit request **or are found to have provided false information.**

BHF Process: Determinations

Addressing barriers to entering spans

- Request to assign new PMI is around 5-6 business days. Communication will be emailed out with new PMI# once span has been entered in MN-ITS.
- BHF Team is seeing more “unique” error codes that can take 2 or more weeks to fix
- A few “CFR” codes for 3 or 4 Tribal Nations were not working in July. All were fixed and spans updated by August 10th.

BHF Process: Applicant Notifications

Beginning 8/13, all eligibility notifications for applicants and secondary contacts include:

1. BHF determination (approved/ denied)

- *If approved:*
 - BHF span dates
 - If there was a barrier to entering BHF span (will provide 2780c Approval form in those cases)
 - If applicant was selected for audit and steps to complete
- *If denied:*
 - Reason for denial

2. PMI (if none can be found, it will explain a search or assignment of PMI is being requested)

3. CFR (tribal nation or county)

BHF Process: Tribe/County of Financial Responsibility (CFR)

- There are many factors in determining CFR, not only what is included in the application.
- A small team of DHS (SUD) staff are sending almost daily emails to counties with applicant determinations.
 - Larger counties may see a series of emails to accommodate the file sizes
 - Typically, notifications are sent 24-48 hours after a decision was made (and approvals entered in MMIs)
 - If no emails received that day- either there were no determinations the day before for that CFR, or a technology or staffing shortage may delay by 1 day

- DHS is aware some counties and individuals report receiving “blank” application documents
- If you encounter this, please try:
 - download pdf
 - go to download folder
 - right click, in pop up menu select “open with”
 - then select Explorer.
 - Wait a few seconds.

If the data does not load in form, please email dhs.bhf@state.mn.us and identify the specific application form that did not open.

DHS sends all BHF applications to the tribal nation or county identified as financially responsible.

CFR Role:

- Review notice from DHS: Tribe/county assigned as financially responsible for BHF applicant
 - Decide if a “CFR dispute form” (2780E) will be completed in conjunction with a Tribal Nation or another county, (if yes, submit to DHS)
- Living arrangement (LA) updates (MMIS)
- Third Party Liability (TPL) updates (MMIS)
- Other coordination tasks as determined by Tribe/County of financial responsibility

Requesting Change to BHF Span

- In most cases, we can update BHF span start dates.
 - Often, it's a quick fix, but for some cases it may take a few weeks
- DHS does not have a formal process to request a change yet. For now:

Send an email to DHS.BHF@state.mn.us

with subject line “CHANGE REQUEST: BHF span date”, and include:

- ☐ Either the BHF application showing you/agency are listed as secondary contact or completed Release of Information
- ☐ New date requested and brief rationale
- ☐ Clarify your role and communication with applicant (their agreement to the change)

BHF Process Improvement: Next Steps

Goal	Objective	Proposed Timeline
Faster accurate notifications	Automated notifications emailed to counties, applicants, secondary contacts following application determination	3-5 weeks
Improve application process	Build online application that can ask appropriate questions for each applicant situation, and require responses when needed	3-5 weeks
Improve application process	Refine the July 2026 version of 2780A (BHF application document)	3-6 weeks

“How many applications have been received since July 1st?”

*Over **2400 submissions** since July 1st transition
from counties to DHS*

**some applicants submitted 2 or 3 times*

BHF Application Determinations

July: 879 approved, 282 denied. (24% denied applicants)

August 1-11th submissions: 315 approvals, 137 denials (30% denied)

Applications denied #	Reason (an application may be listed more than once)
134	Incomplete application*
107	Over household income limit
103	Previous/active BHF span (with more than 60 days remaining)
81	Active Medical Assistance enrollment
17	No application uploaded/ or application was blank

*74 of 134 incomplete applications were due to missing county of residence information on page 3 of BHF application (2780A)

How to Reduce “Preventable” Denials

- Providers: can **check MN-ITS** for existing BHF spans and Medical Assistance coverage before encouraging a new BHF application
- Ensure **page 3 lists a county** where applicant has spent most of their nights in past 1-2 months, or where they spent nights prior to entering a time-limited facility (GRH, hospital, correctional facility or residential SUD treatment)
- Ensure boxes for **household size (page 8)** and **income (page 9)** are completed (with numbers)
- Attachments should ideally be Adobe pdf format. Please check your pdfs after saving (close and re-open) to ensure applicants entries saved correctly.

Effective October 1st

**Applicants must use:
2780A dated July 2026
or newer**

Older versions of BHA
application 2780A dated
before July 2026 will not be
accepted.

Form

m DEPARTMENT OF
HUMAN SERVICES

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Behavioral Health Fund (BHF)
Eligibility Application Form

DHS-2780A-ENG 7-26

7-26

What is the Behavioral Health Fund?

The Behavioral Health Fund (BHF) is a Minnesota state program that helps pay for substance use disorder (SUD) treatment. BHF is designed for people who:

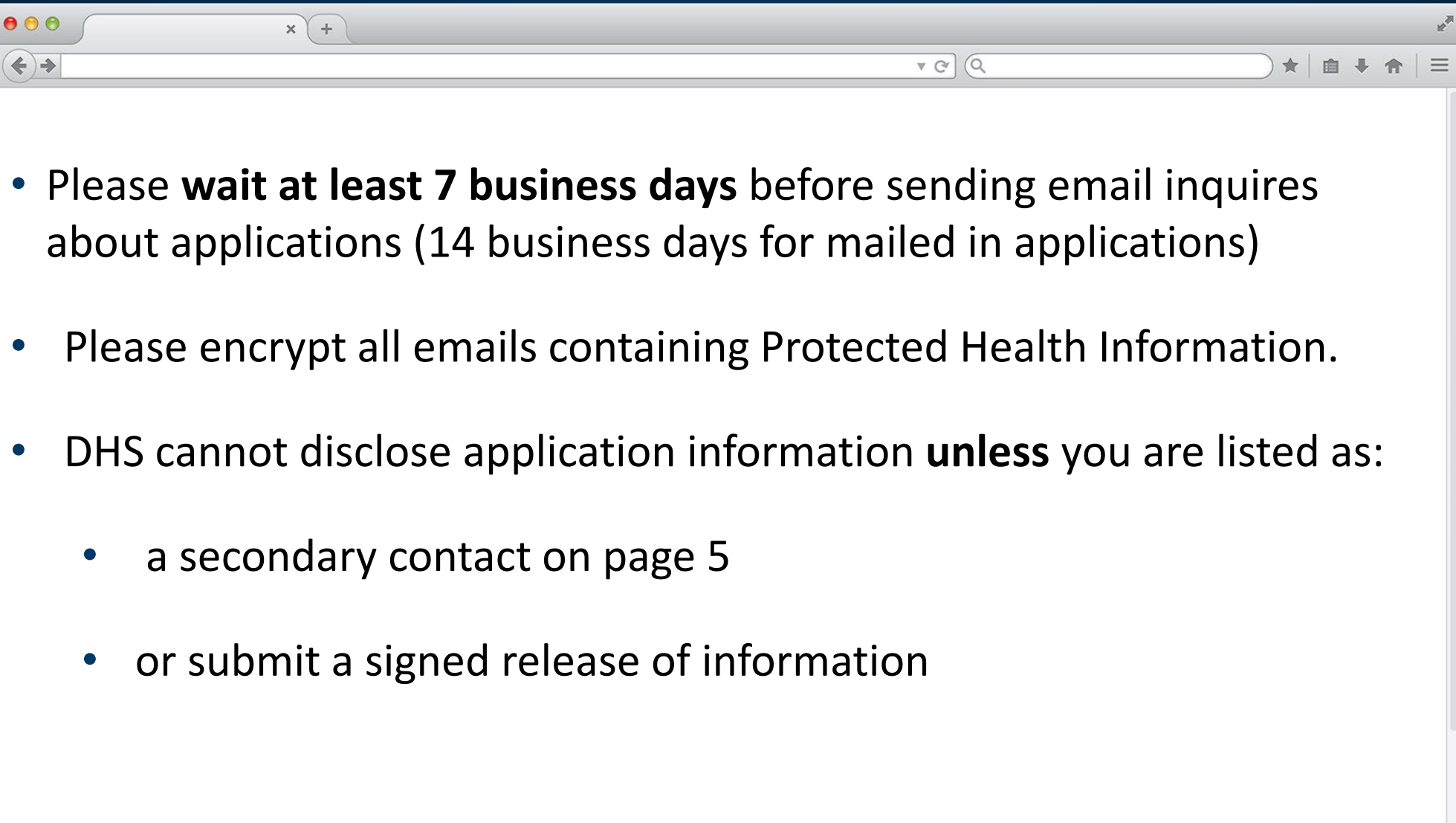
- Do not have health insurance, or
- Have insurance that does not cover SUD treatment, or
- Have insurance that does not cover the full cost of SUD treatment.

To qualify, your household income must also fall below program income limits. You can view the income limits chart here: <https://mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/adults/health-care/alcohol-drugs-addictions/programs-and-services/ccdtf.jsp> If approved, BHF will pay for 60 consecutive calendar days of SUD treatment. If you need additional treatment beyond the initial 60 days, you may reapply using this form for additional BHF coverage. You are also encouraged to apply for Minnesota Health Care Programs (Medical Assistance / Medicaid), which can provide comprehensive health care coverage — including SUD treatment coverage — on an ongoing basis. Apply for Medical Assistance online at: <https://www.mnsure.org/>

How to Submit This Form

You may submit this application using either of the two methods below. Online submission is preferred — it is the fastest way to get a decision.

Email Tips from Behavioral Health Fund inbox



Thank you!

Behavioral Health Fund Eligibility Team

DHS.BHF@state.mn.us



SUD Treatment Services and Outpatient Procedure Code Changes

Summary of Changes Effective Aug. 1, 2026

For all providers of SUD services

- SUD treatment services in 245G.07
 - Updated descriptions of treatment service **types**
 - Revised **categories** of services (psychosocial and ancillary)
 - **Repealed** “additional treatment services” in 245G.07, subd. 2
 - **Added** recovery support as an optional service
- Qualifications for who can provide psychosocial services and recovery support
- ASAM level of care service requirements specific to psychosocial services

For providers of outpatient SUD services billing MA and FFS

- Procedure codes H2035/H2035 HQ **ended**: now only used for services provided before Aug. 1, 2026
- Procedure codes **started** for services provided on and after Aug. 1, 2026:
 - New procedure codes are 15-minute units
 - See MHCP Provider Manual for information on codes, daily and weekly limits, and rates

Identified Problems

Issues that have been identified with new outpatient procedure codes

Fixed and being reprocessed

- Daily limit for group counseling (H0005 U8) for dates of service Aug. 1 through Aug. 7
- Telehealth modifiers (GT & 93) for dates of service Aug. 1 through Aug. 18
- Adolescent modifier (HA) on group psychoeducation (H2027 U8 HQ) for dates of service Aug. 1 through Aug. 18

In process or being reviewed

- Daily limit on psychoeducation (H2027 U8 and H2027 U8 HQ)
- Denied claims when living arrangement = in a correctional facility (type 68)

What do providers need to do?

Review treatment services policies and procedures (all providers):

Remove “additional treatment services” and make sure differences between services is clear

Make sure you have the required psychosocial hours for ASAM LOC

If adding recovery support (optional for any licensed program):

Develop a behavioral health practitioner job description and/or job duties for providing recovery support

Add recovery support to the treatment services description

Develop billing protocols (outpatient):

Use new procedure codes for services provided starting Aug. 1

Use 15-minute units (based on total minutes for that procedure code / service for the day)

Thursday Connections with SUD at DHS

- July 16 PowerPoint Presentation and Chat Questions and Answers (PDF)
- July 10 PowerPoint Presentation and Chat Questions and Answers (PDF)
- June 18 PowerPoint Presentation and Chat Questions and Answers (PDF)
- Mar. 19 PowerPoint Presentation and Chat Questions and Answers (PDF)

DHS Substance Use Disorder Reform

- Information on 2026 Changes (PDF)
- Accounting for breaks in SUD treatment documentation and billing (PDF)

MHCP Provider Manual

- Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Services
- Substance Use Disorder Service Rate Grid
- Billing Policy - Medicare & Other Insurance



Please enter questions in the chat and we can answer them today if we are able



Please send questions after today to
SUD.Direct.Access.DHS@state.mn.us



Recovery Residence Certification Update

Today's Agenda

- Certification Timeline update
- Certified Recovery Residence (CRR) applications
- CRR Application Tips
- Housing Support Program FAQ
- Resources
- DHS Contact Methods

Certification Timeline Update

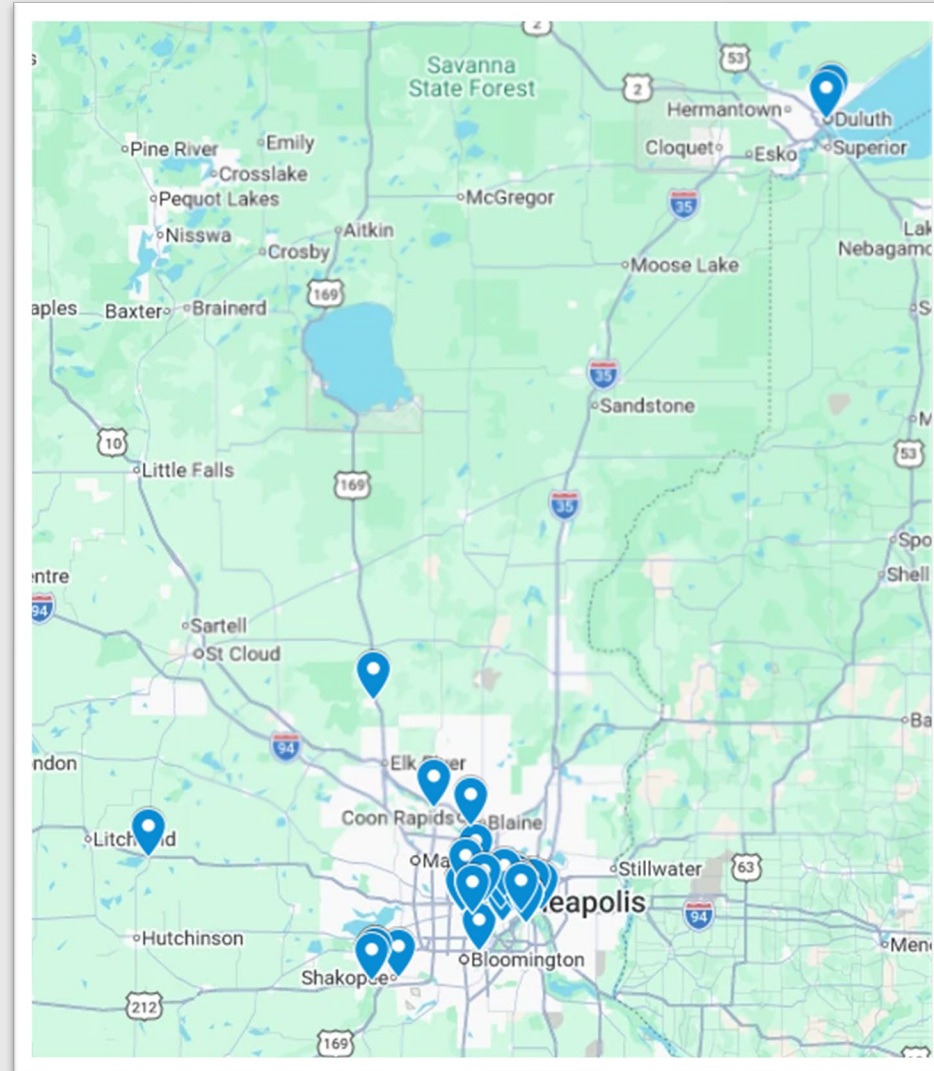
TIMEFRAME	WHAT'S HAPPENING?
May - July	• Certification Application form and reference guides posted to the Recovery Residences webpage. • Recovery Residence Team onboarded and certification workflow fully operational.
RIGHT NOW:	• All current Free Standing Room & Board (FSRB) applications under review. • Site visits are being scheduled for August.
September	Recovery Residence Portal vendor selection.
December 31, 2026	FSRB service eligibility end date.

Certification Applications Numbers

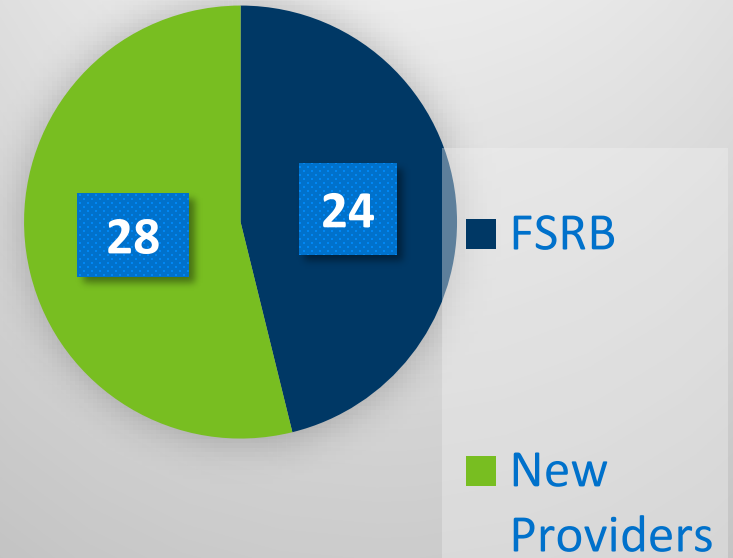
Applications



■ Level 1
■ Level 2



Locations



Application Tips – Where to Start

1. Start on the [DHS CRR webpage](#).
2. Use the reference guides and [checklists](#).
3. Format your policies as specified on the webpage.
4. Label each policy clearly and place them in a zip folder.
5. Email the zip folder, with each attachment clearly identified.

Reference Guides



01. Safety Inspections - Reference Guide.docx



06. Individual Emergency & Safety Plan - Reference Guide.docx



07. Emergency Procedures - Reference Guide.docx

Application Tips – Use Reference Guides to See What Each Policy Needs

Statute: [Minn. Stat. § 254B.211, Subd. 2\(2\)\(i\)](#)

- (i) safety inspections requiring periodic verification of smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, fire extinguishers, and emergency evacuation drills;
-

Reference Guide

01. Safety Inspections — Fire Extinguishers

- Policy **must** include how often fire extinguishers are checked.
- Policy should also include fire extinguisher placement, ensuring they are readily accessible in key areas such as kitchens or near exits, by whom they are inspected and when they will be recharged or replaced.

Application Tips – Use Clear Policy Titles



Helpful

Policy_1_Safety_Inspections_v2.docx

Policy_2_Exposure_to_Bodily_Fluids_and_Contagious_Dise

Policy_3_Medications.docx

Policy_4_Residency_Termination_Transfer.docx

Policy_5_Code_of_Conduct_Professional_Boundaries_and

Policy_6_Individual_Emergency_Safety_Plan.docx

Policy_7_Emergency_Procedures-2 (1).docx

Policy_8_Staff_Training_Qualifications_and_Responsibilitie

Policy_9_Description_of_Services_Fee_Schedule_and_Refu



Not Helpful

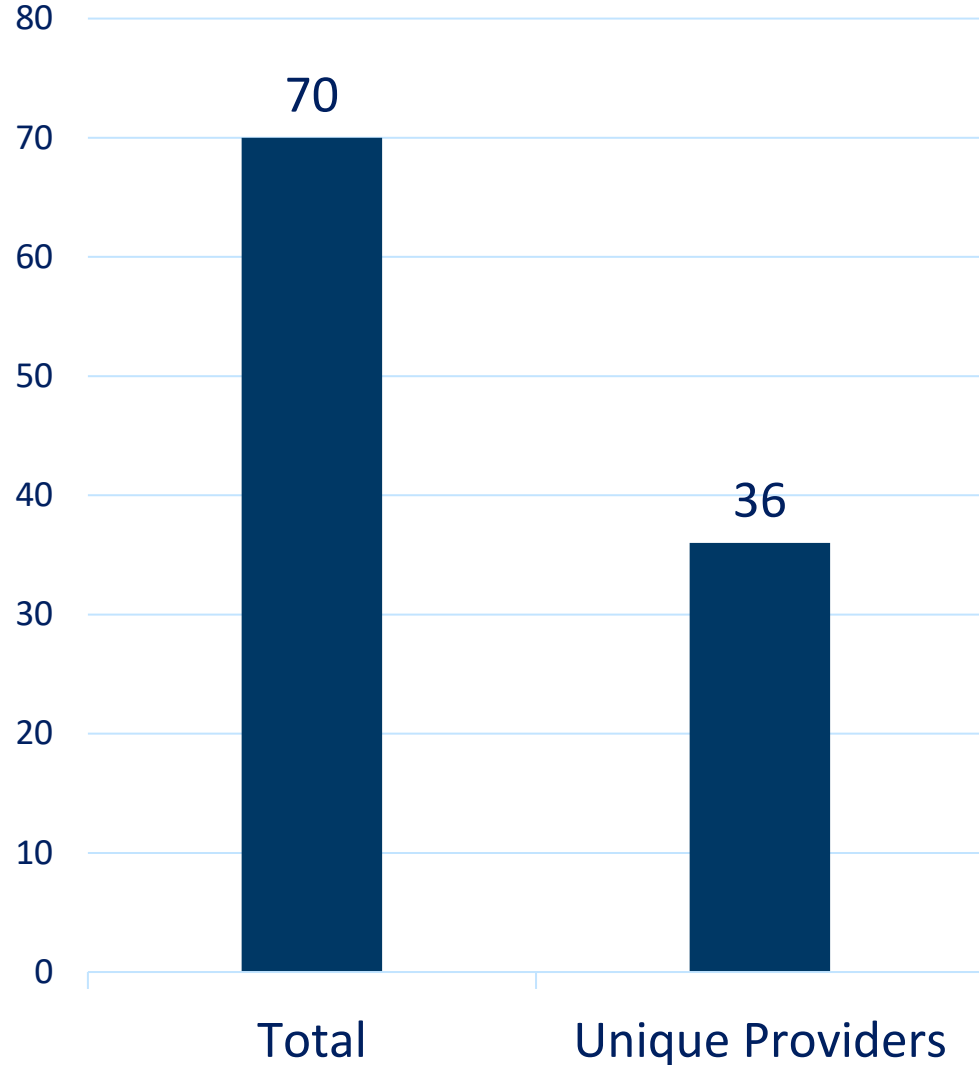
Section 1

- Emergency and Safety Planning
- Emergency and Overdose Response Procedures
- Emergency Resources, Crisis Response, and Opiate Antagonist Fire Safety, Emergency Evacuation, and Severe Weather Safety Inspections

Application Tips - Location Specificity & Resident Fees

- Policies must include information specific to each location.
 - Examples: Evacuation drills, medication storage, biohazardous waste disposal or SUD resources in the area.
 - Certifications are non-transferrable between locations and are reviewed separately.
- Resident Fee Schedule and Refunds Policy
 - Must include a fee schedule that outlines all fees that a resident may incur and under what circumstance each fee will be incurred.
 - Must include resident expectations when fees are paid by a third party.

Housing Support Program FAQ



- Background Studies
- Training Requirements
- MDH Board and Lodge License

[Housing Support Interest Form](#)

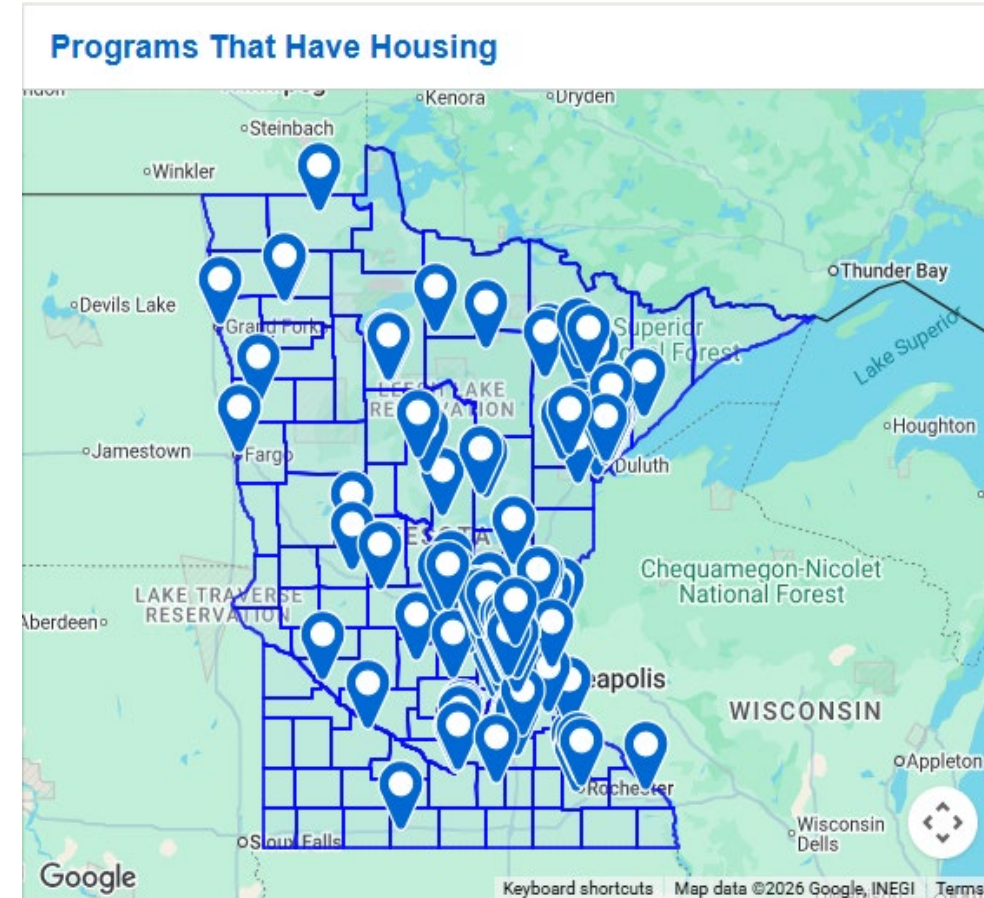
Resources

HB101 Minnesota - HB101 Places

- Bethany Schwerr: Community Living Housing Infrastructure Specialist, HHSSA Bethany.Schwerr@state.mn.us
- hb101.places.dhs@state.mn.us

Recovery Residence Workgroup

- Members represent:
 - Treatment providers, County social services, DHS, Public Health, MASH, MAARCH, OMHDD, NARR, City Planning and Development departments, RR Operators, People with lived experience
- To get involved contact: BeckyS@theimprovegroup.com



Recovery Residence Team

Website: [DHS Certified Recovery Residences](#)

Email: RECOVERY_SUPPORTS_BHA.DHS@STATE.MN.US

Housing Support Program

Website: [Housing Support for Certified Recovery Residences](#)

Email: DHS.DHS.GRH@STATE.MN.US

DHS Background Study Division

Phone: 651-431-6620

Email: DHS.NETSTUDY2@STATE.MN.US

Thank You!

Kayt Soine

Kathryn.t.soine@state.mn.us

recovery_supports_bha.dhs@state.mn.us

Next Thursday Connections with SUD at DHS

September 17th
3 – 4 p.m.

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





Join us!

September 16th

12:00 - 1:30 p.m.

Hyrbid @ RS Eden

[RSVP Link](#)

Focus: Justice Involved - Policy to Practice

For more information, visit the [SUD CoP webpage](#).

****Special Sessions****

Pathway to ASAM 4 Community Engagement

➔ **August 26, 12-1:30 p.m.**

Focus on ASAM Levels of Care

➔ **September 2, 12-1:30 p.m.**

Focus on Clinical Documentation

[RSVP to an upcoming special session](#)





Questions & Answers



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](#).