

San Diego HIV Planning Group  
Priority Setting and Resource Allocation Committee

2023 Key Data Findings

**SERVICE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND SERVICE GUIDELINES  
BY SERVICE CATEGORY  
FOR RYAN WHITE PART A/B SERVICES**

Approved June 22, 2023



The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) require that the income eligibility criteria be the same for all Ryan White service categories. Having different income eligibility criteria for different services creates barriers to receiving care and treatment.

Thus, to be eligible to receive Ryan White Parts A/B services in San Diego County, one must:

- Live in San Diego County
- Have an income at or below 500% Federal Poverty Level (FPL)\* (\$72,900 annually for a household of one)
- Have a confirmed HIV diagnosis (except in service categories that permit services to HIV-negative and unaware)
- Have no other payer for service

All clients must be reassessed for eligibility every twelve months

Service specific guidelines for each Ryan White service provided in the County are noted in the chart beginning on page 2.

\*The FPL for changes every year and is usually published within the first few months of each calendar year. The 2023 500% FPL is \$72,900 annually for a household of one (adjusted for additional family members).

Definitions:

Medical Provider = Medical Doctor (MD or DO), Nurse Practitioner (NP), Physician Assistant (PA)

Clinical Provider = Medical Doctor (MD or DO), Nurse Practitioner (NP), Physician Assistant (PA), Registered Nurse (RN), Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN), Case Manager (CM), Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), Licensed Marriage Family Therapist (LMFT)

Mental Health Provider = Psychiatrist (a Medical Doctor, MD or DO), Psychologist (PhD or PsyD), Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), Licensed Marriage Family Therapist (LMFT)






Dental Provider = Dentist (DDS or DDM), Dental Specialist (DDS or DDM)

 = Core Medical Service

# San Diego County EMA Ryan White Treatment Extension Act (RWTEA) Parts A/B

## SERVICE SPECIFIC CRITERIA



Draft June 22, 2022


Priority Rank/Category	Criteria	Limitations	Requires referral
1.  <b>Outpatient Ambulatory Health Services (Primary Care)</b>	No additional guidelines	Emergency room or urgent care services are not considered outpatient settings. There are no annual limits on the number of services provided.	
2.  <b>Medical Specialty</b>	Must have a referral from Ryan White HIV Primary Care provider	Requests triaged based on medical necessity, HIV relatedness and urgency.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medical provider</li> </ul>
3.  <b>Psychiatric Services</b>	Must have a confirmed mental health diagnosis, and/or referral for specialized psychiatric care from a medical provider or mental health provider	There are no annual limits on the number of services provided.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medical provider</li> <li>• Mental health provider</li> </ul>
4.  <b>Oral Health Care (Dental Care)</b>	Must have a referral from Ryan White Primary Care provider	Primary dental services are available as medically necessary or as required to treat pain. Dental specialty is limited to procedures to support palliative and medically necessary dental care outside of primary dental care setting. Service specifically excludes dental implants (with four specific exceptions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medical provider</li> <li>• Dental provider for dental specialty service</li> </ul>
5.  <b>Medical Case Management Services</b>	Limited to individuals who are unable to access or remain in HIV medical care as determined by medical care managers based on whether: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Client is currently enrolled in outpatient/ambulatory health services</li> <li>• Client is following his/her medical plan</li> <li>• Client is keeping medical appointments</li> </ul> Client is taking medication as prescribed	Services are not intended for individuals who are able to access and remain in HIV medical care. Case is closed when all action items on the care plan are competed, and medical care is stabilized. There are no annual limits on the number of services provided.	
6. <b>Non-Medical Case Management Services</b>	Must demonstrate ability to access or remain in HIV medical care	Services are not intended for individuals who are unable to access or remain in HIV medical care. Case is closed when all action items on the care plan are competed, and medical care is stabilized. There are no annual limits on the number of services provided.	
7. <b>Non-Medical Case Management for Housing</b>	Eligible to receive Ryan White services  Upon intake, all eligible clients will be required to enroll in all available housing assistance waiting	Housing case management does not provide support or guidance for accessing other services, and it is required that housing case managers closely coordinate client needs outside of housing	

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Priority Rank/Category	Criteria	Limitations	Requires referral
	<p>lists, including Section 8, Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA), and Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA).</p> <p>A housing plan must be developed within 60 days of enrolling in housing case management and no later than 90 days after enrolling in PARS. The client &amp; case manager should review the plan regularly, and at least every quarter.</p>	<p>with medical or non-medical case managers as part of a treatment team approach.</p>	
<p><b>8. Housing: Emergency Housing</b></p>	<p>Eligible to receive RW services.</p> <p>Because all housing support provided under Ryan White is temporary, a housing transition plan is required to ensure clients maintain housing self-sufficiency at the conclusion of assistance.</p>	<p>Services prioritize hotel/single room occupancy (SRO) vouchers over rental assistance. Service can be used once in a 12-month period. Service is not available to individuals who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Receive Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA) funds.</li> <li>• Receive a tenant-based or project-based rent subsidy including, but not limited to, subsidized low-income housing, or subsidized independent housing associated with any program such as Public Housing, Affordable Housing, Section 8, HOPWA, or PARS rental assistance.</li> <li>• Have previously been terminated from receiving emergency housing assistance or tenant-based rental assistance, have violated program guidelines in their use of emergency housing funds, or have been identified as ineligible for services.</li> <li>• Can include sober living and assisted living.</li> </ul> <p>Housing services may not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be used for mortgage payments</li> <li>• Be in the form of direct cash payments to clients</li> <li>• Be used for rental or security deposits. Such deposits are typically returned to clients as cash which would violate the prohibition on providing cash payments to clients.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Case manager</li> </ul>
<p><b>9. Housing Location, Placement and Advocacy Services</b></p>	<p>(The Strategies and Standards Committee will draft service standards for this service category)</p>		

Priority Rank/Category	Criteria	Limitations	Requires referral
<b>10. Housing: Partial Assistance Rental Subsidy (PARS)</b>	<p>Must not receive other subsidized housing, either tenant-based or project-based</p> <p>Because all housing support provided under Ryan White is temporary, a housing transition plan is required to ensure clients maintain housing self-sufficiency at the conclusion of assistance.</p> <p>All clients enrolled in the Partial Assistance Rental Subsidy (PARS) program must also enroll in housing case management.</p>	<p>Provides 40% of a client's monthly rental costs not to exceed 40% of the fair-market rent for San Diego County as determined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).</p> <p>Clients shall not receive PARS if they receive tenant-based or project-based rent subsidy including, but not limited to, subsidized low-income housing, or subsidized independent housing associated with any program such as Public Housing, Affordable Housing, HOPWA, or Section 8.</p> <p>Housing services may not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be used for mortgage payments</li> <li>• Be in the form of direct cash payments to clients</li> <li>• Be used for rental or security deposits. Such deposits are typically returned to clients as cash which would violate the prohibition on providing cash payments to clients.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Case manager</li> </ul>
<b>11. Coordinated HIV Services for Women, Infants, Children, Youth and Families(CHS:WICYF)</b>	<p>Limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individuals who do not know their HIV status and need to be referred to counseling and testing</li> <li>• Individuals who know their status and are not in care and need assistance to enter or re-enter HIV-related medical care</li> </ul>	<p>Services focus on linkage or re-engagement in care and are not intended to be ongoing.</p>	
<b>a. Childcare Services (A subcategory of CHS:WICYF)</b>	<p>Available for children living in the household of individuals with a confirmed HIV diagnosis and their affected family members while attending medical visits, related appointments, and/or Ryan White-funded meetings, groups, or training sessions.</p>	<p>For children from infancy through 12 years of age. Services are also available, if permitted at the appointing clinic, for parents and caregivers attending medical, dental, and mental health care appointments, including support groups, on-site childcare is prioritized for appointments, so family members can access support service needs. It may be available for other purposes as determined appropriate. For parents and caregivers utilizing on-site services, at least one parent or caregiver must remain on-site.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Case manager</li> </ul>
<b>12. Early Intervention Services: Regional Services (EIS:RS)</b>	<p>Services focus on linkage or re-engagement in care and are not intended to be ongoing.</p>	<p>Limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individuals who do not know their HIV status and need to be referred to counseling and testing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>

Priority Rank/Category	Criteria	Limitations	Requires referral
		Individuals who know their status and are not in care and need assistance to enter or re-enter HIV-related medical care	
<b>a. Outreach Services (a subcategory of EIS:RS)</b>	Services focus on linkage or re-engagement in care and are not intended to be ongoing.	Limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individuals who do not know their HIV status and need to be referred to counseling and testing</li> </ul> Individuals who know their status and are not in care and need assistance to enter or re-enter HIV-related medical care	
<b>13. Health Education and Risk Reduction (stand-alone service, not part of CHS:WICFY or EIS:RS)</b>	Eligible to receive Ryan White funded care  The provision of education and information to clients living with HIV and how to reduce the risk of HIV transmission. It includes education, referral and related service navigation to clients living with HIV to improve their health and their partners to prevent HIV transmission.	Services are intended to complement and not replace other funded HIV prevention activities  Exclusions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Affected individuals (partners and family members not living with HIV) are only eligible if receiving services concurrently with the client.</li> <li>Health Education/Risk Reduction may not be delivered anonymously. However, all information is confidential.</li> </ul>	
<b>14. Referral to Health and Care and Support Services (Peer Navigation)</b>	Must currently be receiving case management, non-case management, mental health, substance abuse or outreach services	Services focus on linkage or re-engagement in care and are not intended to be ongoing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Self-Referral</li> <li>Case manager</li> <li>Early Intervention Services</li> </ul>
<b>15.  Mental Health: Counseling, Therapy/Support Groups</b>	May request or be referred by providers or case manager	Case is closed when all action items on the care plan are completed, and medical care is stabilized. There are no annual limits on the number of services provided.	
<b>16. Psychosocial Support Services</b>	Available to clients living with HIV; may include support groups and may be provided by a trained staff or volunteer, including peers.	Funds under this service category may not be used to pay for food, transportation or for professional mental health services.	
<b>17.  Substance Use Outpatient Care</b>	Cannot currently be in a residential substance abuse treatment program	Case is closed upon successful completion of treatment and client chooses not to participate in any other aftercare program activities. There are no annual limits on the number of services provided.	
<b>18. Substance Use Residential Care</b>	Must have a written referral from the clinical provider as part of a substance use disorder	Case is closed upon completion of treatment program. There are no annual limits on the number of services provided.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clinical provider</li> </ul>

Priority Rank/Category	Criteria	Limitations	Requires referral
<p>19.  <b>Home and Community Based Health Services</b></p>	<p>treatment program funded under the Ryan White program</p> <p>Must be at risk for hospitalization or entry into a skilled nursing facility. Must also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have a health condition consistent with in-home services</li> <li>• Have a home environment that is safe for both the client and the service provider</li> </ul> <p>Have a score of 70 or less on the Cognitive and Functional Ability (Karnofsky) Scale</p>	<p>Service specifically excludes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emergency room services</li> <li>• In-patient hospital services</li> <li>• Nursing homes</li> <li>• Other long-term care facilities</li> </ul> <p>Case is closed when all action items on the comprehensive service plan are complete and medical care is stabilized. There are no annual limits on the number of services provided.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medical provider</li> <li>• Case manager</li> </ul>
<p>20. <b>Transportation Pool – Assisted &amp; Unassisted</b></p>	<p>Individuals shall be eligible for transportation only if they would not otherwise have access to core medical and support services and only if they do not qualify for other transportation assistance programs.</p>	<p>Specific eligibility criteria for <b><u>assisted transportation*</u></b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specific Eligibility Criteria: Used for transport to and from various core medical and support service providers.</li> <li>• Assisted transportation, consisting of ADA Para-Transit Passes and certified medical transport may be used if a client is unable to access unassisted transportation.</li> <li>• Contractor shall refer all clients requesting assisted transportation for screening and potential eligibility for AIDS Waiver program.</li> <li>• Clients are not eligible for assisted transportation services if they receive or are eligible for other public transportation benefits such as, but not limited to, ADA Para-Transit, AIDS Waiver Transportation Assistance, Home and Community-based Health Services, or Medi-Cal reimbursed medical transport.</li> </ul> <p>Specific eligibility criteria for <b><u>unassisted transportation</u></b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specific Eligibility Criteria: Reserved for individuals unable to access or stay in core medical and support services.</li> <li>• Disabled monthly passes may be issued for individuals who qualify for the disabled</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Case manager</li> <li>• Any service provider</li> </ul>

Priority Rank/Category	Criteria	Limitations	Requires referral
		<p>monthly pass and have more than three medical visits per month.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Day passes may be issued for individuals who do not qualify for the disabled monthly passes and for those eligible for disabled monthly passes who have fewer than three medical visits per month. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Individuals who receive day passes can be issued two extra day passes to cover unexpected or emergency medical visits. Clients are limited to two unused emergency day passes at a time.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Monthly passes may be issued to clients in lieu of day passes if a client's predetermined number of day-passes for a month equals or exceeds the cost of a standard monthly pass.</li> <li>• Other forms of transportation may include but are not limited to: taxis, ride sharing program and/or mileage reimbursement.</li> </ul> <p>Transportation services are limited to travel to and from core medical and support service appointments only; however, clients traveling with legal dependents are permitted to make stops at childcare facilities to drop children off before appointments and to pick children up after appointment.</p> <p>Unallowable services include: 1. Direct cash payment or reimbursements to clients 2. Direct maintenance expenses of personally owned vehicles (tires, repairs, etc.) 3. Payment of other cost associate with a personally owned vehicle (insurance, license, etc.)</p>	
<p><b>21. Food Services/Home Delivered meals</b></p>	<p>Must be physically and/or mentally incapable of preparing own meals to qualify for home delivered meal services. Individuals who can prepare meals may still be eligible for food vouchers and food bank services</p>	<p>Services do not provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Permanent water filtration systems for water entering a home;</li> <li>• Household appliances;</li> <li>• Pet foods and</li> <li>• Other non-essential products.</li> </ul> <p>Case is closed when the service is deemed no longer medically necessary. There are no annual limits on the number of services provided.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Case manager</li> <li>• Medical provider</li> </ul>

Priority Rank/Category	Criteria	Limitations	Requires referral
22.  <b>Medical Nutrition Therapy</b>	Must be referred by a medical provider	Case is closed when all action items on the nutrition plan are completed, and medical care is stabilized. There are no annual limits on the number of services provided.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medical provider</li> </ul>
23. <b>Legal Services (Other Professional Services)</b>	Services can also be provided to family members and others affected by a client's HIV disease when the services are specifically necessitated by the person's HIV status	Excludes criminal defense and class-action suits unless related to services eligible for funding under the Ryan White program. Case is closed when the legal matter has been resolved. There are no annual limits on the number of services provided.	
24. <b>Emergency Financial Assistance</b>	Eligible to receive RW services.	<p>The maximum amount for each item per year per client are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clients are eligible to receive up to \$1,000/year to use for utility payments.</li> <li>• Food bags: Each client is allowable a maximum of 12 weeks of emergency food bags per 12 months.</li> <li>• Medication: Covers prescription medication (1) not available through the AIDS Drug Assistance Program and (2) only intended for short term need.</li> <li>• Eyeglasses: One set of lenses per year, one set of frames every other year; one opportunity to replace if lost/stolen/damaged.</li> <li>• Eviction prevention: Limited to \$1,490/year.</li> </ul> <p>Electronic devices (tablets, small laptops, etc.) can be provided to assist clients access virtual environments/telehealth appointments/RW planning meetings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Case manager</li> </ul>
25. <b>Home Health Care</b>	Must be deemed medically homebound by a medical provider	Home settings do not include nursing facilities or inpatient mental health/substance abuse treatment facilities. Case is closed when all services are completed, and medical care is stabilized. There are no annual limits on the number of services provided.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medical provider</li> <li>• Case manager</li> </ul>
26.  <b>Early Intervention Services: HIV Counseling and Testing</b>	<p>Limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individuals who do not know their HIV status and need to be referred to counseling and testing</li> </ul>	Services focus on linkage or re-engagement in care and are not intended to be ongoing.	



Priority Rank/Category	Criteria	Limitations	Requires referral
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individuals who know their status and are not in care and need assistance to enter or re-enter HIV-related medical care</li> </ul>		
<b>27. Cost-Sharing Assistance</b>	(The Strategies and Standards Committee will draft service standards for this service category)		
<b>28. 🏠 Home Hospice</b>	Must be certified as terminally ill by a physician and have a defined life expectancy of six months or less	Case is closed upon death. This service category does not extend to skilled nursing facilities or nursing homes. There are no annual limits on the number of services provided.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Medical provider</li> <li>Case manager</li> </ul>