

The goals of the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics program in MN are to 1) increase access to community-based mental health and substance use disorder services (particularly to under-served communities), 2) advance integration of behavioral health with physical health care, and 3) improve utilization of evidence-based practices on a more consistent basis. It is expected CCBHCs will offer care that is person-centered and family-centered, trauma-informed, recovery-oriented, and that the integration of mental health and substance use disorder services in coordination with physical health care and social services will serve the “whole person” rather than disconnecting aspects of the individual. CCBHCs serve individuals regardless of ability to pay or place of residence; therefore, those who are most in need of coordinated, integrated quality care will receive it from CCBHCs.

The CCBHC model embraces a recovery-oriented philosophy, supporting multiple pathways for individuals to recover from mental illness and substance use disorders. CCBHCs implement medication-assisted recovery—the use of medication, in combination with counseling and care coordination services, to provide effective support for recovery from addictive substances as well as mental illness. Medications may be provided in the short-term as Outpatient Withdrawal Management or in the long term as Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT).

If your clinic is interested in becoming a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC), follow the steps below to determine your clinic’s readiness to meet state and federal standards.

1. Consider the structure of CCBHC and the considerable transformation your organization may need to go through to provide this integrated service delivery model, such as:

- Integration of all outpatient mental health and substance use disorder services including an integrated assessment and integrated treatment planning
- Embracing a recovery-oriented model of care
- The philosophical shifts required for staff to work together as integrated teams
- Creating a harm reduction-focused, medication assisted recovery environment including:
 - Having a Buprenorphine prescriber
 - Providing outpatient withdrawal management
 - Providing medication assisted treatment
- Serve all ages, including children ages 0-5, that could require adding specialized staff and intensive training
- Develop a clinic-wide cost report and estimate of daily encounters
- Collect, analyze and report sophisticated data measures including HEDIS measures
- Meet health IT requirements which demand a robust electronic health record
- Include consumers, families and people in recovery in the governance of the clinic

2. Study the Project 223 Demonstration and CCBHC materials

CCBHC General Certification Information

- Read the [SAMHSA website about CCBHC](#) and [CMS website about CCBHC](#) to learn about the federal government's demonstration project. MN will continue to follow most of these requirements
 - Read the [MN CCBHC website](#) to learn about how the state instituted the original demonstration project
 - Review the [State prepared needs assessment](#) to begin to understand the assessment your organization will need to complete and to assess unmet needs of your community and determine organizational changes to meet them (i.e. programmatic, training, staffing)
- 3. Understand the requirements to be certified as a Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) in MN**
- Carefully study the [CCBHC federal criteria](#)
 - Carefully study the MN statute for CCBHC ([245.735 Excellence in Mental health demonstration project](#))
- 4. Contact DHS Behavioral Health Division CCBHC team staff to inquire about the certification process:**
- **Services policy/certification** Jane King jane.king@state.mn.us
 - **Fiscal policy/cost reporting** DiAnn Robinson diann.robinson@state.mn.us
 - **Evaluation/data analysis** Ma Xiong (DHS) ma.xiong@state.mn.us
 - **Project manager** Julie Pearson julie.pearson@state.mn.us