

## Engagement Services Minn. Stat. 253B.041

**The purpose of engagement services is to avoid the need for commitment and to enable the individual to voluntarily engage in needed treatment**

### 1) Eligibility

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The individual must be at least 18 years old, have a mental illness and;

- A. Be exhibiting symptoms of serious mental illness such as hallucinations, delusions or mania; or
- B. Be unable to obtain necessary food, clothing, shelter, medical care, or provide necessary hygiene due to the mental illness; or
- C. Have a history of failure to adhere to treatment for mental illness in that the mental illness has been a substantial factor in needing hospitalization or incarceration; or
- D. Be exhibiting symptoms or behavior that may lead to hospitalization, incarceration, or court-ordered treatment.

### 2) Administration

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Counties are not required to provide engagement services. If a county chooses to provide engagement services, the following must occur.

- A. Upon receiving a request for engagement services, the county prepetition screening team shall determine if the individual is eligible. If the individual is eligible, engagement services must begin and include:
  - Assertive attempts to engage the individual in mental health treatment for at least 90 days even if the individual is an inmate in a non-state-operated correctional facility;
  - Efforts to engage the individual's existing support systems, including interested persons, unless the engagement services provider determines that would not be helpful to the individual. This includes education on restricting means of harm, suicide prevention, and engagement; and
  - Collaboration with the individual to meet immediate needs including access to housing, food, income, disability verification, medications, and medical treatment.

- B. Engagement services must be person-centered and staff must have training in person-centered care. Engagement services must take into account the individual's preferences for services and supports.
- C. If the individual agrees to receive mental health treatment, the staff must help the individual obtain or maintain health insurance and facilitate a referral to an appropriate mental health provider. If the individual has agreed to treatment but does not initiate or continue treatment, the engagement services team must continue outreach efforts to the individual.

### 3) Commitment

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Engagement services for an individual may be stopped if the individual is in need of commitment and meets the commitment criteria under [Minn. Stat. 253B.09, subdivision 1](#). The engagement services team must immediately notify the designated agency, initiate the prepetition screening process, or seek an emergency hold if necessary to ensure the safety of the individual or others.

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**ADA Statement:** If you have a disability and want this notice in a different format you may request this from the county. For more detailed information on the commitment process, contact the Office of the Ombudsman for Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities, 332 Minnesota Street, Ste W1410, First National Bank Building, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101-2117, <https://mn.gov/omhdd/> Voice: 651-757-1800 or Toll Free: 1-800-657-3506.