

STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

- SUBJECT:** Client Eligibility - Division of Mental Health and Hospitals
- EFFECTIVE:** This policy circular shall become effective July 1, 1984, and shall be implemented immediately.
- PROMULGATED:** June 22, 1984
- SUPERSEDES:** Policy Circular P5.01, promulgated June 27, 1983, and P5.02 and P5.03, promulgated November 28, 1983.

The purpose of this circular is to outline specific client eligibility requirements for Division of Mental Health and Hospitals - funded social services. This policy circular supplements Department client eligibility requirements included in Policy Circular P5.01, Client Eligibility.

I. SCOPE

This policy circular applies to all contracted social services, funded by the Division of Mental Health and Hospitals.

II. POLICY AND PROCEDURES

A. Eligibility Criteria

1. The goal of the mental health system is to provide comprehensive services to everyone in need; however, target populations have been established to ensure that those who are in the greatest need and/or those who have been traditionally underserved receive services. The priorities are not intended to be exclusionary.
2. The target populations for admission into mental health services are listed below. Target Group I is a higher priority than Target Group II; however, the order of listed populations within each of these target groups is not significant.

Target Group I

- Adults and children currently in a State/county/local psychiatric hospital who could live in the community with appropriate services.
- Adults and children in the community, with a history of State/county/local psychiatric hospitalization, who are in serious risk of re-hospitalization.

Target Group II

- Children (17 or younger) who are mentally, emotionally and functionally impaired.
- Elderly (65 or older) who are mentally, emotionally and functionally impaired.
- Minorities (Black and/or Hispanic or other minority groups identified in the county plan) who are mentally, emotionally and functionally impaired.
- Rural poor who are mentally, emotionally and functionally impaired.
- Urban poor who are mentally, emotionally and functionally impaired.

B. Application Procedures

Application for community mental health services can be made at the local community mental health agency (the Provider Agency). The Provider Agency will make a clinical assessment of each applicant to determine the need for services.

C. Eligibility Redetermination

Redetermination of client eligibility is an ongoing process which includes an assessment of the client's needs and abilities.

D. Client Fees

Client fees are charged for the following services on the basis of a client's ability to pay:

- outpatient;
- partial care (adults only); and
- emergency.

Client fee schedules for services are approved by the Division of Mental Health and Hospitals. Copies of fee schedules are on file with the Provider Agency and the Division of Mental Health Services and Hospitals.

Issued by:

  
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