

320-T1 – BLOCK GRANTS AND DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

EFFECTIVE DATES: 07/01/20, 10/01/20, 10/01/21, 10/01/22, 10/01/24, 10/01/25, 10/01/26

APPROVAL DATES: 05/04/21, 08/10/21, 09/15/22, 06/06/24, 5/23/25, 06/19/26

I. PURPOSE

This Policy applies to ACC, ACC-RBHA, ALTCS E/PD, DCS CHP (CHP), and DES DDD (DDD) Contractors; Fee-For-Service (FFS) Programs including: American Indian Health Program (AIHP), Tribal ALTCS, TRBHAs; and all FFS populations, excluding Federal Emergency Services Program (FESP). (For FESP, refer to AMPM Chapter 1100). This Policy establishes requirements for the provision and coordination of Non-Title XIX/XXI behavioral health services and allowable activities funded by Block Grants and Discretionary Grants. For Tribal ALTCS refer to the Intergovernmental Agreements (IGAs).

II. DEFINITIONS

Refer to the [AHCCCS ACOM and AMPM Dictionary](#) for common terms found in this Policy.

For purposes of this policy, the following terms are defined as:

ELIGIBLE POPULATION

Populations that are acknowledged within a specific grant or funding requirements that are identified as the only allowable population on whom those specific funds may be expended. Eligible populations are identified using demographic information. Different grants or funding sources may have varying priority populations.

FIRST EPISODE PSYCHOSIS (FEP)

A first episode of psychosis may manifest as symptoms that include problems in perception (such as seeing, hearing, smelling, tasting, or feeling something that is not real), thinking (such as believing in something that is not real even when presented with facts), mood, and social functioning that is not due to the psychological effects of a substance. An individual may be early in the course of a psychotic illness or treatment irrespective of being in the midst of a first 'episode' of illness.

SUBRECIPIENT

A recipient of a subaward from a pass-through entity to carry out a portion of a federal award as specified in 2 CFR 200.1.

III. POLICY

The ACC-RBHAs and TRBHAs are responsible for the administration, oversight, and monitoring of the Non-Title XIX/XXI funds and funded activities per the Non-Title XIX/XXI Contracts/Intergovernmental Agreements (IGAs). The ACC-RBHAs, TRBHAs and other entities that have a direct Non-Title XIX/XXI funded contractual relationship with AHCCCS shall manage available Non-Title XIX/XXI funds and funded activities in a manner consistent with the Non-Title XIX/XXI's identified eligible populations as defined by the funding authority that governs each specific grant. The AIHP, and FFS providers that do not receive or administer Non-Title XIX/XXI funding shall assist members in accessing services utilizing these funding sources and shall coordinate care for members as appropriate through established relationships and processes with those entities who do have a contractual relationship or agreement with AHCCCS to manage Non-Title XIX/XXI funding. For Tribal ALTCS members, providers shall contact the Tribal ALTCS program of enrollment if they feel a member qualifies for a Non-Title XIX/XXI services.

A. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR CODING/BILLING

All applicable Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) and Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) for Non-Title XIX/XXI services are listed on the Medical Coding Resources page of the AHCCCS website. The providers are required to utilize national coding standards including the use of applicable modifier(s). Refer to the [AHCCCS Medical Coding Resources](#) webpage.

For outpatient behavioral health services, services are considered medically necessary, as specified in AAC R9-22-101, regardless of a member's diagnosis, if there are documented behaviors and/or symptoms that will benefit from behavioral health services and a valid International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM) diagnostic code is utilized.

B. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR FISCAL AND PROGRAMMATIC OVERSIGHT OF FEDERALLY FUNDED GRANT PROGRAMS

The ACC-RBHAs and TRBHAs shall develop policies and procedures to ensure that all subrecipients have policies and procedures that demonstrate compliance with 2 CFR Part 200 uniform administrative requirements, cost principles and audit requirements for federal awards.

The ACC-RBHAs policies and procedures for subrecipient monitoring and oversight shall include, at minimum, a process for conducting site audits, a process for verification of single audit compliance as specified under the Single Audit Act 31 USC 7502, and a process for grant year close out procedures. The ACC-RBHAs shall conduct site audits for all new subrecipients within the first year of the award and then once every three years thereafter. The ACC-RBHAs shall conduct site audits in-person and include a documented review of both financial and programmatic activities.

The ACC-RBHAs and TRBHAs shall ensure that all subrecipient proposed programs are consistent with the approved federal award allowable activities being requested and shall ensure that subrecipient policies and procedures are developed and approved prior to award to ensure ongoing compliance.

C. NON-TITLE XIX/XXI BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

AHCCCS covers Non-Title XIX/XXI behavioral health services (mental health and/or substance use) within certain limits for Title XIX/XXI and Non-Title XIX/XXI members when medically necessary. For Non-Title XIX/XXI eligible populations, behavioral health services that are covered through Title XIX/XXI funding are also covered through Non-Title XIX/XXI funding including but not limited to: the services provided in a residential setting, counseling, case management, and supportive services. Non-Title XIX/XXI funded services may be restricted to certain members as specified in this Policy, by the funding authority that governs each specific grant and as specified in AMPM Exhibit 300-2B and are not an entitlement. The services provided through Non-Title XIX/XXI funding are limited by the availability of funds.

The Behavioral health services covered under the Block and Discretionary Grants are specified below. Refer to AMPM Policy 320-T2 for services covered under Non-Title XIX/XXI Funding (excluding Federal Grant Funds).

For information and requirements regarding Title XIX/XXI Behavioral Health Services, refer to AMPM Policy 310-B.

All services provided shall have proper documentation maintained in the member's medical records. For billing limitations, refer to the [AHCCCS FFS Provider Billing Manual](#) and [AHCCCS Medical Coding Resources](#) webpage.

1. Auricular Acupuncture is the application of auricular acupuncture needles to the pinna, lobe, or auditory meatus to treat alcoholism, substance use, trauma, or chemical dependency by a certified acupuncturist practitioner as specified in ARS 32-3922. The general and auricular acupuncture shall only be provided by a provider who is licensed and meets the qualifications as required by ARS Title 32 Chapter 39 Article 2.
2. The child sitting services are covered under the Substance Use Block Grant (SUBG) and/or the State Opioid Response (SOR) funded programs when providing medically necessary outpatient treatment or other recovery or support services for Substance Use Disorder (SUD) to members with dependent children. Residential programs that allow parenting women and their children to remain together during SUD treatment may request child sitting services to allow parents to fully participate in treatment. The child sitting services are subject to Contractor approved subrecipient program proposals, policies and procedures for outpatient and residential providers. The following limitations apply:
 - a. The amount of child sitting services and duration shall not exceed the duration of Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT)/Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) or outpatient treatment or support services for SUD being provided to the member whose child(ren) is present with the member at the time of receiving services,
 - b. The child sitting services shall ensure the safety and well-being of the child while the member is receiving services that prevent the child(ren) from being under the direct care or supervision of member,
 - c. The child(ren) is(are) not an enrolled member receiving billable services from the provider, and

- d. Other means of support for childcare or child sitting for the child(ren) are not readily available or appropriate.

The U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) allows SUBG funding to be used for childcare in an approved and licensed childcare facility as a recovery support service for eligible SUBG members' children to enable parents to participate in treatment. Additional examples of child sitting services are found in the [AHCCCS Covered Behavioral Health Services Guide](#).

The SUBG programs/initiatives requesting to utilize funds for childcare in a licensed childcare facility (e.g. day care voucher programs), shall be approved in writing by the AHCCCS SUBG team.

3. Traditional Healing Services refer to a culturally grounded system of care developed and practiced by generations of Tribal healers. These methods support physical, mental, emotional and spiritual well-being, and reflect the values, beliefs and practices of Arizona's Tribal communities. For the Title XIX/XXI covered Traditional Healing initiative, refer to the [AHCCCS Traditional Healing webpage](#). For SUBG coverage of Traditional Healing services, refer to AMPM Exhibit 300-2b and the [Frequently Asked Questions for SUBG and MHBG](#).
4. Room and Board is allowable for the provision of lodging and meals to an individual residing in a residential facility or supported independent living setting providing behavioral health or substance use treatment which may include but is not limited to:
 - a. Housing costs,
 - b. Services such as food and food preparation,
 - c. Personal laundry, and
 - d. Housekeeping.

This service may also be used to report bed hold/home pass days in Behavioral Health Residential Facilities (BHRF).

For room and board services, the following billing limitations apply:

- a. All other fund sources (e.g., Arizona Department of Child Safety (DCS) funds for foster care children, Social Security Income [SSI]) shall be exhausted prior to billing this service, and
- b. For SUBG funding only, room and board services may be available for a member's dependent child(ren) as a support service for the member when they are receiving medically necessary residential treatment services for a SUD. The room and board shall apply to a member with dependent children when the child(ren) resides with the member at the Behavioral Health Residential Facility (BHRF). The use of this service is limited to:
 - i. The members receiving residential services for SUD treatment where the family is being treated as a whole, but the child is not an enrolled member receiving billable services from the provider,
 - ii. Where other means of supports for room and board for the child are not readily available or appropriate, or
 - iii. Outpatient clinics may bill Room and Board code only when providing services to members in Supervised Independent Living settings.

5. Marijuana Restrictions

Federal grant funds may not be used, directly or indirectly, to purchase, prescribe, or provide marijuana or treatment using marijuana, refer to AMPM Policy 320-M. The treatment in this context includes the treatment of Opioid Use Disorder (OUD).

Grant funds also cannot be provided to any individual who, or organization that, provides or permits marijuana use for the purpose of treating substance use or mental disorders.

This prohibition does not apply to those providing such treatment in the context of clinical research permitted by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and under the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved investigational new drug application where the article being evaluated is marijuana or a constituent thereof that is otherwise a banned controlled substance under federal law.

D. NON-TITLE XIX/XXI ELIGIBLE POPULATIONS

The Non-Title XIX/XXI eligible members are enrolled with an ACC-RBHA or TRBHA and other entities who have a direct Non-Title XIX/XXI funded contractual relationship with AHCCCS and enrollment is based on the zip code or tribal community in which the member resides. When encounters are submitted for “unidentified” members (such as in crisis situations when an individual’s eligibility or enrollment status is unknown), the ACC-RBHA shall require their providers to use the applicable pseudo-ID numbers that are assigned to each ACC-RBHA. For assistance, contact the AHCCCS Encounters Unit. Pseudo-ID numbers are not assigned to TRBHAs. Encounters are not submitted for substance use primary prevention services.

The ACC-RBHAs and TRBHAs are responsible for crisis intervention services, refer to AMPM Policy 590 or TRBHA Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for a detailed description of crisis intervention services and responsibilities.

E. SUBSTANCE USE BLOCK GRANT

1. Purpose and Goals

The SUBG is a formula grant, which supports treatment and recovery support services for Title XIX/XXI and Non-Title XIX/XXI members with SUDs, and primary substance use and misuse prevention efforts for individuals not identified to be in need of treatment (for SUBG primary prevention, refer to Substance Use Block Grant Primary Prevention section of this policy). The SUBG is used to plan, implement, and evaluate activities to prevent and treat SUDs. Grant funds are also used to provide early intervention services for Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and tuberculosis disease in members undergoing treatment for substance use.

The SUBG is specifically allocated to provide treatment and recovery services that are not otherwise covered by Title-XIX/XXI funding. Refer to AMPM Exhibit 300-2B for additional information on SUBG covered services.

The goals of the SUBG include, but are not limited to the following:

- a. To ensure coordination of access to a comprehensive system of care, including but not limited to employment, housing services, case management, rehabilitation, dental services, and health services, as well as SUD services and supports,
- b. To promote and increase access to evidence-based practices for prevention and treatment, where prevention effectively provides information and alternatives to youth and other at-risk populations to prevent the onset of substance use or misuse,
- c. To ensure specialized, gender-specific, treatment as specified by AHCCCS and recovery support services for members who are pregnant or have dependent children and their families in outpatient/residential treatment settings,
- d. To ensure access for underserved populations, including youth, residents of rural areas, veterans, and older adults,
- e. To promote recovery and reduce risks of communicable diseases related to substance use, and
- f. To increase accountability through uniform reporting on access, quality, and outcomes of services.

Additional guidance for SUBG can be found in the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document on the [AHCCCS Grants SUBG](#) webpage.

2. Eligible Populations

All Members receiving SUBG-funded treatment and/or recovery services are required to have a Title XIX/XXI eligibility screening, and application completed and documented in the medical record at the time of intake and annually thereafter. All Members shall indicate active substance use within the previous 12 months to be eligible for SUBG treatment services. This includes individuals who were incarcerated and reported using while incarcerated. The 12-month standard may be waived for individuals:

- a. On medically necessary methadone maintenance upon assessment for continued necessity, and/or
- b. Incarceration for longer than 12-months that indicates substance use in the 12-months prior to incarceration.

3. Priority Populations

The SUBG funds are used to ensure access to treatment and recovery support services for the following populations (in order of priority):

- a. Pregnant women/teenagers who use drugs by injection,
- b. Pregnant women/teenagers with a SUD,
- c. Other individuals who use drugs by injection,
- d. Women and teenagers with a SUD, with dependent children and their families, including women who are attempting to regain custody of their children, and
- e. All other individuals with a SUD, regardless of sex or route of use, (as funding is available).

4. Grant funding is the payor of last resort for Title XIX/XXI behavioral health covered services which have been exhausted (e.g., respite), Non-Title XIX/XXI covered services, and for Non-Title XIX/XXI eligible members for any services. Grant funding shall not be used to supplant other funding sources. If funds from the Indian Health Services (IHS) and/or Tribal owned/or operated facilities are available, the IHS/638 funds shall be treated as the payor of last resort.
5. Adolescents in Detention

Most adjudicated youth from secure detention do not have community follow-up or supervision, therefore, risk factors remain unaddressed. The youth in juvenile justice systems often display a variety of high-risk characteristics that include inadequate family support, school failure, negative peer associations, and insufficient use of community-based services.

The Contractor and TRBHAs requesting to use SUBG funding shall provide AHCCCS with a comprehensive and detailed plan that includes services and activities that will be provided to adolescents in detention. AHCCCS approval is contingent on funding availability and the Contractor's and TRBHA's comprehensive and detailed plan. For adolescents in detention the following limitations apply:

- a. The services may only be provided in juvenile detention facilities, meeting the description provided by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). Although Title XIX services are limited for inmates of public institutions, for purposes of administering SUBG, juvenile detention facilities are used only for temporary and safe custody, are not punitive, and are not correctional or penal institutions,
- b. The services shall be provided:
 - i. Only to voluntary members,
 - ii. By qualified Behavioral Health Professional (BHPs)/Behavioral Health Technician (BHTs)/Behavioral Health Paraprofessional (BHPPs),
 - iii. Based upon assessed need for SUD services,
 - iv. Utilizing Evidence-Based Programs and Practices (EBPPs),
 - v. Following an individualized service plan,
 - vi. For a therapeutically indicated amount of duration and frequency, and
 - vii. With a relapse prevention plan completed prior to discharge/transfer to a community-based provider.

6. The Charitable Choice of SUBG Providers

The members receiving SUD treatment services under the SUBG have the right to receive services from a provider to whose religious character they do not object. The Behavioral health providers providing SUD treatment services under the SUBG shall notify members at the time of intake of this right utilizing Attachment A Charitable Choice – Anti-Discrimination Notice to Individuals Receiving Substance Use Disorder Treatment Services. The providers shall document that the member has received notice in the member's medical record.

If a member objects to the religious character of a behavioral health provider, the provider shall refer the member to an alternative provider who has the capacity to provide SUD treatment services within seven days, or earlier when clinically indicated, after the date of the objection. Upon making such a referral, providers shall notify the ACC-RBHAs or TRBHAs, of the referral. The ACC-RBHA or TRBHA shall ensure that the member contacts the alternative provider.

7. The ACC-RBHAs and TRBHAs shall develop and make available policies and procedures that indicate who the providers shall contact and how they shall notify the ACC-RBHAs or TRBHA of these referrals. The ACC-RBHA and TRBHA providers shall maintain a list of all referrals to alternate providers regarding charitable choice requirements to be provided to AHCCCS upon request [42 CFR Part 54 and 54a].
8. The ACC-RBHAs and TRBHAs shall ensure that SUBG treatment providers immediately submit information to the AHCCCS SUBG priority population waitlist in the [Quality Management \(QM\) Portal](#) for any priority population members (e.g., pregnant women, women with dependent children, and People Who Inject Drugs [PWID]) who are awaiting treatment due to not able to be placed into treatment services (regardless of level of care) within the required response timeframes as outlined in the ACC-RBHA NTXIX contract or TRBHA IGA . Title XIX/XXI members may not be added to the AHCCCS SUBG priority population waitlist.

While members await placement, interim services must be provided and documented in the QM portal. Required timeframes for interim services are outlined in Contract. The Contractor shall submit the SUBG Performance Progress Report as specified in Contract, Section F, Attachment F3, Contractor Chart of Deliverables.

9. The Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Early Intervention Services

Because individuals with SUDs are considered at high risk for contracting HIV-related illness, the SUBG requires HIV intervention services to reduce the risk of transmission of this disease. With respect to individuals undergoing treatment for substance use, the ACC-RBHAs or TRBHA shall make available to the individual HIV early intervention services as specified in 45 CFR 96.121 at the sites in which the individuals are undergoing such treatment.

The ACC-RBHAs and TRBHAs receiving SUBG funding shall develop and make available to providers policies and procedures that describe where and how members undergoing substance use treatment can access HIV early intervention services.

- The ACC-RBHAs and TRBHAs shall ensure providers offering HIV early intervention services:
- a. Provide early intervention services for HIV in geographic areas of the state that have the greatest need and rural areas,
 - b. Require programs to establish linkages with a comprehensive community resource network of related health and social services organizations to ensure a wide-based knowledge of the availability of these services,
 - c. Ensure behavioral health providers provide specialized, evidence-based treatment and recovery support services for all SUBG populations,

- d. Administer a minimum of one test per \$600 in SUBG HIV early intervention services, and
- e. Conduct site visits to HIV early intervention services providers where the Contractor's HIV Coordinator, subcontracted provider staff, and supervisors are present. Each site visit shall include the attendance at one education class

10. Tuberculosis (TB) Services

As specified in 45 CFR 96.127, SUBG providers shall routinely make available TB services as defined in 45 CFR 96.121 to each individual receiving treatment for substance use, implement infection control procedures including the screening of patients, and identify those individuals who are at high risk of becoming infected. As per 45 CFR 96.121, TB services include:

- a. Counseling the individual with respect to TB,
- b. Testing to determine whether the individual has been infected with mycobacteria TB to determine the appropriate form of treatment for the individual, and
- c. Providing for or referring the individuals infected by mycobacteria TB for appropriate medical evaluation and treatment.

The Contractor shall submit TB information within the SUBG Performance Progress Report as specified in Contract, Section F, Attachment F3, and the Contractor Chart of Deliverables:

- a. At the time of intake, directly or through arrangements with other public or nonprofit private entities, routinely make available TB services as defined in (45 CFR 96.121) to each individual receiving treatment for such abuse,
- b. In the case of an individual in need of such treatment who is denied admission to the program on the basis of the lack of capacity of the program to admit the individual, will refer the individual to another provider of TB services,
- c. Implement infection control procedures designed to prevent the transmission of TB, including the following:
 - i. Screening of patients,
 - ii. Identifying those individuals who are at high risk of becoming infected,
 - iii. Meeting all state reporting requirements while adhering to federal and state confidentiality requirements, including 42 CFR Part 2, and
 - iv. Conducting case management activities to ensure that individuals receive such services.

The SUBG providers shall develop and adopt policies and procedures relating to TB procedures to cover at least these minimum requirements and any additional requirements or best practice recommendations set forth by the Arizona Department of Health Services.

11. Considerations for providers when delivering services to SUBG populations:

- a. The SUBG treatment services shall be designed to support the long-term treatment and substance-free recovery needs of eligible members,
- b. The providers of treatment services that include clinical care to those with a SUD shall also be designed to have the capacity and staff expertise to utilize FDA-approved medications for the treatment of SUD/ODU and/or have collaborative relationships with other providers for service provision,

- c. The specific requirements apply regarding preferential access to services and the timeliness of responding to a member’s identified needs, and
- d. The providers shall submit specific data elements and record limited clinical information. Refer to the [AHCCCS DUGless Portal Guide](#) for requirements.

F. SUBSTANCE USE BLOCK GRANT PRIMARY PREVENTION

AHCCCS administers the SUBG Primary Prevention funding, a 20% minimum set aside of the entire SUBG award, through various contracts and agreements. The SUBG primary prevention is to be used for individuals and communities not identified with SUD or to be in need of treatment.

1. Risk and Protective Factors

The prevention services shall be tailored to address the specific risk and protective factors that are present in the community. Risk factors are defined as characteristics at the biological, psychological, family, community, or cultural level that precede and are associated with a higher likelihood of negative outcomes. Risk and protective factors and an individual’s character interact through six life or activity domains.

Within each domain there are characteristics and conditions that can function as risk or protective factors, thus each of these domains presents opportunities for prevention. The six domains are as follows: Individual, Family, Peer, School, Community, and Environment/Society.

Protective factors are characteristics associated with a lower likelihood of negative outcomes or that reduce a risk factor’s impact. Protective factors may be seen as positive countering events. Risk and protective factors and an individual’s character interact through six life or activity domains. Within each domain are characteristics and conditions that can function as risk or protective factors, thus each of these domains presents opportunities for prevention. The six domains are as follows: Individual, Family, Peer, School, Community, and Environment/Society.

2. Evidence Based, Promising, and Innovative Practices/Interventions

The services shall be implemented utilizing Evidenced Based Practices (EBPs) as much as possible, with promising and innovative practices used only in the event there is not an appropriate EBP available to meet the substance abuse prevention needs within the target population. Innovative programs/interventions should be reviewed and approved by AHCCCS prior to implementation.

The evidence Based Practices/Interventions for primary prevention services are defined as interventions that fall into one or more of three categories:

- a. The intervention is included in a federal registry of evidence-based interventions, or
- b. The intervention produced positive effects on the primary targeted outcome, and these findings are reported in a peer-reviewed journal, or

- c. The intervention has documented evidence of effectiveness, based on guidelines developed by the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention and/or the state, tribe, or jurisdiction in which the intervention took place. The documented evidence shall be implemented under the four recommended guidelines, all of which shall be followed. These guidelines require interventions to be:
 - i. Based on a theory of change that is documented in a clear logic or conceptual mode,
 - ii. Similar in content and structure to interventions that appear in federal registries of evidence-based interventions and/or peer-reviewed journals,
 - iii. Supported by documentation showing it has been effectively implemented in the past, multiple times, and in a manner attentive to scientific standards of evidence. The intervention results shall show a consistent pattern of credible and positive effects, and
 - iv. Reviewed and deemed appropriate by a panel of informed prevention experts that includes qualified prevention researchers experienced in evaluating prevention interventions similar to those under review, local prevention professionals, and key community leaders, as appropriate (e.g., law enforcement officials, educators, or elders within indigenous cultures).
 - d. For tribal entities or communities, the SAMHSA model of "Culture Is Prevention" framework is accepted by AHCCCS as an evidence-based practice.
3. The Promising Practices/Interventions for primary prevention services are defined as interventions based on statistical analyses or a well-established theory of change, shows potential for meeting the "evidence-based" or "research based" criteria, and shall include the use of a program that is evidence-based for outcomes other than the alternative use.
 4. The Innovative Practices/Interventions for primary prevention services are defined as interventions that serve a target population and have a promising approach but need further refinement to become ready for rigorous evaluation.
 5. Restrictions

Funds cannot be used to provide treatment services, general mental health services, secondary or tertiary prevention, or suicide prevention. All funded interventions shall have a substance use/misuse prevention outcome.

G. MENTAL HEALTH BLOCK GRANT

The Mental Health Block Grant (MHBG) is a formula grant, which provides treatment services for Title XIX/XXI and Non-Title XIX/XXI members with Serious Mental Illness (SMI), Serious Emotional Disturbances (SED), Early Serious Mental Illness (ESMI) including First Episode Psychosis (FEP). The MHBG provides funding for services that are not otherwise covered by Title-XIX/XXI funding. This includes mental health treatment and supportive services for individuals who do not qualify for Title XIX/XXI eligibility. The MHBG funds are only to be used for allowable services identified in AMPM Exhibit 300-2B.

1. The MHBG is allocated by SAMHSA for:
 - a. Providing services within the immediate community,
 - b. Providing community mental health services for adults with a serious mental illness and children with a serious emotional disturbance,
 - c. Providing crisis services to eligible populations,
 - d. Carrying out the plan submitted by the state under 42 USC 300x-1(a) for the fiscal year involved,
 - e. Evaluating programs and services carried out under the plan, and
 - f. Planning, administration, and educational activities related to providing services under the plan.

2. The goals of the MHBG include, but are not limited to the following:
 - a. To ensure coordination of access to a comprehensive system of care and promote recovery and community integration for adults with an SMI designation, children with an SED identification, and individuals experiencing ESMI including FEP,
 - b. Promoting participation by consumer/survivors and their families in planning and implementing services and programs, as well as in evaluating state mental health systems,
 - c. Ensuring access for underserved populations, including people who are homeless, residents of rural areas, and older adults, and
 - d. Increasing accountability through uniform reporting on access, quality, and outcomes of services.

3. Eligible Populations

All Non-Title XIX/XXI individuals receiving MHBG-funded services are required to have a Title XIX/XXI eligibility screening and application completed and documented in the medical record at the time of intake and annually thereafter.

To be eligible for services under MHBG, the members shall be determined to have an SMI designation, an SED identification or Early Serious Mental Illness (ESMI) including FEP.

For the purposes of MHBG ESMI funding eligibility, an individual is considered ESMI beginning on the date of the diagnostic assessment that results in a qualifying diagnosis and prompts the submission of the SMI eligibility determination. Refer to AMPM Policy 320-P for SMI determination requirements. The contractors who do not have a Non-Title XIX/XXI funded contractual relationship or agreement with AHCCCS shall ensure that providers coordinate with the ACC-RBHA or TRBHA responsible for the administration of Non-Title XXI/XIX funding and complete referrals to the ESMI providers based on the members identified needs.

The ESMI identified member remains eligible for ESMI MHBG funded services for up to 90 days regardless of the outcome of the SMI eligibility determination. If the individual is designated SMI via the determination process, the individual's eligibility transfers to SMI MHBG funding on the date of decision. If the individual is not designated SMI via the determination process, the individual remains eligible for ESMI MHBG funded services for the remainder of the 90 days during which time the Contractor shall ensure that services include active transition planning with the member including connection to all available community resources.

The screening/assessments are covered for Non-Title XIX/XXI eligible members when the screening/assessment is an initial screening/assessment, or the screening/ assessment is to determine appropriateness for admission to mental health facilities. A secondary provider screening/assessment to decide determinations is unallowable. Refer to AMPM Policy 320-O for additional information on behavioral health assessments and treatment/service planning.

For information regarding SMI eligibility determination, refer to AMPM Policy 320-P. For information regarding SED identification process, refer to AMPM Policy 550.

Excluded conditions, as specified in the 58 Federal Register 29422 (May 20, 1993), are SUDs, developmental disorders, such as autism, and disorders as specified in Z codes as listed in ICD-10 CM unless the condition is co-occurring with a diagnosable serious emotional disturbance. For the purposes of this Policy, the following are diagnoses that qualify under FEP. These are not intended to include conditions that are attributable to the physiological effects of an SUD, are attributable to an intellectual/developmental disorder, or are attributable to another medical condition:

- a. Delusional Disorder,
- b. Brief Psychotic Disorder,
- c. Schizophreniform Disorder,
- d. Schizophrenia,
- e. Schizoaffective Disorder,
- f. Other specified Schizophrenia Spectrum and Other Psychotic Disorder,
- g. Unspecified Schizophrenia Spectrum and Other Psychotic Disorder,
- h. Bipolar and Related Disorders, with psychotic features, and
- i. Depressive Disorders, with psychotic features.

For the purposes of this Policy, an individual qualifies as ESMI based on the early onset of diagnostic and functional impairment criteria specified in 2024 SMI Diagnosis List; refer to the [AHCCCS Medical Coding Resources](#) web page and AMPM Policy 320-P. These are not intended to include conditions that are attributable to: the physiological effects of an SUD, an intellectual/developmental disorder, or another medical condition.

The members do not have to be designated as SED or SMI to be eligible for ESMI including FEP services.

4. The MHBG funding is the payor of the last resort for Title XIX/XXI behavioral health covered services which have been exhausted (e.g., respite), Non-Title XIX/XXI covered services, and for Non-Title XIX/XXI eligible Members for any services. Grant funding shall not be used to supplant other funding sources except that, if funds from the Indian Health Services (IHS) and/or Tribal owned or operated facilities are available, the IHS/638 funds shall be treated as the payor of last resort.

5. The MHBG funds for payment of behavioral health drugs for Individuals designated with an SED, SMI and ESMI including FEP (Both Title XIX/XXI and Non-Title XIX/XXI):
 - a. The TRBHAs and ACC-RBHA Contractors shall utilize available MHBG funds to cover applicable Medicare Part D copayments and cost sharing amounts, including payments for the Medicare Part D coverage gap, for medications to treat behavioral health diagnoses for Title XIX/XXI and Non-Title XIX/XXI individuals with an SED or SMI designation and ESMI members including FEP, subject to the following:
 - i. Coverage of cost sharing is to be used only for State and Federal reimbursable medications used to treat an SED, SMI or ESMI behavioral health diagnosis including medications to treat the side effects of these medications,
 - ii. Medicare copayments and cost sharing are covered for members determined to have an SED or SMI designation or qualifying ESMI diagnosis for medications to treat an SED, SMI or ESMI qualifying behavioral health diagnoses when dispensed by an AHCCCS-registered provider,
 - iii. The payment of Medicare Part D copayments and cost sharing amounts for medications used to treat an SED, SMI or ESMI behavioral health diagnosis for individuals with an SED or SMI designation or qualifying ESMI diagnosis, shall be provided regardless of whether or not the provider is in the Contractor's provider network and prior authorization shall not be required,
 - iv. The ACC-RBHA Contractor shall not apply pharmacy benefit utilization management edits when coordinating reimbursement for Medicare Cost Sharing for medications to treat individuals with an SED or SMI designation or qualifying ESMI diagnosis, and
 - v. When a request for a medication to treat an individual with an SED or SMI designation or ESMI has been denied by the Medicare Part D plan and the denial has been upheld through the appeals process, the Contractor shall evaluate the request and may elect to utilize MHBG Funds, if applicable, to cover the cost of the non-covered Medicare Part D medication to treat SED, SMI or ESMI behavioral health diagnosis.
 - b. The Contractor does not have the responsibility to make Medicare Part D copayments and cost sharing payments to pharmacy providers that are not AHCCCS registered, and
 - c. The Contractor shall ensure the Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM) plan set up for Medicare cost sharing for individuals with an SED or SMI designation or ESMI qualifying diagnosis is the same PBM set up for all ACC-RBHA PBM subcontractors as approved by AHCCCS.

6. Services

The MHBG covers community mental health treatment and support services for eligible populations within certain limits for Title XIX/XXI and Non-Title XIX/XXI Members when medically necessary. Refer to AMPM Exhibit 300-2B for additional information on MHBG covered services.

7. Incarcerated Populations (including youth in detention)

The treatment during incarceration is an allowable use of the MHBG for individuals with an SED or SMI designation or a qualifying ESMI diagnosis, provided that the treatment services as well as provider of such services meets the statutory requirements of the MHBG. The provision of comprehensive services shall occur through appropriate qualified community programs which can include community-based mental health centers, child mental health programs, psychosocial rehabilitation programs, mental health/peer support services, and mental health primary consumer-directed programs. The Contractor and TRBHAs not already providing these services for the SED population in detention facilities requesting to use MHBG funding shall provide AHCCCS with a comprehensive and detailed plan that includes services and activities that will be provided. AHCCCS approval is contingent on funding availability and Contractor's and TRBHA's comprehensive and detailed plan.

Adolescents in Detention Coverage Limitations:

- a. The services may only be provided in juvenile detention facilities, meeting the description provided by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). The Juvenile detention facilities are used only for temporary and safe custody, are not punitive, and are not correctional or penal institutions, and
- b. The services shall be provided:
 - i. Only to voluntary members,
 - ii. By qualified BHPs/BHTs/BHPPs,
 - iii. Based upon assessed need for SED services,
 - iv. Utilizing BPPs,
 - v. Following an individualized service plan,
 - vi. For a therapeutically indicated amount of duration and frequency, and
 - vii. With a transition plan completed prior to transfer to a community-based provider.

8. The Non-Encounterable MHBG Activities or Positions

Outreach activities or positions that are non-encounterable may be an allowable expense, but they shall be tracked, activities monitored, and outcomes collected on how the outreach is getting access to care for those members.

9. The use of MHBG SED funds in schools is allowable if the following requirements are met:

- a. The Funded positions or interventions cannot be used to fulfill the requirement for the same populations as the funds for behavioral health services for school-aged children listed in the Title XIX/XXI Contract,
- b. The Funded positions cannot bill for services provided, and
- c. The Funded positions or interventions need to focus on identifying those with an SED identification and getting those who do not qualify for Title XIX/XXI funded services engaged in services through the MHBG.

The Restricted members shall not be charged a copayment for mental health treatment, or supportive services funded by the MHBG. The Sliding scale fees established regarding room and board do not constitute a copayment.

H. STATE OPIOID RESPONSE GRANT

The State Opioid Response (SOR) program aims to address the opioid and stimulant use crisis by increasing access to MOUD using the three FDA-approved medications including:

1. Methadone.
2. Buprenorphine products, including but not limited to:
 - a. Single-entity buprenorphine products,
 - b. Buprenorphine/naloxone tablets,
 - c. Films,
 - d. Buccal preparations, and
 - e. Long-acting injectable buprenorphine products, buprenorphine implants.
3. Injectable extended-release naltrexone for the treatment of OUD.

As well as reducing unmet treatment need and reducing opioid overdose related deaths through the provision of evidence-based prevention, life-saving overdose response, treatment, and recovery activities for OUD (including illicit use of prescription opioids, heroin, and fentanyl and fentanyl analogs), this program also supports the Continuum of Care to address stimulant misuse and use disorders, including cocaine and methamphetamine.

1. Eligible Populations



- All individuals with OUD, stimulant use disorder, and populations at risk for developing either and related behavioral health consequences.
2. The ACC-RBHAs, TRBHAs and other entities that have a direct Non-Title XIX/XXI funded contractual relationship or Intergovernmental Agreement with AHCCCS shall implement evidence-based treatments, practices, interventions, and service delivery models that enable the full spectrum of treatment and recovery support services that facilitate positive treatment outcomes and long-term recovery from opioid and stimulant use disorders.



The Medically managed withdrawal (detoxification) is not the standard of care for OUD as it is associated with a very high relapse rate and significantly increases an individual's risk for opioid overdose and death if opioid use is resumed. Therefore, SAMHSA does not recognize medically managed withdrawal (detoxification), when done in isolation, as an evidence-based practice for OUD. If medically managed withdrawal (detoxification) services are provided by the ACC-RBHAs, TRBHAs and other entities that have a direct Non-Title XIX/XXI funded contractual relationship or Intergovernmental Agreement with AHCCCS, or subcontractors, it must be accompanied by the offer and provision of injectable extended-release naltrexone to protect such individuals from opioid overdose in case of return to use and improve treatment outcomes.

3. The ACC-RBHAs, TRBHAs and other entities that have a direct Non-Title XIX/XXI funded contractual relationship or Intergovernmental Agreement with AHCCCS shall make available FDA approved MOUD for individuals diagnosed with OUD.
4. The ACC-RBHAs, TRBHAs and other entities that have a direct Non-Title XIX/XXI funded contractual relationship or Intergovernmental Agreement with AHCCCS shall offer a comprehensive and effective array of prevention, life-saving overdose response, treatment, and recovery services for OUD and stimulant use disorder that are tailored to individual, community, and program needs.
5. Reporting Requirements and Deliverables

As SOR is a Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) grant, a contractor, subrecipient or TRBHA who is identified to be providing treatment and/or recovery support services shall complete the SAMHSA Unified Performance Reporting Tool (SUPRT) f. The Providers must complete SUPRT-A (Baseline, Reassessment, and Closeout) for all SOR-funded members, by the providers' personnel. SURPT –C is completed by the member, proxy, or caregiver. The Baseline must be completed within 30 days of the members first day of services (members can receive multiple baselines if they have additional episodes of care received under SOR) Additionally, reasonable efforts shall be made to complete the tool again at both the six-month mark (Reassessment), 365 days after the date of member most recent baseline assessment (Annual), and at service discharge (Closeout).

The ACC-RBHAs, TRBHAs and other entities that have a direct Non-Title XIX/XXI funded contractual relationship or Intergovernmental Agreement with AHCCCS shall develop and implement a progressive action policy for subrecipients who are not meeting SUPRT targets as specified in approved budgets or compliance standards for programmatic deliverables. ACC-RBHAs, TRBHAs and other entities that have a direct Non-Title XIX/XXI funded contractual relationship or Intergovernmental Agreement with AHCCCS shall provide technical assistance to subrecipients determined in need of a progressive action policy.

6. The Deliverables

The reporting templates and submission deadlines are outlined as part of ACC-RBHA and TRBHA allocation letters as well as all direct contracts or agreements under the SOR program. The reporting requirements are subject to change at the discretion of SAMHSA and/or AHCCCS. AHCCCS will provide technical assistance and support to the ACC-RBHAs, TRBHAs and other entities that have a direct Non-Title XIX/XXI funded contractual relationship or Intergovernmental Agreement with AHCCCS if changes to the reporting requirements are made during the reporting period. Written requests for reasonable accommodation for deliverable due dates or required components will be considered on a case-by-case basis and are subject to AHCCCS approval.

I. NON-TITLE XIX/XXI FUNDED CARE COORDINATION REQUIREMENTS

The Non-ACC-RBHA Contractors shall ensure that providers work with the ACC-RBHA and/or TRBHA to enroll any identified uninsured or underinsured individuals to facilitate access to Non-Title XIX/XXI funded services immediately, while continuing to assist the individual with the processes to determine Title XIX/XXI eligibility and ensure MHBG and SUBG funds remain the payor of last resort. If the individual is deemed eligible for Title XIX/XXI funding, the member can choose a Contractor and American Indian members may choose either a Contractor, or AIHP, or a TRBHA if one is available in their area and receive covered services through that Contractor or AIHP or a TRBHA. The provider shall actively collaborate with the care coordination teams of all involved Contractors or payors to ensure each member's continuity of care. Members with an SMI designation are enrolled with an ACC-RBHA unless they qualify for, and are enrolled with, an ALTCS-E/PD, DES DDD or Tribal ALTCS program. American Indian members with an SMI designation have the choice to enroll with a TRBHA for their behavioral health assignment if one is available in their area.

If a Title XIX/XXI member loses Title XIX/XXI eligibility while receiving behavioral health services, the provider shall actively attempt to prevent an interruption in services. The provider shall work with the care coordinators of the Contractor or ACC-RBHA in the Geographic Service Area (GSA) where the member is receiving services, or Contractor enrolled or AIHP enrolled members, or the assigned TRBHA, to determine whether the member is eligible to continue services through available Non-Title XIX/XXI funding. If the provider does not receive Non-Title XIX/XXI funding, the provider and member shall work together to determine where the member can receive services from a provider that does receive Non-Title XIX/XXI funding. The provider shall then facilitate a transfer of the member to the identified provider and work with the care coordination teams of all involved Contractors or payors. Contract language and measures stipulate that providers will be paid for treating members while payment details between entities are determined.

If a Title XIX/XXI member, whether Contractor or AIHP enrolled, requires Non-Title XIX/XXI services, the provider shall work with the ACC-RBHA in the GSA where the member is receiving services, or the assigned TRBHA, to coordinate the Non-Title XIX/XXI services.

An individual who is not eligible for Title XIX/XXI covered services may be considered uninsured or those who are covered by another health insurance plan, including Medicare, may be considered underinsured and still be eligible for Non-Title XIX/XXI services. The Contractor shall ensure that providers educate and encourage individuals to enroll in a qualified health plan through the Federal health insurance exchange in accordance with ACOM Policy 434 and assist individuals with applying for benefits and programs at the time of intake for behavioral health services. This shall include Arizona public programs (Title XIX/XXI, Medicare Savings Programs, Nutrition Assistance, and Cash Assistance), and Medicare prescription drug program (Medicare Part D), including the Medicare Part D "extra help with Medicare prescription drug plan costs" low-income subsidy program.

The individuals who refuse to participate in the AHCCCS screening/application process are ineligible for Non-Title XIX/XXI funded behavioral health services. Refer to ARS 36-3408 and AMPM Policy 650. The following conditions do not constitute an individual's refusal to participate:

1. An individual's inability to obtain documentation required for the eligibility determination.
2. An individual is incapable of participating because of their mental illness and does not have a legal guardian.

As specified in the 8 U.S.C. 1611(b), 1615, 1621(b)(4), individuals presenting for and receiving crisis, mental health or SUD treatment services are not required to verify U.S. citizenship/lawful presence prior to or in order to receive crisis services.

The members who qualify may be served through Non-Title XIX funding while awaiting a determination of Title XIX/XXI eligibility. However, upon Title XIX eligibility determination the covered services billed to Non-Title XIX, that are Title XIX covered, shall be reversed by the Contractor and charged to Title XIX funding for the retro covered dates of Title XIX eligibility. This does not apply to Title XXI members, as there is no Prior Period Coverage (PPC) for these members.

The ACC-RBHAs, TRBHAs, and other entities who have a direct Non-Title XIX/XXI funded contractual relationship with AHCCCS are responsible for managing and prioritizing Non-Title XIX/XXI funds to ensure, within the limitation of available funding, that services are available for all individuals, prioritizing those with the highest level of need and eligible members.

The ACC-RBHAs, TRBHAs, and other entities who have a direct contractual relationship with AHCCCS are responsible for managing Non-Title XIX/XXI funding to ensure that funding is available for the fiscal period and if all Non-Title XIX/XXI funding is expended, ACC-RBHAs, TRBHAs, and other entities who have a direct Non-Title XIX/XXI funded contractual relationship with AHCCCS shall provide coordination services to address the needs through other community-based options and shall maintain a database of members referred for services that are unable to receive the service due to funding depletion.

The ACC-RBHAs, TRBHAs, and other entities who have a direct contractual relationship or Intergovernmental Agreement with AHCCCS are responsible for ensuring that members pending services due to funding depletion receive follow up to provide alternative services as possible and available until the referred service can be provided.

In addition, the Contractor(s) are responsible for ensuring a comprehensive system of care for Non-Title XIX/XXI eligible members, and members shifting in and out of Title XIX/XXI eligibility. Refer to AMPM Exhibit 300-3 for information on the Nine Guiding Principles for the Adult System of Care, and on the Twelve Guiding Principles for the Children's System of Care. System development efforts, programs, service provision, and stakeholder collaboration shall be guided by the principles therein.

If there are any barriers to the member care, the provider shall actively collaborate with the care coordination teams of all involved health plans or payors to overcome the identified barrier(s). If the provider is unable to resolve the issues in a timely manner to ensure the health and safety of the member, the provider shall contact AHCCCS, Clinical Resolutions Unit (CRU). If the provider believes that there are systemic problems, rather than an isolated concern, the provider shall notify AHCCCS, CRU of the potential barrier. AHCCCS will conduct research and work with the Contractor and responsible entities to address or remove the potential barriers.

J. NON-TITLE XIX/XXI FUNDING SOURCES

All Non-Title XIX/XXI funding, as listed in the AHCCCS Allocation Schedule and/or Allocation Letter, shall be used for medically necessary behavioral health services or allowable activities as specified by the specific grant program.

The ACC-RBHAs, TRBHAs, and other entities who have a direct Non-Title XIX/XXI funded contractual relationship shall report each Non-Title XIX/XXI funding source and services separately and provide information related to Non-Title XIX/XXI expenditures to AHCCCS upon request and/or in accordance with AHCCCS Contract/Interagency Service Agreement (ISA)/IGA or as specified in the Allocation Schedule and/or Allocation Letter.

The services provided under Non-Title XIX/XXI funds are to be encounterable. Outreach activities or positions that are non-encounterable can be allowable expenses, but they shall be pre-approved by AHCCCS, tracked, activities monitored, and outcomes collected on how the activities or funded positions are facilitating access to care for Non-Title XIX/XXI eligible populations, as specified in the Non-TXIX/XXI Contract.

Additionally, positions funded exclusively through Non-Title XIX/XXI funding shall not be billed for services to receive additional funding from any fund source. The positions partially funded through the Non-Title XIX/XXI funding may only be billed for services during periods when they are not being paid with Non-Title XIX/XXI funds.

Discretionary Grants

This funding can be used for purposes set forth in the various federal grant requirements and as defined in the terms and conditions of the AHCCCS Allocation Schedules or AHCCCS Contract/IGA/ISA and/or Allocation Letters. An example of a discretionary grant includes, but is not limited to, the SOR grant.

K. AHCCCS OVERSIGHT AND MONITORING

AHCCCS monitors the Contractor and TRBHA for compliance with Federal and State statute, regulations, and guidelines to determine if the Contractor(s) are providing services outlined within its AHCCCS Contract/IGA. AHCCCS accomplishes monitoring objectives through a variety of techniques, including but not limited to, receiving, and reviewing reports and/or deliverables, holding regularly scheduled meetings with the Contractor, which may include TRBHAs, monitoring spending through Contractor Expense Reports (CERs), desk reviews, completing program and financial site visits, annual subrecipient monitoring and other opportunities required with each individual grant requirement.

L. THE SUBSTANCE USE BLOCK GRANT AND MENTAL HEALTH BLOCK GRANT REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Grant deliverable reporting requirements are defined in each applicable Contract or IGA/ISA. Some of the templates and reporting expectations for these deliverables are mandated by SAMHSA and are subject to change. Reports must comprehensively describe all programmatic and financial activities funded by the block grants during the specified reporting period.

The deliverable requirements related to material changes in the Contractor's Non-Title XIX/XXI provider network are outlined in the applicable Non-Title XIX/XXI Contracts. Templates and submission requirements for notifications of material changes to the provider network are available in ACOM Policy 439.

For ACC-RBHA and TRBHA reporting requirements associated with the block grants, the Contractor shall follow the specifications outlined in Contract Section F, Attachment F3 (Chart of Deliverables), as well as any requirements identified in IGAs, Allocation Letters, or other agreements. Deliverable templates are available on the [AHCCCS MHBG webpage](#) and the [AHCCCS SUBG webpage](#).

The Contractor is responsible for complying with all oversight and monitoring obligations for subrecipients receiving Federal block grant funds, in accordance with 2 CFR 200, Subpart D – Subrecipient Monitoring and Management. Upon request, the Contractor shall provide AHCCCS with evidence of oversight, monitoring activities, and compliance with all subrecipient requirements.