
Culturally and Linguistically Specific BH Services Webinar

July 31st 6pm-7pm and August 3rd 12pm-1pm

Presented By: The Behavioral Health Equity &
Community Partnerships Team



HEALTH SYSTEMS DIVISION
Behavioral Health Equity & Community Partnerships

Webinar Topics

- Introducing the Culturally and Linguistically Specific BH Services enhanced payment program
- Explaining eligibility requirements
- Locating the application
- Completing the application process
- Billing for Culturally and Linguistically Specific BH Services

What is the Culturally and Linguistically Specific Services Enhanced Payment Program?

- [HB 5202](#) (2022) provided funding to increase Behavioral Health rates for outpatient Medicaid BH providers by 30%
- A portion of this funding went to increasing access to Culturally & Linguistically Specific Services
- Through engagement with many culturally specific providers, including the Alliance of Culturally Specific Providers, [OAR 309-065-0000](#) was established.

What is the Culturally and Linguistically Specific Services Enhanced Payment Program?

“Culturally and linguistically specific behavioral health services” means quality mental health, substance use, problem gambling, and other behavioral health prevention, treatment, and recovery supports and services that are designed specifically for a distinct minoritized cultural community, developed based on the languages used and cultural values of the distinct minoritized cultural community and designed to elevate their voices and experiences, and that have the aim of enhancing emotional safety, belonging, and a shared collective cultural experience for healing and recovery among the distinct cultural community served.

Culturally Responsive v Specific

Culturally Responsive

Services are inclusive of all folks and they intend to have the provider address the unique characteristics of the client and attend to all their socio-political identities.

Culturally Specific

Services are foundationally designed for a distinct community by providers who are from or immersed in that community.

Do I qualify for this program?

There are five eligibility types:

- 1) Culturally and Linguistically Specific Services Organization
- 2) Culturally and Linguistically Specific Services Program
- 3) Culturally and Linguistically Specific Services Individual
- 4) Bilingual Service Provider
- 5) Sign Language Provider

Do I qualify for this program?


In order to qualify for culturally and linguistically specific behavioral health services enhanced payments, the applicant must:

- Submit an application
 - Be enrolled as an outpatient Medicaid Behavioral Health provider with the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) that is not prohibited by law from receiving the enhanced payment
 - Demonstrate the ability to serve a distinct minoritized cultural community
 - Be primarily led and staffed by people that have extensive experience working with or being immersed in the same minoritized cultural community they serve;
- or
- Have a history of at least five years primarily serving the specific minoritized cultural community in a behavioral health setting

Accessing the Culturally and Linguistically Specific Services Application

- The application can be found here:

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/a1f594675f374bb3a660a886932626e6>


Culturally and Linguistically Specific Services Application
Requirement for eligibility of enhanced payment

Organization, Program or Provider Name *

MMIS Medicaid Number *

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Accessing the Culturally and Linguistically Specific Services Application

- The application can be found on the Behavioral Health Rate Increase webpage:

<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/HSD/OHP/Pages/BH-Rate-Increase.aspx>

- The application can also be found on the Behavioral Health Equity and Community Partnerships webpage:

<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/HSD/AMH/Pages/Equity-Community-Partnership.aspx>

Application Rubric Review

- Culturally and Linguistically Specific Services Program
- Culturally and Linguistically Specific Services Organization
- Culturally and Linguistically Specific Services Individual Provider
- Bilingual Rubric:
- Sign Language Rubric:
- These five rubrics are attached to this email. They were previously linked on the webinar presentations on 7/31/23 and 8/3/23.

Application Toolbox

- The application can be accessed here:
<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/a1f594675f374bb3a660a886932626e6>
- The Frequently Asked Questions Guide can be found here: <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/HSD/OHP/Tools/CLSS-Application-FAQ.pdf>
- The Application Guide that explains how to navigate the application can be found here:
<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/HSD/OHP/Tools/CLSS-Application-Steps.pdf>

Application Toolbox

- The Billing Guide can be found here:
<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/HSD/OHP/Tools/CLSS-Billing-Guide.pdf>
- The Behavioral Health Rate Increase webpage for further information can be found here:
<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/HSD/OHP/Pages/BH-Rate-Increase.aspx>
- Further information regarding the OHA Approved Testing Centers for Language Proficiency can be found here:
<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/EI/Pages/HCI-training.aspx>

Rural Provider Eligibility

- Rural is defined as any geographic area in Oregon ten or more miles from the centroid of a population center of 40,000 people or more.
- Rural providers' physical office and services must be within the rural geographic area to receive the additional rural enhanced rate.
- Our team will determine if a provider qualifies as rural.

Language Testing Requirements

- The applicant must take a language proficiency assessment through the OHA approved testing centers.
- As of July 18, 2023, the two approved testing centers are Language Line Solutions and Language Testing International.
- The applicant must score *intermediate high or higher* to be eligible for the enhanced rate program.

Language Testing Requirements

- If the applicant takes the language proficiency assessment through Language Testing International, they must take both the Speaking (Oral Proficiency Interview) and the Listening (Listening Proficiency Test) assessments to qualify for the enhanced rate.
- If the applicant decides to take the language proficiency assessment through Language Testing International and only the Speaking (Oral Proficiency Interview) is available in the selected language, the applicant is exempt from being required to take a listening assessment.

Payment Structures

- Fee-for-Service (FFS) – OHA administers the enhanced payments to eligible providers.
 - 22% enhanced rate for urban
 - 27% enhanced rate for rural
- Coordinate Care Organizations (CCO) – They administer the enhanced payments to eligible **contracted** providers.
 - They must pay at or above the FFS rates

Let us know if you have questions before you submit an application.

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Thank you for attending. We look forward to your applications!

BH Equity Team:

For all questions or concerns regarding
submitted applications

Please email the team at
BHEquity@oha.oregon.gov



Questions?