

Purpose

This guidance document assists community case monitors in developing well-supported modification requests for individuals under the jurisdiction of the Psychiatric Security Review Board (PSRB) to reside in a shared living arrangement at a more independent level of care. Shared living arrangements can support recovery, stability, and community integration. They also introduce interpersonal, environmental, and situational risks that must be carefully assessed. Requests should reflect a thorough and individualized evaluation of both the transition to a lower level of care and the specific dynamics of the proposed living situation.

This guidance outlines key considerations to support a clinically grounded request that promotes safe community placement while remaining consistent with the PSRB’s mission to protect the public and support long-term stability and recovery. This document is intended to support the development of a complete and individualized modification request. Requests should be submitted on the “Board Modification Request” template.

Considerations for Submitting and Modification Request for Shared Living Arrangements

Requests for shared living should demonstrate a comprehensive assessment of the client’s readiness for increased independence, the suitability of the proposed living environment, and the potential impact of the roommate(s) on the client’s stability and risk. The information provided should clearly explain how the arrangement can be safely supported within the client’s supervision and treatment plan, while balancing public safety, accountability, and recovery. Please include the following:

- **Current risk assessment**

A START completed within 90 days must accompany the request, with relevant findings integrated into the analysis.

- **History of shared living**

Provide an objective summary of the client’s past experiences in shared living environments, including both strengths and challenges across levels of care.

- **Interpersonal risk factors**

Identify any history of interpersonal violence, conflict, trauma, or other relational challenges that may impact a shared living arrangement.

- **Interpersonal strengths and skills**

Describe the client’s strengths related to communication, conflict resolution, boundaries, and other relevant social skills.

- **Relationship with prospective roommate(s)**

Describe the nature, history, and stability of the relationship between the client and the proposed roommate(s).

- **Assessment of the proposed roommate(s)**

To the extent possible, evaluate characteristics of the roommate(s) that may support or destabilize the client (e.g., shared recovery goals, lifestyle compatibility, substance use, legal involvement).

Roommate understanding and agreement

Confirm that the prospective roommate(s):

- Are aware of the client’s PSRB legal status, including the nature of the offense and conditions of release
- Understand and agree to relevant household expectations, including:
 - Prohibition of alcohol, cannabis, and non-prescribed substances;
 - Prohibition of firearms or other weapons in the home;
 - Requirements related to overnight guests; and
 - Potential for announced or unannounced home visits by the treatment team.

Safety and crisis awareness

Document that the roommate has been informed of early warning signs indicating potential destabilization and understands what actions to take if the client is in crisis or significantly noncompliant.

Housing and financial stability

Address lease or rental arrangements, including whether the client is on the lease and their financial responsibilities.

Contingency planning

Provide a clear plan if the living arrangement becomes unstable, including how a disruption would be managed without resulting in revocation (e.g., alternative housing options, financial feasibility).

Presence of minors

If minors are part of the household, include additional information addressing safety, supervision, and appropriateness of the placement.

For questions or assistance, contact your assigned PSRB case monitor, email psrb@psrb.oregon.gov, or call 503-229-5596.