

Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics

OVERVIEW

On December 4th, New York State (NYS) Office of Mental Health (OMH), Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse (OASAS), and Department of Health (DOH) released an application to become designated as a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHCs). This application is part of a one-year planning grant awarded to NYS by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). SAMHSA awarded a total of \$22.9 million to 24 states to support the development of CCBHCs. NYS was awarded \$982,373 to certify at least two CCBHCs.

A CCBHC is a comprehensive community behavioral health provider that offers increased access to high-quality, culturally-competent community behavioral health services to vulnerable and underserved populations. CCBHCs are entities designed to serve individuals with serious mental illnesses and substance use disorders. CCBHCs must directly provide:

- Crisis mental health services (including 24-hour crisis response);
- Screening, assessment, and diagnosis;
- Person-centered treatment planning (including risk assessment and crisis planning); and
- Outpatient mental health and substance use services.

The planning grant is part of a two-phase process. Phase I provides states with one year of funding to certify community behavioral health clinics, establish a prospective payment system for Medicaid-reimbursable behavioral health services provided by the CCBHCs, and prepare an application to participate in a two-year demonstration program. Eight of the states with Phase I planning grants will be selected for the Phase II demonstration program, which is set to begin in January 2017.

This application is only for the CCBHC designation. Providers selected to participate in the CCBHC development process will not be provided significant, if any, start-up funds. If NYS is selected to participate in the two-year demonstration program, participating CCBHCs will receive a cost-based prospective payment system for services provided under the demonstration.

More information is available [here](#). The application is available [here](#).

Eligible Applicants

Applicants must be agencies who:

- Concurrently have Article 31 (OMH) and Article 32 (OASAS) licenses that are in good standing;
- Are able to serve individuals across the lifespan;

- Participate in a Health Home network;
- Participate in a Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) Performing Provider System (PPS) network; and
- Are able to meet all of the following SAMHSA CCBHC certification criteria:
 - **Staffing:** Staff must be culturally trained to meet the needs of the population and make up a multidisciplinary team;
 - **Accessibility of Services:** Services must be accessible 24 hours a day to all individuals across the life spectrum, regardless of their residency or ability to pay;
 - **Care Coordination:** Care must be coordinated across settings and providers to ensure seamless transitions for patients across the full spectrum of health services;
 - **Scope of Services:** Clinics must provide a prescribed set of comprehensive behavioral health services;
 - **Quality:** Clinics must have the capability to collect data and submit data for quality improvement purposes; and
 - **Organizational Authority, Governance, and Accreditation:** Clinics must be a nonprofit or part of a local government behavioral health authority.

Agencies selected to participate in the CCBHC certification process must meet all of the above criteria by August 2016.

Applicants who are able to meet the following optional criteria will have an enhanced chance of meeting all the CCBHC certification requirements:

- Additional credentialing such as Article 28 licensure, Federally Qualified Health Center or “look-alike” status; and
- Experience providing an array of behavioral health services related to the services outlined in the CCBHC certification criteria.

Submission Requirements

To be considered, applicants are required to submit the following documentation:

- The NYS Application for CCBHC. The application is available [here](#); and
- The New Integrated CCBHC Certification Criteria Readiness Tool (I-CCRT). The I-CCRT is available [here](#).

Application Timeline

Questions may be submitted to ccbhc@omh.ny.gov by December 11, 2015 at 5:00PM. Responses will be available by December 18, 2015.

Applications are due by January 8, 2016 at 5:00PM. Applications are to be submitted to ccbhc@omh.ny.gov.