

RYAN WHITE GUIDANCE FOR PART B DIRECT SERVICE SUBCONTRACTORS

This guidance sets forth requirements related to AIDS Institute Ryan White Part B contracts as stipulated in the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act and as mandated by HRSA policy and New York State policy. The following information provides guidance for contractors in developing budgets and work plans. Ryan White Part B contracts **must** adhere to these requirements. This guidance includes information on allowable services, client eligibility, time and effort reporting, administration, and payer of last resort requirements. Please note that these policies may not be applicable to Ryan White Part A contracts administered by PHS.

Ryan White Service Categories

The Ryan White law limits the persons eligible for Ryan White services and limits the services that are allowable with Ryan White funds. Activities supported and the use of funds appropriated under the law must be in accordance with legislative intent, federal cost principles, and program-specific policies issued by the federal Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). HRSA policy related to Ryan White Parts A and B states that no service will be supported with Ryan White funds unless it falls within the legislatively defined range of services. In addition, the law stipulates that Ryan White is the “payer of last resort” (see payer of last resort section on page 4). In conducting program planning, developing contracts, and overseeing programs, you must comply with legislative intent and HRSA policy regarding allowable services and payer of last resort requirements.

Ryan White funded medical and support services must be provided in settings that are accessible to low income individuals with HIV disease.

By receiving Part B funds, the contractor agrees to participate, as appropriate, in Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act initiatives. The contractor agrees that such participation is essential in meeting the needs of clients with HIV as well as achieving the overall goals and objectives of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act.

Ryan White Part B funds may be used to support the following services:

CORE SERVICES

- 1. Mental health services for HIV-positive persons.** Psychological and psychiatric treatment and counseling services offered to individuals with a diagnosed mental illness, including individual and group counseling, based on a detailed treatment plan, provided by mental health professionals licensed by the NYS Department of Education and the Board of Regents to practice within the boundaries and scope of their respective profession. This includes Psychiatrists, Psychologists, Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners, Masters prepared Psychiatric Registered Nurses, and Licensed Clinical Social Workers. All mental health services must be provided in accordance with the AIDS Institute Mental Health Standards of Care.
- 2. Medical case management services (including treatment adherence)** are a range of client-centered services that link clients with health care, psychosocial, and other services. The coordination and follow-up of medical treatments are key components of medical case management. These services ensure timely and coordinated access to medically appropriate levels of health and support services and continuity of care, through ongoing assessment of the client's and other key family members' needs and personal support systems. Medical case management includes the provision of treatment adherence counseling to ensure readiness for, and adherence to, complex HIV/AIDS treatments. Key activities include (1) initial assessment of service needs; (2) development of a comprehensive, individualized service plan; (3) coordination of services required to implement the plan; (4) client monitoring to assess the efficacy of the plan; and (5) periodic reevaluation and adaptation of the care plan at least every 6 months, as necessary during the enrollment of the client. It includes client-specific advocacy and/or review of utilization of services. This includes all types of case management including face-to-face, phone contact, and any other forms of communication. Medical case management services

must be provided by trained professionals who provide a range of client-centered services that result in a coordinated care plan which links clients to medical care, psychosocial, and other services. Medical case management may be provided in a variety of medical settings, including community health centers, County Departments of Health, hospitals, or other Article 28 facilities. All medical case management services must be provided in accordance with AIDS Institute medical case management standards.

SUPPORT SERVICES, defined as services needed to achieve outcomes that affect the HIV-related clinical status of a person with HIV/AIDS. Support services must be shown to improve clinical outcomes. Support services must facilitate access to care. Allowable support services are:

3. **Case management (non-medical)** includes the provision of advice and assistance in obtaining medical, social, community, legal, financial, and other needed support services. Non-medical case management does not involve coordination and follow-up of medical treatments, as medical case management does. In accordance with HRSA HAB policy notice 07-04, this includes transitional case management for incarcerated persons as they prepare to exit the correctional system as part of effective discharge planning, or who are in the correctional system for a brief period, which would not include any type of discharge planning. All non-medical case management services must be provided in accordance with AIDS Institute non-medical case management standards.
4. **Emergency financial** - Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program funds may be used to provide Emergency Financial Assistance (EFA) as an allowable support service.
 - a. The decision-makers deliberately and clearly must set priorities and delineate and monitor what part of the overall allocation for emergency assistance is obligated for transportation, food, essential utilities, and/or prescription assistance. Careful monitoring of expenditures within a category of "emergency assistance" is necessary to assure that planned amounts for specific services are being implemented, and to indicate when reallocations may be necessary.
 - b. In addition, Grantees and planning councils/consortia must develop standard limitations on the provision of Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program funded emergency assistance to eligible individuals/households and mandate their consistent application by all contractors. It is expected that all other sources of funding in the community for emergency assistance will be effectively utilized and that any allocation of Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program funds to these purposes will be the payer-of-last-resort, and for limited amounts, limited use and limited periods of time
5. **Food bank/home-delivered meals** - Food and Meal Services assist with improving the nutrition status of the client while they develop the necessary skills to make appropriate food choices that will improve and/or maintain their health status. Nutrient dense, well balanced, and safe meals and food tailored to the specific dietary needs of PLWH/A can assist in maximizing the benefits of medical interventions and care. The food and meal services include home-delivered meals, congregate meals, pantry bags, and food gift cards/vouchers. Meals and pantry bags must provide culturally acceptable foods based on knowledge of the food habits and preferences of the target populations.
6. **Health education/risk reduction** -HIV education and risk reduction services include short term individual and/or group level activities to address medical and/or health related education intended to increase a client's knowledge of and participation in their health care, address secondary HIV prevention, improve health, and decrease the risk of transmission of HIV. Education and risk reduction services should be structured to enhance the knowledge base, health literacy and self efficacy of HIV-infected persons in accessing and maintaining HIV medical services and staying healthy. Recreational and socialization activities are not included in this category.
7. **Housing services** are the provision of short-term assistance to support emergency, temporary or transitional housing to enable an individual or family to gain or maintain medical care.

Housing-related referral services include assessment, search, placement, advocacy, and the fees associated with them. Eligible housing can include both housing that does not provide direct medical or supportive services and housing that provides some type of medical or supportive services such as residential mental health services, foster care, or assisted living residential services.

8. **Linguistic services** include interpretation/translation services (both written and oral), provided to HIV- infected individuals (including non-English speaking individuals, and those who are deaf or hard of hearing) for the purpose of ensuring the client's access to medical care and to Ryan White fundable support services that have a direct impact on primary medical care. Funded providers must ensure linguistic services are provided by a qualified professional interpreter.
9. **Medical Transportation services** include conveyance services provided, directly or through voucher, to an eligible client so that he or she may access HIV-related health and support services intended to maintain the client in HIV/AIDS medical care. If this contract is funded under Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 93.917 or 93.915, the contractor certifies that it will provide transportation services for eligible clients to medical and support services that are linked to medical outcomes associated with HIV clinical status. Transportation should be provided through: A contract(s) with a provider(s) of such services; Voucher or token systems, Mileage reimbursement that enables individuals to travel to needed medical or other support services may be supported with Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program funds, but should not in any case exceed the established rates for Federal Programs. Federal Joint Travel Regulations provide further guidance on this subject; Use of volunteer drivers (through programs with insurance and other liability issues specifically addressed); or, Purchase or lease of organizational vehicles for client transportation programs. Note: Grantees must receive prior approval for the purchase of a vehicle.
10. **Outreach services** are programs that have as their principal purpose identification of people who know their status so that they may become aware of, and may be enrolled in care and treatment services, **NOT** HIV counseling and testing or HIV prevention education. Outreach programs must be planned and delivered in coordination with local HIV prevention outreach programs to avoid duplication of effort; be targeted to populations known through local epidemiologic data to be at disproportionate risk for HIV infection; be conducted at times and in places where there is a high probability that individuals with HIV infection will be reached; and be designed with quantified program reporting that will accommodate local effectiveness evaluation.
11. **Psychosocial support services** are the provision of support and counseling activities, child abuse and neglect counseling, HIV support groups that improve medical outcomes, caregiver support, and bereavement counseling. Includes nutrition counseling provided by a non-registered dietitian but excludes the provision of nutritional supplements.
12. **Referral for health care/supportive services** is the act of directing a client to a service in person or through telephone, written, or other type of communication. Referrals may be made within the non-medical case management system by professional case managers, informally through support staff, or as part of an outreach program.
13. **Treatment adherence counseling** - Short term individual and/or group level activities used to provide HIV/AIDS treatment information, adherence counseling, monitoring, and other strategies to support clients in readiness to begin ARV treatment or maintain maximal adherence to prescribed HIV/AIDS treatment. Treatment adherence counseling activities are provided by non-medical personnel outside of the medical case management and clinical setting. The ultimate goal of treatment education is for a consumer to self-manage their own HIV/AIDS-related care. Self-management is the ability of the consumer to manage their health and health care autonomously, while working in partnership with their physician.

Ryan White funds may also be used to support training of providers delivering allowable services that is intended to improve medical outcomes and consumer education/training that is intended to improve medical outcomes.

Payer of Last Resort

- Ryan White is payer of last resort. The Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act requires that "...the State will ensure that grant funds are not utilized to make payments for any item or service to the extent that payment has been made or can reasonably be expected to be made with respect to that item or service under any State compensation program, under an insurance policy, or under any Federal or State health benefits program; or by an entity that provides health services on a prepaid basis. "DSS program policy guidance No. 2 further states that at the individual client level, grantees and/or their subcontractors are expected to make reasonable efforts to secure other funding instead of Ryan White whenever possible. Ryan White funding may only be used for services that are not reimbursable by Medicaid, ADAP Plus or other third-party payers.
- The Contractor shall (i) maintain policies and staff training on the requirement that Ryan White be the payer of last resort and how that requirement is met; (ii) screen each client for insurance coverage and eligibility for third party programs, assist clients in applying for such coverage and document this in client files; and (iii) carry out internal review of files and billing system to ensure Ryan White resources are used only when a third party payer is not available.
- The Contractor shall (i) have billing, collection, co-pay and sliding fee policies that do not act as a barrier to providing services regardless of the clients ability to pay and (ii) maintain file of individuals refused services with reasons for refusal specified and any complaints from clients with documentation of complaint review and decision reached.
- The Contractor shall ensure that policies and procedures classify veterans receiving VA health benefits as uninsured, thus exempting these veterans from the payer of last resort requirement.

Medicaid Certification & Program Income

- Contractors that provide Medicaid-eligible services pursuant to this agreement shall (i) participate in New York State's Medicaid program; (ii) maintain documentation of their Medicaid certification; (iii) maintain file of contracts with Medicaid insurance companies; and (iv) document efforts to obtain Medicaid certification or request waiver where certification is not feasible.
- The Contractor shall bill, track and report to HRI all program income (including drug rebates) pursuant to this agreement that are billed and obtained. Report of program income will be documented by charges, collections and adjustment reports or by the application of a revenue allocation formula.
- The Contractor shall (i) establish policies and procedures for handling Ryan White revenue including program income; (ii) prepare a detailed chart of accounts and general ledger that provide for the tracking of Ryan White revenue; and (iii) make the policies and process available for granted review upon request.

Client Charges

The Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program legislation requires grantees and subgrantees to develop and implement policies and procedures that specify charges to clients for Ryan White funded services. These policies and procedures must also establish sliding fee scales and discount schedules for clients with incomes greater than 100% of poverty. The legislation also requires that individuals be charged no more than a maximum amount (cap) in a calendar year according to specified criteria.

Each subcontractor may adopt the following policy for use in their policies and procedures in order to satisfy this legislative requirement.

All clients receiving Ryan White Part B services must meet the following income eligibility requirements. Financial eligibility is based on 435% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). Clients above 435% of FPL are not eligible for services. FPL varies based on household size and is updated semi-annually. Financial eligibility is calculated on the gross income available to the household:

- If an individual's income is less than or equal to 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), the individual may not be charged for services.
- For individuals with income from 101% to 200% of the FPL, a nominal fee of \$5 will be charged per service visit. Cumulative charges in a calendar year can be no more than 5% of the individual's annual gross income. Once the 5% cap is reached, the individual may no longer be charged for services.
- For individuals with incomes from 201% to 300% of the FPL, a nominal fee of \$7 will be charged per service visit. Cumulative charges in a calendar year can be no more than 7% of the individual's annual gross income. Once the 7% cap is reached, the individual may no longer be charged for services.
- For individuals with income over 300% of the FPL, a nominal fee of \$10 will be charged per service visit. Cumulative charges in a calendar year can be no more than 10% of the individual's annual gross income. Once the 10% cap is reached, the individual may no longer be charged for services.

The following discounted fee schedule shall be applied to all individuals receiving a Ryan White Part B service as follows:

- For individuals with income from 101% to 200% of the FPL, a discount of \$5 will be applied to each charge per service visit.
- For individuals with income from 201% to 300% of the FPL, a discount of \$7 will be applied to each charge per service visit.
- For individuals with income over 300% of the FPL, a discount of \$10 will be applied to each charge per service visit.

Services must be provided to eligible clients without regard to either the ability of the individual to pay for such services or the current or past health conditions of the individuals to be served.

Time and Effort Reporting

Contractors must have systems in place to document time and effort of direct program staff supported by all federal funds. New federal contractors must submit their written policies related to time and effort to HRI for approval. Most often, such systems take the form of a time sheet entry. These time and effort reporting procedures must clearly identify the percentage of time each staff person devotes to contract activities in accordance with the approved budget. The percent of effort devoted to the project may vary from month to month. The employee's time sheet must indicate the percent of effort the employee devotes to each particular project for a given time period. The effort recorded on the time sheet must reflect the employee's funding sources, and the percent of effort recorded for Ryan White funds must match the percentage being claimed on the Ryan White voucher for the same time period. In addition, 100 percent of the employee's time must be documented. In cases where the percentage of effort of contract staff changes during the contract period, contractors must submit a budget modification request to the AIDS Institute.

On audit, contractors will be expected to produce this documentation. Failure to produce this documentation could result in audit disallowances. HRI also has the right to request back-up documentation on any vouchers if they choose to do so. Only indirect staff is not subject to time and effort reporting requirements. Such staff must be included in the indirect costs line, rather than in the salaries section.

Quality

Ryan White Part B contractors are expected to participate in quality management activities as contractually required, at a minimum compliance with relevant service category standards of care and collection and reporting of data for use in measuring performance. Quality management activities should incorporate the principles of continuous quality improvement, including agency leadership and commitment, staff development and training, participation of staff from all levels and various disciplines, and systematic selection and ongoing review of performance criteria, including consumer satisfaction.

HRSA National Monitoring Standards

The National Monitoring Standards (Standards) are designed to help Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Part A and B (including AIDS Drug Assistance Program) grantees meet federal requirements for program and fiscal management, monitoring, and reporting to improve program efficiency and responsiveness. Requirements set forth in other sources are consolidated into a single package of materials that provide direction and advice to grantees for monitoring both their own work and the performance of service providers. The Standards consolidate existing HRSA/HAB requirements for program and fiscal management and oversight based on federal law, regulations, policies, and guidance documents.

The Standards were developed by the Division of Service Systems (DSS) within the Health Resources and Services Administration's HIV/AIDS Bureau (HRSA/HAB) in response to several Office of Inspector General (OIG) and Government Accountability Office (GAO) reports. These reports identified the need for a specific standard regarding the frequency and nature of grantee monitoring of subgrantees and a clear HRSA/HAB Project Officer role in monitoring grantee oversight of subgrantees.

Grantees and Subgrantees are required to comply with the Standards as a condition of receiving Ryan White Part A and Part B funds. The Standards can be accessed by visiting:

<http://www.hab.hrsa.gov/manageyourgrant/granteebasics.html>

Administration

The Ryan White legislation imposes a cap on contractor administration. The legislative intent is to fund services and keep administrative costs to a minimum. Contractors shall ensure that expenses on administrative costs do not exceed 10% of the total grant.

Administrative expenses may be individually set and may vary; however, the aggregate total of a contractors administrative costs may not exceed the 10% limit. Administrative activities include:

- usual and recognized overhead activities, **including established indirect rates** for agencies;
- management oversight of specific programs funded under the RWHAP; and
- other types of program support such as quality assurance, quality control, and related activities (exclusive of RWHAP CQM).

The portion of direct facilities expenses such as rent, maintenance, and utilities for areas primarily utilized to provide core medical and support services for eligible RWHAP clients (e.g., clinic, pharmacy, food bank, counseling rooms, areas dedicated to groups) are not required to be included in the 10% administrative cost cap. Note: by legislation, all indirect expenses must be considered administrative expenses subject to the 10% cap.

For contractors funded by Ryan White Part B, the following programmatic costs are **not** required to be included in the 10% limit on administrative costs; they may be charged to the relevant service category directly associated with such activities specific to the contract:

- Biannual RWHAP client re-certification;
- The portion of malpractice insurance related to RWHAP clinical care;
- Electronic Medical Records (EMR) data entry costs related to RWHAP clinical care and support services;
- The portion of the clinic receptionist's time providing direct RWHAP patient services (e.g., scheduling appointments and other intake activities);
- The portion of medical waste removal and linen services related to the provision of RWHAP services;
- The portion of medical billing staff related to RWHAP services;
- The portion of a supervisor's time devoted to providing professional oversight and direction regarding RWHAP-funded core medical or support service activities, sufficient to assure the delivery of appropriate and high-quality HIV care, to clinicians, case managers, and other individuals providing services to RWHAP clients (would not include general administrative supervision of these individuals); and
- RWHAP clinical quality management (CQM). However, expenses which are clearly administrative in nature cannot be included as CQM costs.

The following items of expense **are considered administrative** and should be included in the column for administrative costs when completing the budget forms.

(A) Salaries

Management and oversight: This includes staff that has agency management responsibility but no direct involvement in the program or the provision of services.

Finance and Contract administration: This includes proposal, work plan and budget development, receipt and disbursement of contract funds, and preparation of programmatic and financial reports as required by the AIDS Institute.

A position **or** percentage of a position may be considered administrative. Examples of titles that are 100% administrative: Controller, Accounting Manager, Director of Operations, Bookkeeper, Accountant, Payroll Specialist, Finance Coordinator, Maintenance Worker, or Security Officer.

Examples of titles that may in part involve administrative duties: Deputy Executive Director; Program Manager, Program Coordinator, or Clinic Manager. With regard to supervision, the percentage of time devoted to supervising programmatic activities and/or providing overall direction to program activities should be considered programmatic.

In the example below, the Chief Operating Officer and Chief Administrative Officer have wholly administrative positions. As such the entire amount requested from the AIDS Institute for these salaries is transferred into the administrative cost line. The Clinic Manager position is 20% administrative so 20% of the requested salary is considered administrative. A calculation on the Salary budget form page will divide all administrative salaries by the total salaries. This percentage in the example below (9.93%) may be applied to items in the miscellaneous category that may be shared by program and administrative staff.

Administrative Cost Updates:

AIRS Data entry staff are **not** required to be included in the 10% limit on Administrative Costs for data entry related to core medical and support services provided to Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) clients.

Some **examples** based on the recent updates are:

- A Receptionist's time providing direct RWHAP patient services is not required to be counted against the 10% administrative cost limit.
- A Supervisor's time devoted to providing professional oversight and direction regarding RWHAP-funded core medical or support service activities is not required to be included in the 10% administrative cost limit.

Job descriptions provided must describe the position's involvement with these activities in order to justify the charges.

Position Title/Incumbent Name(s) <small>List only those positions funded on this contract. If salary for position will change during the contract period, use additional lines to show salary levels for each period of time. If additional space is needed, copy this page.</small>	Hours Worked Per Week <small>Hours worked per week, regardless of funding source.</small>	Annual Salary <small>Salary for 12 months, regardless of funding source.</small>	# of months or pay periods funded on this contract	% of effort worked on this contract	Amount Requested from AIDS Institute <small>Col. 3 x Col. 4 x Col. 5 12 mos. or 26 pp</small>	Third Party Revenue <small>Show anticipated use of revenue generated by this contract. (Medicaid and ADAP Plus)</small>	Administrative Costs <small>Includes administrative staff salaries supported by this contract. ^(A)</small>
Director of Case Mgt and Treatment Adherence	35	\$85,000	12	75.00%	\$48,750		
Chief Operating Officer	35	\$80,000	12	4.00%	\$3,200		\$3,200
Chief Administrative Officer	35	\$72,000	12	4.00%	\$2,880		\$2,880
Case Manager I	35	\$45,000	12	100.00%	\$45,000		
Clinic Manager	35	\$30,000	12	100.00%	\$30,000		\$8,000
Data Entry	35	\$29,000	12	20.00%	\$5,800		
IT Specialist	35	\$30,000	12	4.00%	\$1,200		\$1,200
SUBTOTAL					\$138,830		\$13,280
Notes:							9.71% ⁽²⁾

(B) Fringe

The fringe rate should be applied to the amount of staff salaries devoted to administration (\$12,400 in the above example) in order to calculate the amount of administrative fringe benefits. The summary budget form will calculate this amount once the administrative salaries have been identified on the salary page and the fringe rate has been entered on the fringe page.

(C) Supplies

All funds budgeted for office supplies are considered administrative. Supplies such as educational or clinical materials would be considered programmatic. The administrative supply amount should be entered directly on the supply budget form.

(D) Travel

Travel pertaining to the financial operations or overall management of the organization is considered administrative. Client travel or travel of program staff to training would be considered programmatic. The administrative travel amount should be entered directly on the travel budget form.

(E) Equipment

Equipment purchased for administrative staff or for the financial operations or overall management of the organization is considered administrative. Equipment purchased for program staff or to support or enhance service delivery would be considered programmatic. The administrative equipment amount should be entered directly on the equipment budget form.

(F) Miscellaneous

Includes any portion of rent, utilities, telecommunications that are not directly related to core medical and support services provided to RWHAP clients. Audit expenses are considered 100% Administrative. Liability insurance can be considered both Administrative and programmatic if a methodology is included by the provider which demonstrates that a portion of the direct service is to RWHAP clients. The percentage of staff time devoted to administration (as calculated on the salary page) should be applied to items of expense shared by program and administrative staff (such as photocopiers, printers, and maintenance agreements). The amount of administrative

telecommunications, space and miscellaneous other costs should be entered directly on the miscellaneous budget form.

Cell phone costs for 100% direct program staff will be considered programmatic expenses and should not be charged as administrative costs. If a portion of a staff salary is administrative, then that portion of their cell phone charges must be administrative.

Examples:

- A Case manager has a cell phone whose sole purpose is to use that cell phone for serving Ryan White positive clients would be considered 100% programmatic.
- A Clinic Manager has a cell phone and their administrative effort on the contract is 20%. This means that 20% of the cell phone cost must count towards the 10% administrative cost limit.

(G) Subcontracts/Consultant

Includes contractors who perform non-service delivery functions (bookkeepers, payroll services, accountants, security, maintenance, etc.) The administrative contractual amount should be entered directly on the subcontracts/consultants budget form.

(H) Indirect

100% of funds budgeted in the indirect line are administrative. Any contractor that has never received a Federal negotiated indirect cost rate may charge a de minimis rate of 10% of modified total direct costs.. If chosen, this methodology once elected must be used consistently for all Federal awards until such time as a contractor chooses to negotiate for a rate, which they may apply to do at any time. The total amount of indirect costs requested should be transferred to the administrative cost line on the indirect costs budget form. **All indirect expenses must be considered administrative expenses subject to the 10% cap.**

The summary budget form will calculate a rate based on the entries made on each budget form. This rate must be 10% or less for Ryan White contractors. We recognize that some administrative resources are needed by contractors to support direct service programs; however, it is important to note that Ryan White funds are meant to support direct services rather than administration. Upon review of the budget, contract managers will work with you if necessary to reduce administrative costs.