

Behavioral Health Integration Grant

Background and proviso language

This grant includes \$2 million provided for one-time grants for clinics to establish behavioral health integration (BHI) in primary care clinics for children and adolescents. (SSB 5693 section 211(110))

- Grants of up to \$200,000 per clinic will be awarded.
- Grant money can be used for:
 - Training to create operational workflows that promote team-based care and evidence-based practices
 - Creating systems to implement standardized assessment tools for universal screening
 - Developing a process or registry to track patient outcomes
 - Recruiting and retaining behavioral health professionals and psychiatric supervision and consultation for the program
 - Developing partnerships with community health centers for patients with higher-level needs
 - Developing information technology infrastructure, e.g. electronic health records and registry creation
 - Modifying physical spaces to support the program

The intention of this grant is to provide funding for primary clinics who have identified the need to integrate behavioral health into their clinic model and who are at the beginning of their BHI integration work.

Grant eligibility requirements

Eligible clinics must demonstrate:

- 35% of their total patients are enrolled in Apple Health (Medicaid). Priority funding will be given to clinics with the highest proportion of patients enrolled in Apple Health.
- Support for BHI program exists at the highest level of clinic leadership.
- An arrangement for psychiatric consultation and supervision.
- A team-based approach to care that includes the primary care provider, behavioral health professional, psychiatric consultant, patient, and patients' family.

Eligible clinics must demonstrate a plan to:

- Hire a behavioral health professional
- Create a registry
- Implement universal screening for behavioral health needs
- Provide care coordination with schools, emergency departments, hospitals, and any other points of care
- Ensure closed-loop referrals to behavioral health specialists
- Where clinically indicated, engagement in specialty treatment

Grant application

Who can apply

- Primary care organizations can apply for funding if:
 - Their patients are children and youth (birth through 18 years old)
 - 35% or more are enrolled in medical assistance (RCW 74.09)
 - They have an arrangement for psychiatric consultation and supervision
 - Clients have a team-based structure, including a primary care provider, behavioral health professional, psychiatric consultant, patient, and patient's family

How to apply

- Name, address, point of contact, clinic administrator information
- Percentage of clients enrolled in medical assistance
- Describe your clinic's arrangement for psychiatric consultation and supervision. An existing and current policy or procedure document will suffice.
- Describe your team-based approach to care and the types of providers in your clinic.

[View the BHI grant application form.](#)

What to include in your grant proposal

- How much are you requesting?
- Narrative proposal: Provide a summary of the clinic's plan to use funds to serve the intention of the grant. All grant proposals should address the clinic's current state and plans utilizing the components below to integrate BHI:
 - Hire a behavioral health professional
 - Create a registry
 - Implement universal screening for behavioral health needs
 - Provide care coordination with schools, emergency departments, hospitals, and any other points of care
 - Ensure closed-loop referrals to behavioral health specialists
 - Where clinically indicated, engagement in specialty treatment

Timeline

2023

- **Applications available:** February 10
- **Technical assistance webinar:** February 27
- **Applications due:** March 24
- **Grant awardees announced:** April
- **Grant dollars disbursed:** April-May