



What's the difference between BHSO and BH-ASO?

Understanding the difference between Behavioral Health Services Only (BHSO) and Behavioral Health-Administrative Services Organizations (BH-ASO) can be confusing.

 **Behavioral Health Services Only (BHSO):** A type of managed care program that provides specialty mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) treatment services for eligible Apple Health (Medicaid) enrollees. These enrollees receive the rest of their Apple Health services through Apple Health without a managed care plan, also known as fee-for-service (FFS), and/or through their primary health insurance (such as Medicare).



Behavioral Health-Administrative Services Organization (BH-ASO): A contracted, regional entity that provides behavioral health services for individuals in the region, including crisis services.

BHSO and BH-ASO comparison

Behavioral Health Services Only (BHSO)

 **Statewide** managed care organizations (MCO) contracted with the Health Care Authority (HCA) that provides Apple Health covered specialty behavioral health care.

 **Clients are enrolled** in the program.

 **Classified federally** as Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan (PIHP) managed care program.

 **Available to Apple Health clients** not enrolled in managed care for their physical health coverage (for example, dually eligible clients).

Behavioral Health - Administrative Services Organization (BH-ASO)

 **Regional entities** that provide certain behavioral health care, including crisis services.

 **No enrollment** required.

 **Not classified** as an managed care entity.

 **Contracted with HCA** to provide certain services within available funding to individuals in a region regardless of insurance status, income level, or ability to pay.

 **Contracted with MCOs** to provide crisis services within the region including mobile crisis teams and crisis facilities.