

Secure Withdrawal Management and Stabilization (SWMS) facility

Overview

A Secure Withdrawal Management and Stabilization (SWMS) facility is operated by a public or private agency, or by the program of an agency that provides care to voluntarily and involuntarily committed individuals. The latter are detained and committed under Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 71.05, or RCW 71.34, given an assessed likelihood of serious harm or presence of grave disability resulting from a substance use disorder (SUD).

Since 2018, Designated Crisis Responders have authority to detain a person for involuntary SUD treatment to a SWMS facility.

Services

Level of care varies depending on the acuity of the SUD presentation, risk, and needs of the individual. Each facility must provide the following:

- Assessment and treatment by certified SUD professionals or co-occurring disorder specialists
- Clinical stabilization services
- Acute or subacute detoxification services for intoxicated individuals
- Discharge assistance by SUD professionals or co-occurring disorder specialists

Involuntary length of stay at a SWMS facility initially is 120 hours with a possible 14-day commitment.

Statewide bed capacity

Washington State maintains 53 SWMS beds as of December 1, 2022. Lewis County has 21 SWMS beds; Chelan County has 16 SWMS beds; King County has 16 SWMS beds. Total capacity is expected to grow by at least 16 beds per year. Each facility is licensed by the Department of Health (DOH).

Eligibility requirements

Any individual who meets criteria for detention under RCW 71.05 or 71.34 with SUD as the primary reason for the crisis is eligible

Authority

Adult: RCW 71.05

Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 246-341-1104

Youth:

RCW 71.34

WAC 246-341-1106

Budget

As of June 30, 2022, the rate is \$650 per individual per day. Treatment under RCW 71.05 and RCW 71.34 is billed to the individual's insurance provider if they are an MCO or HCA if they meet FFS requirements; if neither circumstance applies it billed to the BHASO. This rate applies to treatment only and does not include room and board.

Oversight

- HCA, Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery
- DOH certification and licensure are required

For more information:

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