

**Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services
Administration (SAMHSA)**

Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS)

**National Outcome Measures (NOMs)
Client-Level Measures for Discretionary
Programs Providing Direct Services**

**QUESTION-BY-QUESTION
INSTRUCTION GUIDE**

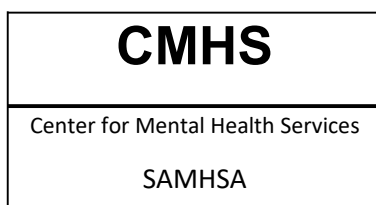


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Guide Overview

These instructions are for collecting and reporting on the Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) National Outcome Measures (NOMs) Client-Level Measures for Discretionary Programs Providing Direct Services, **also known as Services Activities**. A summary of each section of this document is as follows:

- 1) **Deadlines and reporting requirements**—This section provides an explanation of the NOMs requirement, when interviews should be completed, and when data collected through the NOMs tool should be reported in SPARS. [Section updated: November 2022]
- 2) **Interviewing guidelines**—This section explains how to use the interview tool, including how to use caregiver prompts and read questions. [Section updated: November 2022]
- 3) **Question by Question guide**—This section is organized according to the sections of the Services tool. [Section updated: November 2022]

The following information is provided about each question:

Answered by—Indicates whether the question should be answered by grantee staff or the client/caregiver.

Intent/Key Points—Describes the intent of the question.

Skip Pattern—Indicates which items should be skipped and under what circumstances. There are certain questions that are irrelevant based on how a client answered a previous question.

Response Options—Lists all response options for the initial base question and provides any definitions if necessary.

Follow-on Questions—Lists all questions that follow the initial base question, their response options, and any definitions if necessary.

Additional Probes—Applicable for questions to be answered by client or caregiver; offers suggestions for probes that may help prompt the client's memory or understanding.

Considerations for Grantee Staff—Applicable for questions to be answered by grantee staff; offers additional information for grantee staff to take into account that may help them provide answers.

Coding Topics—Clarifies how to count or record certain responses. Please pay close attention to coding topics because they address questions that could otherwise produce vague answers.

Cross-Check Items—Alerts the interviewer or person capturing the data to items that should be related and answers that should be verified if a contradiction occurs during the interview.

Tool Version Note—Based on 2022 revisions, provides information about changes to a specific question from previous versions of the data collection tool where appropriate.

- 4) **Setting and entering annual goals in SPARS**—This section provides information on how to set annual and cumulative goals for clients served and how to enter these goals into SPARS. [Section updated: November 2022]
- 5) **Reporting NOMs in SPARS**—This section includes information on how to directly enter data or how to batch upload data that was entered into a grantee-specific system. [Section updated: Coming soon!]
- 6) **Accessing NOMs data from SPARS**—This section includes information on how to access and use SPARS reports and how to download NOMs data for further analysis. [Section updated: Coming soon!]

Deadlines and Reporting Requirements

CMHS grantees that provide direct services to clients are required to collect data from each client who receives grant-funded services. Grantees collect these data from individual clients using the NOMs Client-Level Measures tool, **also known as the Services tool**. Data are collected throughout a client's episode of care and entered into the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA's) Performance Accountability and Reporting System (SPARS).

A **client** (or consumer) is defined as a person who is actively in treatment with a CMHS-funded program.

An episode of care begins when the client enters treatment or services, as defined by the program, and ends when the client is discharged and no longer receiving treatment or services with that grantee. A new episode of care begins when a client returns for treatment after a lapse of service of 90 calendar days or more after being discharged.

NOMs Requirement	<p>CMHS grantees that provide direct services to clients are required to collect data from (or about) each client who receives grant-funded services.</p> <p>For each episode of care, an attempt must be made to interview the client at three data collection points: baseline (initiation of grant-supported services), at reassessment, and at clinical discharge.</p> <p>In instances where a grantee is unable to reach the client (or caregiver or proxy) for the interview, the client declined or refused consent, or the client was unable to provide consent the grantee is still required to use the NOMs tool to capture administrative data that can be completed by the grantee staff.</p>
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Data Collection Points

The data collection points for each section of the NOMs tool are presented in Table 1. For each section, it is noted whether the section must be completed only if an interview is conducted or if an administrative entry is required even when an interview was not conducted. Table 2 lists which programs have to also complete their assigned Section G subsection, and Table 3 summarizes the data collection points for only specific programs required to use Section G.

Table 1. Data Collection Points for NOMs Requirement

NOMs Section	Baseline	Reassessment	Discharge
Record Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview • Administrative entry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview • Administrative entry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview • Administrative entry
Behavioral Health Diagnosis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview • Administrative entry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview • Administrative entry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview • Administrative entry
Demographic Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview 		
A. Functioning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview
B. Stability in Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview
C. Education and Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview
D. Crime and Criminal Justice Status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview
E. Perception of Care		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview
F. Social Connectedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview
G. Program-Specific	See Table 3	See Table 3	See Table 3
H. Services Received and Clinical Discharge		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview • Administrative entry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview • Administrative entry

Section G contains program-specific questions and is separated into subsections, with one subsection for each assigned program. Grantees should only complete the subsection specific for their program. Grantees

Baseline

Due date: For clients who initiate an episode of care after your grant begins using SPARS, baseline interviews must be completed within 7 calendar days after the episode of care is initiated. It may not be feasible to conduct a baseline interview for clients who are seeking treatment after experiencing a crisis or trauma. If it is not possible to conduct the baseline interview right away, you should conduct the interview as soon as possible but no later than 30 calendar days after an episode of care is initiated.

For clients who were already receiving care when your grant began using SPARS, baseline interviews must be completed the next time your project has contact with the client.

The completed interview must be entered into SPARS within 30 calendar days of the interview date.

Administrative entry: If a client is unable or unwilling to provide consent for the baseline interview, you are required to enter administrative information into SPARS within 30 days after the episode of care is initiated.

Reassessment

Due date: Reassessment interviews should be completed 3 or 6 months (calculated as 90 or 180 calendar days) after the baseline interview date for the client's episode of care. Most CMHS grants will have reassessments at 6 months; your grant will be notified if your grant program will complete 3-month reassessments. The requirement for reassessment is set for the program cohort and will be communicated to grantees in program-specific guidance. Grantees do not have the option to choose one or the other reassessment schedules. Most programs will continue with a 6-month reassessment.

The completed interview must be entered into SPARS within 30 calendar days of the interview date.

When a new episode of care is initiated because a client re-enters treatment after a discharge, the timing of the reassessment will be based on the baseline interview date for the new episode of care.

Administrative entry: If a client is unable or unwilling to provide consent for the reassessment interview or a client cannot be reached for the reassessment interview but is still in care or treatment, the administrative entry should be made in SPARS within 30 days of the reassessment due date.

Reassessment Interview Rate

The goal is to conduct reassessment interviews with 100% of clients for whom a baseline record is submitted. You are not responsible for finding clients to conduct the reassessment interview unless it is a program or grant requirement. If a client cannot be found for the reassessment, an administrative reassessment entry is required.

The reassessment interview rate is calculated as the number of reassessments "received," divided by the number of reassessments "due," and then multiplied by 100 to calculate a percentage $((\text{Received}/\text{Due}) \times 100)$.

Window or Time Frame Allowed for Completing the Reassessment

You do not have to complete the 3- or 6-month reassessment (calculated as 90 or 180 days) on the client's exact due date. For interviews to count toward your reassessment interview rate, you must complete the

reassessment interviews within a window that starts 30 calendar days before and ends 30 calendar days after the interview due date. Administrative entries for reassessment do not count towards the reassessment interview rate.

You are not required to conduct interviews outside the reassessment window. However, interviews that are conducted and submitted outside the window will be accepted by SPARS, and the data will be available in your data download and for use by CMHS. Interviews that are submitted outside of a window (before or after) will not be counted toward your reassessment interview rate. Note that this means an assessment at 90 days will not count towards the reassessment interview rate for a program required to do a 6-month reassessment.

The specific dates for a reassessment interview will be determined by the interview date of a client's baseline interview. For example:

- *3-month Reassessment Interview Due (90 calendar days after baseline):* A client enters the grant on January 3 and completes the baseline interview. The client will be due for a 3-month reassessment interview on April 3, and their reassessment window will span from March 3-May 3.
- *6-month Reassessment Interview Due (180 calendar days after baseline):* A client enters the grant on January 3 and completes the baseline interview. The client will be due for a 6-month reassessment interview on July 2, and their reassessment window will span from June 2-August 2.

Clinical Discharge

A clinical discharge is defined by the grant to represent that the planned services were delivered, treatment goals were achieved, the client no longer was in need of care, or other definitions of no longer continuing services. Additionally, if the client has not had contact with the project for 90 calendar days or more or the client has died, the client should be discharged. Contact refers to services or referrals provided, phone calls related to a treatment plan (not scheduling), video calls, crisis intervention or emergency services.

Clinical discharges are not preset in the guidance in the same way as reassessments, they could occur at any point after baseline. Unless specified for the grant, clients do not have to be discharged in SPARS at the end of the grant (i.e., only for the reason of the grant funding ending) or when there is a change to the NOMs tool.

Due date: Clinical discharge interviews should be completed at the time of discharge. The goal is to interview all clients at discharge. If it is not possible to conduct the interview right away, you should conduct the interview as soon as possible but no longer than 30 calendar days after a client is discharged. You are not responsible for finding clients to conduct the discharge interview. The completed interview must be entered into SPARS within 30 calendar days of the interview date.

If a reassessment interview was conducted within 30 calendar days of a discharge, a separate clinical discharge interview is not required. However, an administrative clinical discharge must be completed.

See Coding Topics for [Section H](#) for definitions on the different types of discharges.

Administrative entry: If a clinical discharge interview is not conducted, you are required to report administrative information into SPARS within 30 calendar days of discharge or of being notified of the client's death. If an administrative clinical discharge is submitted in place of an interview and then a clinical

discharge interview is conducted, you will need to delete the administrative record prior to entering the interview record.

Data Reporting Deadlines

The goal is to enter or upload NOMs Client-Level Measures data into SPARS within 30 days of the interview date or due date of the interview for administrative entries, physical health measures, and blood draws.

Table 4. Due Dates and Windows

Data collection point	Due date	Window for data collection
Baseline	On day initiated (grant funded) services/treatment; <i>or</i> On first day of receiving services/treatment after grant awarded	Interviews should be within 7 days of due date but no later than 30 days after due date. Data collected by the grantee staff, such as Behavioral Health Diagnosis or Physical Health Measures, does not have to be from the same day as the interview but should be from within 30 days (before or after) of the due date.
Reassessment	3 months: 90 days after baseline interview date	Interviews should be within 30 days (before or after) of due date. Data collected by the grantee staff, such as Behavioral Health Diagnosis or Physical Health Measures, does not have to be from the same day as the interview but should be from within 30 days (before or after) of the due date.
	6 months: 180 days after baseline interview date	
Discharge	On day of discharge; <i>or</i> On day notified client deceased; <i>or</i> 90 days after last program contact with client	Interviews should be on the due date but no later than 30 days after due date. Data collected by the grantee staff, such as Behavioral Health Diagnosis or Physical Health Measures, does not have to be from the same day as the interview but should be no earlier than 30 days before the due date.

Interviewing Guidelines

Consent

The client, caregiver, or proxy may indicate that they do not want to be interviewed. If this happens, the interview should not be conducted.

IMPORTANT: *Refusing consent to a NOMs interview does not affect eligibility for grant-funded services.*

A refusal to the current interview may or may not apply to future interviews or data collection; response options for both cases are available. Upon the start of a new episode of care, clients begin with a “clean slate” and a baseline interview should be attempted.

If an interview was not conducted because of consent reasons, the grantee must still make an administrative entry, see above section on [data collection points](#) for further information.

Translation

A [Spanish version of the paper Services tool](https://spars.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/2022-09/CMHSNOMSToolSpanish.pdf) (<https://spars.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/2022-09/CMHSNOMSToolSpanish.pdf>) is available on the SPARS website for download. In cases where a client speaks a language other than English or Spanish, you should follow the same procedures for collecting the data as used to obtain any other information for that client.

TIP

If a translation of the NOMs tool is needed frequently, it is recommended to document and write out the translation so that the questions are consistently translated in the same way and that the intent of the questions is maintained.

Reading the Questions

At the beginning of each section there are instructions as to whether the questions are to be answered by the client or if they are to be completed by grantee staff. Do not read questions to the client or caregiver that are to be collected by the grantee staff. In Section E PERCEPTION OF CARE and some Section G subsections there are question-specific instructions.

At the start of a new section of questions for the client introduce the next section (e.g., “Now I’m going to ask you some questions about ...”).

Read each question as it is written. Instructions written in all capitals and/or italicized should not be read to the client. For example, “[ADULT ONLY]” should not be read to the client or caregiver.

If a client has difficulty understanding a question or response options, it is acceptable to explain the question to them using the descriptions listed in this guide as Additional Probes. However, do not change the wording of the question.

Before starting the interview, consider using a calendar to indicate the past 30 calendar days or asking the client if they keep a calendar. Many questions in the Services tool refer to the past 30 calendar days and having a calendar present may help the client recall events.

Some questions have the same initial phrase repeated in a group that may be formatted in a table with multiple rows. In this case, read the initial phrase, the question stem, and the response options for each question, pause for and record the response given and then repeat the steps. For example, Section B STABILITY IN HOUSING starts as:

1. In the past 30 [thirty] days, have you [has your child] ...

1a. Been homeless?

1b. Spent time in a hospital for mental health care?

1c. Spent time in a facility for detox/inpatient or residential substance abuse disorder?

Interviewers should ensure they read the initial phrase, “In the past 30 days, have you” before each question stem. For example, this question would read, “In the past 30 days, have you Been homeless? Yes or No? ... In the past 30 days have you Spent time in a hospital for mental health care? Yes or No? ... In the past 30 days have you Spent time in a facility for detox/inpatient or residential substance abuse disorder? Yes or No? ...”

Child Clients

If the client is a child, either the child or the child’s caregiver must be interviewed for the purposes of the SPARS data collection; interviews of both individuals **are not required**. The table below describes the appropriate criteria for the different interviewees. Within the tool, there are some questions with specific instructions that indicate whether to ask adult or child clients. For example, children under the age of 17 are not asked whether they are serving in the military as they are not old enough to enlist.

Table 5. Age-based Criteria in NOMs

Client	Interviewee	Criteria
Child or Adolescent under 18 years old or in a child program and meet the program-specific age guidance	Client	Child is 11 years old or older and can provide informed consent and respond to interview questions
	Caregiver	Caregiver who has knowledge of / role in the behavioral or mental health treatment needs of the child or adolescent. Note that the caregiver does not need to be a parent or legal guardian.
Adult 18 years or older	Client	While it is not listed as an option for a caregiver to respond on behalf of adult clients, there may be cases where a proxy is provided, or the client is not interviewed because they are unable to provide informed consent.

NOTE: *If possible, please attempt to maintain consistency across client interviews to avoid problems related to inter-rater reliability (i.e., if the child is interviewed initially, the child should be interviewed for reassessment and clinical discharge).*

Caregiver Prompts

With the merge of the Adult and Child versions of the CMHS NOMs Client-Level Measures tool, most questions have prompts to indicate how to read the question when interviewing a caregiver or guardian rather than the client themselves. These prompts should not be used or read to clients, they should only be read to caregivers or guardians answering on behalf of a client.

For example, the question “Are you [is your child] Hispanic, Latino/a, or of Spanish origin?” should be read as “Are you Hispanic, Latino/a, or of Spanish origin?” when interviewing the client or “Is your child Hispanic, Latino/a, or of Spanish origin?” when interviewing the caregiver of a child.

Reading the Response Options

Read response categories that appear in sentence-case lettering, which is a normal mix of uppercase and lowercase letters (e.g., “Central American” or “Gender non-conforming”).

If all response categories are in all capital letters, ask the question open-ended; do not read any of the response categories listed (e.g., “VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL (VOC/TECH) DIPLOMA”).

REFUSED, NO RESPONSE, and NOT APPLICABLE are also written in all caps to signify that these should not be read to clients or caregivers even when available for recording the responses.

Recording Responses

There are multiple responses which are written in all caps that should not be read to the client and should be used rather than leaving questions blank if possible.

- NOT APPLICABLE is an available response for appropriate items. For those items, if the question instructions indicate that the question does not apply (e.g. [ADULT ONLY]) or if a client does not feel the question applies to them, choose NOT APPLICABLE as their response to that question.
- The response option NO RESPONSE/REFUSED is provided for most items that are asked of the client. If the client refuses to answer a question, mark NO RESPONSE/REFUSED where available. Clients may refuse to answer any question, even if the option was not included; if this occurs, leave the question blank when conducting the interview on the paper tool and mark it as MISSING when entering the data in SPARS.
- The response option DON'T KNOW is provided for certain items that are asked of the client. If the client does not know the answer to a question, mark DON'T KNOW as applicable.
- The REFUSED and DON'T KNOW or UNKNOWN response options are not available for items that are answered by the grantee except for the “Don’t Know” response option for Behavioral Health Diagnoses questions in the RECORD MANAGEMENT section and a few questions in Section G.

TIP

The SPARS data entry screens are not designed or optimized for use during the interviews. It is recommended that users either record responses on the paper tool or create their own data collection system (e.g. within their EHR, using REDCap, etc.) that can be exported to an Excel template for batch upload to SPARS.

SPARS will time out with 20 minutes of inactivity. It currently does not autosave and does not allow for partial data entry. Data must be entered in its entirety and submitted in order to be saved. If used 'live' during an interview, this could result in a loss of data and also could interrupt the flow, rapport, and trust needed for clients to fully respond.

Question-by-Question Guide

Record Management

This section pertains to the collection of the client’s identification for SPARS, the grantee information, and the client’s interview information.

The RECORD MANAGEMENT section is **not** asked of the client but is supplied by the grantee. The RECORD MANAGEMENT information must be filled in for each interview, regardless of whether an interview was conducted.

Section Instructions

RECORD MANAGEMENT information is collected by grantee staff at BASELINE, REASSESSMENT, and DISCHARGE, even when an assessment interview is not conducted.

Key Terms

Client ID— IMPORTANT: To protect the client’s identity, do NOT use any information that could identify the client. Prohibited information includes, but is not limited to, the client’s name, initials, date of birth or Social Security number as all or part of the Client ID. A unique client identifier that is determined by the grantee. It can be between 1 and 11 characters and can include both numerals and letters. It cannot begin with a dash or contain non-alphanumeric characters, including any of the following: “.”[]!@#\$%^&*(.),” with the exception of dashes (-) or underscores (_). This ID is intended to track a specific client through their interviews, baseline, clinical discharge, and 3-month (calculated as 90 calendar days) or 6-month (calculated as 180 calendar days) reassessment, while maintaining the anonymity of the client. The same ID is used each time, regardless of whether the client has more than one episode of care (i.e., if they are discharged and reinitiate care). This Client ID allows for unduplicated counts across all CMHS service programs.

Grant ID—The CMHS-assigned grant identification number. The identifier begins with a single number between 1 and 5. For example, a Grant ID may be 1 SM012345. For the purpose of the SPARS project, the identifying portion of the number is SM12345; the first number is not needed. A maximum of 10 digits may be used.

Site ID—The purpose of the Site ID is to associate the client data entered for a grant to a specific grant location. It can be used by grantees to help them track where the services were provided or where the interview was conducted. Grants will need to have a Site ID(s) to enter records in SPARS. A default Site ID will be created if the grant has only one site. To request a Site ID(s), the Project Director must go into “My Account” > “Update my Grant” on the SPARS website and complete the questions under the “For Client Service Program Grants Only” section. After completing the section, please notify the Help Desk this was done. The Help Desk will contact the grantee with questions as necessary. The Site ID will be emailed to the grantee from the SPARS Help Desk.

1. Indicate Assessment Type

1a. [IF QUESTION 1 IS BASELINE] Enter the MONTH and YEAR when the client first received services under this grant for this episode of care.

Answered by	Grantee staff.
Intent/Key Points	Indicate the type of assessment that is being completed. Remember these questions are not asked of the client but are completed by the grantee.
Skip Pattern	None
Response Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Baseline Assessment</i>—The initial assessment conducted at the start of an episode of care. If a client ends one episode of care and begins another, as described in the “Deadlines and Reporting Requirements” section, a new baseline must be administered using the same Client ID. ○ <i>Reassessment</i>—A reassessment conducted 3 months (calculated as 90 calendar days) or 6 months (calculated as 180 calendar days) after the baseline interview date if the client is still receiving treatment services. Select the reassessment option if this is a reassessment, regardless of whether it is a 3-month or 6-month reassessment. ○ <i>Clinical discharge</i>—A final assessment conducted at the time the client is discharged from the program.
Follow-on Questions	<p>If you indicate “Baseline Assessment” to Question 1, answer the follow-up question 1a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Enter the month and year when the client first received services under this grant for this episode of care. <p><i>Response Options</i></p> <p>Enter the date, month and year only (MMYYYY), using numbers.</p>
Considerations for Grantee Staff	<p>Each grant cohort program is assigned to a 3- or 6-month reassessment schedule and this information is specified in the grant’s Notice of Award (NOA).</p> <p>The date the client first received services cannot be earlier than the official start date of the grant.</p> <p>An episode of care begins when the client enters treatment or services, as defined by the program, and ends when the client is discharged and is no longer receiving treatment or services with that grantee.</p>

	A new episode of care begins when a client returns for treatment 90 calendar days or more after being discharged. If a client returns for services within 90 days of being discharged, no new baseline is required.
Coding Topics	None
Cross-Check Items	None
Tool Version Note	[REVISED] Based on revisions in 2022, assessments are no longer done at intervals of every 180 days but rather once at either 3 months (calculated as 90 calendar days) or 6 months (calculated as 180 calendar days). Grantees should continue reporting the assessment type but should note the revised definition and requirements for reporting.

2. What is the client's month and year of birth?

Answered by	Grantee staff.
Intent/Key Points	The intent is to record the client's month and year of birth in order to understand who the program is reaching and whether child or adult prompts should be used in the interview.
Skip Pattern	None
Response Options	Enter the date as MMYYYY. SPARS will only save the month and year. Day is neither asked nor saved in SPARS to protect the identity of the client.
Follow-on Questions	None
Considerations for Grantee Staff	This information should be gathered from the client's record.
Coding Topics	None
Cross-Check Items	None
Tool Version Note	[REVISED] Based on revisions in 2022, this question was moved from the demographic data section to the RECORD MANAGEMENT section to help determine which questions should be administered, such as whether the child or adult prompts are appropriate.

3. Was the assessment interview conducted?

3a. [IF QUESTION 3 IS YES] When?

3b. [IF QUESTION 3 IS NO] Why not? Choose only one.

Answered by	Grantee staff.
Intent/Key Points	The intent of this question is to determine whether or not an interview with the client is going to be conducted at this time.
Skip Pattern	None
Response Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Yes</i>—An interview with the client or caregiver was conducted either in-person, or via telehealth. ○ <i>No</i>—No, this is an administrative entry only.
Follow-on Questions	<p>If you indicate “Yes” to Question 3, answer the follow-up question 3a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 3a. When? <p><i>Response Options</i></p> <p>Enter the month, day, and year as MM/DD/YYYY when the interview was conducted.</p> <p>If you indicate “No” to Question 3, answer the follow-up question 3b:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 3b. Why not? Choose only one. <p><i>Response Options</i></p> <p>Select one of the following reasons why the interview was not conducted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Not able to obtain consent from proxy</i>—The grantee was unable to obtain consent from the client’s authorized representative. ○ <i>Client was impaired or unable to provide consent</i>—The client was unable to provide consent, typically due to cognitive impairment. ○ <i>Client refused this interview</i>—The client refused to participate in this interview only, and the grantee will try to reach them for the next interview. ○ <i>Client was not reached for interview</i>—For reasons other than consent or refusal issues, the grantee was unable to reach the client to conduct an interview.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Client refused all interviews</i>—The client refused to participate in this and all interviews. If this is selected, you will not be required to submit reassessment data and will not receive notification for the reassessment. However, you will be responsible for submitting an administrative discharge for the client. This includes completing the RECORD MANAGEMENT section, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIAGNOSES section, Section H SERVICES RECEIVED AND CLINICAL DISCHARGE, and possibly Section G if applicable.
Considerations for Grantee Staff	None
Coding Topics	<p><i>Proxy</i> – A person representing someone else or authorized to act on their behalf. A proxy for a NOMs interview does not have to be the legally appointed proxy, but they should have knowledge sufficient to answer most of the questions about the client.</p> <p><i>Cognitive impairment</i> – When a person has trouble remembering, learning new things, concentrating, or making decisions that affect their everyday life. Cognitive impairment ranges from mild to severe and can include but is not limited to amnesia, dementia, and delirium.</p>
Cross-Check Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ <i>For a Baseline</i>—The date of the interview should be on or after the grant start date and the grant target start date, and on or before the current date. The baseline interview date will determine when subsequent reassessment interviews are due. ✓ <i>For a Reassessment</i>—The date of the interview must be after the date of any previous baseline record entered into SPARS. ✓ <i>For a Clinical Discharge</i>—The date of discharge must be after the most recent interview date.
Tool Version Note	[UNCHANGED]

4. [CHILD ONLY] Was the respondent the child or the caregiver?

Answered by	Grantee staff.
Intent/Key Points	<p>The intent of this question is to ascertain if the child or the caregiver is answering the interview questions to inform which prompts to ask in the question.</p> <p>It is preferred that the caregiver be the respondent for any child under the age of 11. For children 11 years or older, the grantee, client, and caregiver can use their best judgement as to who to interview.</p> <p>If possible, it is preferred that the consistency of the respondent is maintained across multiple interviews to address problems related to inter-rater reliability (i.e., if the child is interviewed initially, the child should be interviewed for the duration of their treatment).</p>
Skip Pattern	If the client is an adult (even if the interview is being conducted with a proxy for the adult), this question should be skipped.
Response Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Child</i>—The client responding to the interview is a child, defined as under age 18 or in a child program and meets the program-specific age guidance. ○ <i>Caregiver</i>—The individual responding to the interview is the caregiver for the client who is a child or adolescent that is unable to be interviewed themselves. Caregivers should have knowledge about the child sufficient to answer many or all the questions but, do not need to have parental or guardian rights.
Follow-on Questions	None
Considerations for Grantee Staff	None
Coding Topics	None
Cross-Check Items	None

Tool Version Note

[REVISED] The question has been moved to RECORD MANAGEMENT to help determine which question wording should be administered, such as whether the child or caregiver prompts are appropriate.

Behavioral Health Diagnoses

This section pertains to the client data on screening for trauma and suicide risk assessment and behavioral health diagnoses. The BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIAGNOSES section is **not** asked of the client but is supplied by the grantee and must be filled in for each interview, regardless of whether an interview was conducted.

Section Instructions

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIAGNOSES information is collected by grantee staff at BASELINE, REASSESSMENT, and DISCHARGE, even when an assessment interview is not conducted.

1. Was the client screened or assessed by your program for trauma-related experiences?

1a. *[IF QUESTION 1 IS NO]* Please select why:

1b. *[IF QUESTION 1 IS YES]* Was the screen positive?

Answered by	Grantee staff.
Intent/Key Points	<p>The intent of this question is to reinforce the importance of screening clients for experiences of violence or trauma that may impact their recovery journey. From SAMHSA's perspective, it is critical to promote the linkage to recovery and resilience for those individuals and families impacted by trauma. This information will help in CMHS' overall goal of reducing the behavioral health impacts of violence and trauma.</p> <p>There is no specific required tool for the trauma screening. However, it is preferred that, where possible, grantees use available technical assistance from SAMHSA to select standardized tools that have been validated or adapted for their context; it may be that the grantee needs to select different tools for different populations being served.</p> <p><i>For further guidance:</i> Grantees wanting to learn more about the impact of trauma and available resources are encouraged to start with SAMHSA's Concept of Trauma and Guidance for a Trauma-Informed Approach.¹</p> <p><i>For further guidance:</i> Grantees with clients who are children or adolescents should review resources from the National Child Traumatic Stress Network, whose</p>

¹ [SAMHSA's Concept of Trauma and Guidance for a Trauma-Informed Approach \(SAMHSA's Concept of Trauma and Guidance for a Trauma-Informed Approach\)](#)

	resources include criteria for selecting an appropriate tool and trauma screening checklists for children aged 0 to 5 or 6 to 18. ^{2,3}
Skip Pattern	None
Response Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Yes</i>—The client was screened or assessed by your program for trauma-related experience. ○ <i>No</i>—The client was not screened or assessed by your program for trauma-related experience. ○ <i>DON'T KNOW</i>—Staff is unsure if the client was screened or assessed by your program for trauma-related experience.
Follow-on Questions	<p>If you indicate “No” to Question 1, answer the follow-up question 1a:</p> <p>➤ 1a. Please select why:</p> <p><i>Response Options</i></p> <p>Select one of the following reasons why the screening/assessment was not conducted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>No time during interview</i>—Indicate if a trauma-related screening was not conducted because there was not enough time for the screening during the interview or intake procedures. ○ <i>No training around trauma screening/disclosure</i> – Program staff does not have adequate training around trauma screening and/or disclosure to provide such services. ○ <i>No institutional/organizational policy around screening</i> – Program does not have an institutional or organizational policy around trauma screening procedures and cannot provide such services. ○ <i>No referral network and/or infrastructure for trauma services currently available</i> – Program did not screen or assess client for trauma-related experiences because the program does not have a referral network or infrastructure for trauma services available. ○ <i>Other</i>—Indicate if there is another reason for not conducting a trauma-related screening that is not listed above.

² [Trauma Screening | The National Child Traumatic Stress Network \(https://www.nctsn.org/treatments-and-practices/screening-and-assessments/trauma-screening\)](https://www.nctsn.org/treatments-and-practices/screening-and-assessments/trauma-screening)

³ [Children’s Trauma Assessment Center \(https://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/resources/trauma_screening_checklist_identifying_children_at_risk_0-5.pdf\)](https://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/resources/trauma_screening_checklist_identifying_children_at_risk_0-5.pdf)

	<p>If you indicate “Yes” to Question 1, answer the follow-up question 1b:</p> <p>➤ 1b. Was the screen positive?</p> <p><i>Response Options</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Yes—positive screening ○ No—negative screening ○ <i>DON’T KNOW</i> – Staff is unsure about the results of the screen.
<p>Considerations for Grantee Staff</p>	<p>The information to be answered by grantee staff does not have to be completed during the interview or by the same staff member who is doing the interview. Grantees should consider their clinic and data entry workflows to determine what is the most appropriate means of ensuring that the information about the trauma screening and its result is both available to the interviewer and captured in the NOMs Services tool.</p> <p>SAMHSA’s approach to trauma-informed care seeks to resist re-traumatization of clients as well as staff in screening for trauma and documenting the responses. Similar to the physical health measures, the trauma screening captured in response to this question should be performed within 30 days of the interview. Older screenings should not be captured here, instead, if the screening is more than 30 days prior to the interview, a “No” response should be indicated.</p> <p>For questions in the BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIAGNOSES section, grantee client records should incorporate the information about the trauma screening such as answers to the specific screening process, when it was completed and by whom.</p>
<p>Coding Topics</p>	<p><i>Trauma-related experience</i>—An incident that causes physical, emotional, spiritual, or psychological harm.</p> <p><i>Trauma Screening</i>—Refers to a tool or set of questions that is a brief, focused inquiry to determine whether an individual has experienced one or more traumatic events, has reactions to such events, has specific mental or behavioral health needs, and/or needs a referral for a more comprehensive trauma-informed assessment.</p>
<p>Cross-Check Items</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Tool Version Note</p>	<p>[REVISED] Based on revisions in 2022, questions about trauma and violence from prior versions of NOMs have now been replaced by this question on a trauma screening.</p>

2. Did the client have a positive suicide screen?

2a. *[IF QUESTION 2 IS YES]* Was a suicidal safety plan developed?

2b. *[IF QUESTION 2 IS YES]* Was access to lethal means assessed?

Answered by	Grantee staff.
Intent/Key Points	<p>The intent of this question is to ascertain whether the client had any experience(s) with suicide or thoughts of suicide in the past.</p> <p>There is no specific required tool for the suicide screening. However, it is preferred that, where possible, grantees use available technical assistance from SAMHSA to select standardized tools that have been validated or adapted for their context; it may be that the grantee needs to have different tools selected for different populations being served.</p> <p><i>For further guidance:</i> Grantees wanting to learn more about how to incorporate suicide screening, how to develop a suicidal safety plan or assess access to lethal means are encouraged to start with SAMHSA's Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC) at www.sprc.org.</p>
Skip Pattern	If the answer to this question is “No”, skip to Question 3.
Response Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Yes—The client had a positive suicide screen. ○ No—The client did not have a positive suicide screen. ○ DON'T KNOW—Staff is unsure if the client had a positive suicide screen.
Follow-on Questions	<p>If you indicate “Yes” to Question 2, answer the follow-up question 2a:</p> <p>➤ 2a. Was a suicidal safety plan developed?</p> <p><i>Response Options</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Yes – You developed a suicide safety plan for the client. ○ No – You did not develop a suicide safety plan for the client. ○ DON'T KNOW – Staff is unsure if a suicide safety plan was developed for the client. <p>If you indicate “Yes” to Question 2, answer the follow-up question 2b:</p> <p>➤ 2b. Was access to lethal means assessed?</p> <p><i>Response Options</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Yes – You assessed the client’s access to lethal means.

<p>Considerations for Grantee Staff</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>No</i> – You did not assess the client’s access to lethal means. ○ <i>DON’T KNOW</i> – Staff is unsure if the client’s access to lethal means was assessed. <p>The information to be answered by grantee staff does not have to be completed during the interview or by the same staff member who is doing the interview. Grantees should consider their clinic and data entry workflows to determine what is the most appropriate means of ensuring that the information about the suicide risk screening and its result is both available to the interviewer and captured in the NOMs Services tool.</p> <p>Similar to the physical health measures and trauma screening, the suicide risk screening captured in response to this question should be performed within 30 days of the interview. Older screenings should not be captured here, instead, if the screening is more than 30 days prior to the interview, a “No” response should be indicated.</p> <p>For questions in the BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIAGNOSES section, grantee client records should incorporate the information about the suicide risk screening such as answers specific to the screening process, when it was completed, by whom, and what was the follow-up if required. These grantee client records would be used to inform the completion of this section of the NOMs Services tool. The rule of thumb here is: ‘if it wasn’t documented, it wasn’t done’.</p>
<p>Coding Topics</p>	<p><i>Suicidal safety plan</i>—Suicidal safety planning is a brief, effective, collaborative process in which an individual and provider work together to develop a personalized list of coping strategies the individual can use during times of increased suicide risk; the plan should be documented in the client’s records.</p> <p><i>Assess access to lethal means</i>—Assessing whether a person at risk for suicide has access to a firearm or other lethal means, advising clients with access on specific off-site and in-home secure storage options for firearms and strategies to limit access to dangerous medications, and collaborating with clients and their families to specifically plan to reduce access to lethal means.</p> <p><i>*In these definitions, persons and individuals likely refer to the client.</i></p>
<p>Cross-Check Items</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Tool Version Note</p>	<p>[ADDED] Based on revisions in 2022, this question was added to the BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIAGNOSES section to be reported by grantee staff.</p>

3. Please indicate the client’s current behavioral health diagnoses using the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM) codes listed below, as made by a clinician. Please note that some substance use disorder ICD-10-CM codes have been crosswalked to the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5)* descriptors. Select up to three behavioral health diagnoses from the mental health, Z-codes, and substance use diagnoses below.

If no mental health diagnosis, select reason:

Answered by	Grantee staff.
Intent/Key Points	<p>The intent of this question is to gather diagnostic information about client behavioral health diagnoses using the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, 10th revision, Clinical Modification (ICD 10 CM).</p> <p>Identify the client’s current behavioral health diagnoses using ICD-10-CM codes, as made by a clinician. Up to three diagnoses can be selected.</p> <p>Grantee staff report this information without asking the client. It is completed at baseline, reassessment, and clinical discharge whether or not an interview was conducted with the client.</p> <p>The client’s behavioral health diagnoses must be made by a licensed clinician. However, non-clinical staff are permitted to report the client’s diagnoses to complete Question 3.</p>
Skip Pattern	<p>If this is a BASELINE interview:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">If an interview was conducted, go to DEMOGRAPHIC DATA.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">If an interview was not conducted, go to Section G (if applicable) or STOP HERE.</p> <p>If this is a REASSESSMENT:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">If an interview was conducted, go to Section A FUNCTIONING.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">If an interview was not conducted, go to Section G (if applicable) or Section H SERVICES RECEIVED AND CLINICAL DISCHARGE.</p> <p>If this is a CLINICAL DISCHARGE:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">If an interview was conducted, go to Section A FUNCTIONING.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">If an interview was not conducted, go to Section G (if applicable) or Section H SERVICES RECEIVED AND CLINICAL DISCHARGE.</p>

Response Options	<p>If there are any behavioral health diagnoses, select up to three:</p> <p>Record the appropriate code(s) listed. Select up to three ICD-10-CM codes from the mental health, substance use, and “Z”-code sections. If more than three codes apply, please indicate the codes most relevant to the client’s participation in SAMHSA-funded services.</p> <p>For further guidance: Consult the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition (DSM-5) ⁴, for specific diagnostic criteria and accompanying ICD-10-CM codes for the appropriate substance use and mental health disorder diagnosis to be assigned to the client. Please consult a licensed mental health clinician or other diagnostic expert to provide appropriate diagnoses and the appropriate diagnostic code(s) for client.</p>
Follow-on Questions	<p>If no mental health diagnosis, select reason:</p> <p>Select one of the following reasons why there is no mental health diagnosis selected.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>No clinician assessment</i>—There was no assessment conducted by a licensed clinician. A licensed clinician assessment is not a requirement for every SAMHSA program or client, use this response to indicate if one was not available at the time of the interview. ○ <i>High risk factors requiring intervention and not yet meeting criteria for a DSM/ICD diagnosis</i>—While the client does not meet criteria for a DSM/ICD-10 diagnosis, the intervention was determined to be necessary. ○ <i>Only met criteria for a “Z” code</i>—Did not meet any of the ICD-10-CM diagnoses listed but the client symptoms warranting treatment were described using a “Z” code below. ○ <i>Other (please specify)</i>—None of the above reasons for no mental health diagnosis apply.
Considerations for Grantee Staff	<p>The ICD-10-CM is a classification code set for categorizing diagnoses and the reason for visits in all healthcare settings which is mandated for medical coding for anyone covered under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).⁵</p>

⁴ American Psychiatric Association. (2022). Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders (5th ed., text rev.). <https://doi.org/10.1176/appi.books.9780890425787>

Coding updates to DSM-5 <https://www.psychiatry.org/psychiatrists/practice/dsm/updates-to-dsm/coding-updates/2021-coding-updates>

⁵ Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, “ICD 10” <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/ICD10>.

	<p>A behavioral health diagnosis (and its corresponding ICD-10 code) are NOT required for a client to be eligible to receive SAMHSA grant-funded services. If a diagnosis has been made, it should be documented here using the standard coding.</p>
Coding Topics	<p>While “Z” codes are included in the ICD-10-CM classifications, they are an encounter reason code used to document social determinants of health (SDOH), not a diagnosis. Therefore, “Z” codes can be selected “based on self-reported data and/or information documented by any member of the care team” if their documentation is included in the client record.⁶</p>
Cross-Check Items	<p>If only an ICD-10-CM code from the “Z” code sections is applicable, then please select the code and additionally indicate this above under the follow-up question “If no mental health diagnosis”.</p> <p>If at least one mental health diagnosis was selected, please skip the follow-on question “If no mental health diagnosis”.</p> <p>If a client has both at least one mental health diagnosis and at least one “Z” code, then please indicate both and skip the follow-on question “If no mental health diagnosis”.</p>
Tool Version Note	<p>[REVISED] Based on revisions in 2022, this question has new and expanded diagnoses options for clinicians to select. For example, some diagnoses that have been grouped in the previous version are now listed separately. Other changes updated the wording of the ICD-10-CM codes to reflect updated guidance for the coding. In addition, the behavioral health diagnoses no longer have to be classified as primary, secondary, and tertiary.</p>

⁶ Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, “Using Z Codes: The Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Data Journey to Better Health” <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/zcodes-infographic.pdf>.

Demographic Data

This section pertains to client demographic information. This section is only asked at baseline. Introduce the section to the client or caregiver, for example by saying: “This first section asks about you and how you perceive yourself.”

Section Instructions

DEMOGRAPHIC DATA information is asked of the client at BASELINE when an interview is conducted.

Please ask the questions and mark the response given by the client or the caregiver. While some of the information may seem apparent, **ask all questions** for verification. Do not complete a response based on the client’s appearance or the interviewers’ assumptions. If the client refuses to answer a question, mark the **REFUSED** option (where applicable), and go to the next question. Do not read response options in ALL CAPS.

1. What do you consider yourself to be? [READ CHOICES.]

Answered by	Client.
Intent/Key Points	<p>The intent of the question is to determine the client’s self-reported gender identity. For this item, read the question and response options ranging from “Male” to “Gender non-conforming” and record the client’s answer, not the interviewer’s opinion.</p> <p><i>For further guidance:</i> Grantees wishing to learn more about why questions of gender identity are important, how gender identity differs from sex assigned at birth, or how to ask clients respectfully about their gender identity may want to start with SAMHSA’s LGBTQ+ Behavioral Health Equity Center of Excellence.⁷ Resources include a brief video defining common terms.⁸</p>
Skip Pattern	<p>If the client refuses to answer this question, mark REFUSED and continue to Question 2.</p> <p>If interviewing a caregiver, skip this question and continue to Question 3.</p>
Response Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Male</i> ○ <i>Female</i>

⁷ <https://lgbtquequity.org/>

⁸ [Learning About Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Expression | SAMHSA](https://www.samhsa.gov/resource/dbhis/learning-about-sexual-orientation-gender-identity-expression)
(<https://www.samhsa.gov/resource/dbhis/learning-about-sexual-orientation-gender-identity-expression>)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Transgender (Male to Female)</i> ○ <i>Transgender (Female to Male)</i> ○ <i>Gender non-conforming</i> ○ <i>OTHER (Specify)</i>—The client identifies a category that is not listed. ○ <i>REFUSED</i>—The client refuses to provide an answer to the question.
Follow-on Questions	None
Additional Probes	<p>If the client does not understand or asks what is meant by gender identity, you may clarify the question by asking if they prefer to be seen or if they see themselves as a man or male, woman or female, transgender (male to female), transgender (female to male), gender non-conforming, or other. If the client identifies a category that is not listed, mark OTHER and record the response in the space provided. Interviewers should not pressure clients to fit their expressed identity into the categories listed, OTHER can be used if the client expresses a gender not listed.</p> <p>PLEASE NOTE: Some clients may be uncomfortable providing this information about their identity and it is important that you reassure the client that their answers are confidential and will not be linked to their name.</p> <p>Do not complete a response based on the assumptions from the client's appearance; ask this question of every client and record their response.</p> <p>The question is not about the caregiver's gender identity, but rather the client. A caregiver may be asked the question about their child, but they may also not know and not be able to answer the question. The question can be skipped or REFUSED if the caregiver is unable to answer.</p>
Coding Topics	<i>Gender identity</i> —A person's sense, belief, and expression of themselves, which may differ from sex assigned at birth, sex documented on identity documents, or physical characteristics.
Cross-Check Items	None
Tool Version Note	[REVISED] Based on revisions in 2022, this question has expanded response options to select from to allow for more inclusivity. In addition, this question should now have all answer options read to the client except OTHER and REFUSED.

2. Do you think of yourself as...

Answered by	Client.
Intent/Key Points	<p><i>“Current disparities and disproportionalities data on LGBTQ+ communities highlight the importance of more tailored and culturally responsive substance use and mental health services throughout the lifespan. This data has shown that LGBTQ+ populations of all ages disproportionately experience more instances of mental health and substance use disorders, suicidality, and poor wellbeing outcomes compared to their heterosexual and cisgender peers. Intersectionality is an important consideration when serving LGBTQ+ populations, considering age as well as race, ethnicity, socio-economic status, and ability.”⁹</i></p> <p>The intent of the question is to determine the client’s sexual orientation. For this item, read the question and response choices from “Straight or Heterosexual” to “Something Else? Please Specify.” Record the response given by the client, not the interviewer’s opinion.</p> <p>If the client identifies a category that is not listed, mark “Something Else? Please Specify” and record the response in the space provided.</p> <p>PLEASE NOTE: Question 2 may be considered a sensitive question. Some clients may be uncomfortable providing this information. As a reminder, it is important that you reassure the client that their answers are confidential and will not be linked to their name in any way.</p> <p>The question is not about the caregiver’s sexual orientation, but rather the client. A caregiver may be asked the question about their child, but they may also not know as the child may not have yet expressed a sexual orientation, or for other reasons the caregiver may not be able to answer the question. The question can be skipped or REFUSED if the caregiver is unable to answer.</p>
Skip Pattern	<p>If the client refuses to answer this question, mark REFUSED and continue to Question 3.</p> <p>If interviewing a caregiver, skip this question and continue to Question 3.</p>
Response Options	Select one of the following:

⁹ <https://lgbtquequity.org>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Straight or Heterosexual</i>—Generally used to refer to a man who is primarily attracted to women or a woman who is primarily attracted to men. ○ <i>Homosexual (Gay Or Lesbian)</i>—A person who is attracted primarily to members of the same gender. Gay is most frequently used to describe men who are attracted primarily to other men, although it can be used for men and women. Lesbian is most frequently used to describe women who are attracted primarily to other women. ○ <i>Bisexual</i>—People who may be attracted to both individuals of the same or different sex and/or gender identity ○ <i>Queer</i>—Queer is a reclaimed umbrella term commonly used to define lesbian, gay, bi, Trans, and others. ○ <i>Pansexual</i>—Pansexual refers to a person who is attracted to people regardless of their gender and/or sexual identity. ○ <i>Questioning</i>—Questioning can be used to refer to someone who is in the process of exploring their sexual identity. ○ <i>Asexual</i>—An umbrella term used to refer to those on the asexuality spectrum including but not limited to those who feel little to no sexual attraction for others, people who experience sexual attraction in the presence of an emotional connection, people who identify between sexual and asexual, and people who experience non-romantic relationships. ○ <i>Something Else? Please Specify</i>—The client identifies a category that is not listed. ○ <i>REFUSED</i>—The client refuses to provide an answer to the question.
Follow-on Questions	None
Additional Probes	Respondents may be uncomfortable answering this question or may express confusion over which response option to choose. Remind respondents that all answers will be kept private. Ask them to choose the response that best describes them as an individual; there is no right or wrong answer.
Coding Topics	<i>Sexual orientation</i> —Describes the emotional, romantic, and/or physical feelings of attraction-usually over a period of time; it is distinct from sexual behavior.
Cross-Check Items	None

Tool Version Note

[REVISED] Based on revisions in 2022, this question has expanded response options to select from to be more inclusive.

3. Are you [is your child] Hispanic, Latino/a, or of Spanish origin?

3a. [IF QUESTION 3 IS YES] What ethnic group do you [your child] consider yourself [themselves]? You may indicate more than one.

Answered by	Client or caregiver.
Intent/Key Points	The intent of the question is to determine whether the client is Hispanic, Latino/a, or of Spanish origin—and, if Hispanic/Latino/Spanish Origin, of which ethnic group they consider themselves. The answer is a self-report, there is no right or wrong answer.
Skip Pattern	If the answer to Question 3 is “No”, skip to Question 4.
Response Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Yes—The client is of Hispanic/Latino/Spanish origin. ○ No—The client is not of Hispanic/Latino/Spanish origin.
Follow-on Questions	<p>If you indicate “Yes” to Question 3, answer the follow-up question 3a:</p> <p>➤ What ethnic group do you [your child] consider yourself [themselves]?</p> <p><i>Response Options</i></p> <p>Read the available ethnic group response options and allow the respondent to answer YES or NO to each. Multiple selections are allowed. If the client identifies a group that is not represented on the list, select OTHER and record their response in the space provided.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Central American</i> ○ <i>Cuban</i> ○ <i>Dominican</i> ○ <i>Mexican</i> ○ <i>Puerto Rican</i> ○ <i>South American</i> ○ <i>OTHER (Specify)—Capture the client or caregiver response</i> ○ <i>REFUSED</i>—The client refuses to provide an answer to the question.

Additional Probes	<p>The question is not about the caregiver’s ethnic identity, but rather the client. A caregiver may be asked the question about their child, but they may also not know and not be able to answer the question. The question can be skipped or REFUSED if the caregiver is unable to answer.</p> <p>You may need to assure the client that this question is not about US citizenship or where a person was born and does not affect their eligibility for the program. Do not complete a response based on the assumptions from the client’s appearance or preferred language; ask this question of every client and record their response or REFUSED.</p>
Coding Topics	None
Cross-Check Items	<p>If the client responded “No” to Question 3, do not read Question 3a.</p> <p>The client cannot indicate NO for all ethnic groups in Question 3a if they have responded YES to being Hispanic, Latino/a, or of Spanish origin, unless they provide a response of OTHER or REFUSED.</p>
Tool Version Note	[UNCHANGED]

4. What is your [your child's] race? You may indicate more than one.

Answered by	Client or caregiver.
Intent/Key Points	<p>The intent of the question is to determine what race the client considers themselves. Record the response given by the client, not the interviewer's opinion.</p> <p>Read the available race response options and allow the respondent to answer YES or NO to each. Ask this question to all clients, even those who identified themselves as Hispanic, Latino/a, or of Spanish Origin. If the client identifies a race that is not represented on the list, select OTHER and record their response in the space provided.</p>
Skip Pattern	None
Response Options	<p>Select one or more of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Black or African American</i> ○ <i>White</i> ○ <i>American Indian</i> ○ <i>Alaska Native</i> ○ <i>South Asian</i> ○ <i>Chinese</i> ○ <i>Filipino</i> ○ <i>Japanese</i> ○ <i>Korean</i> ○ <i>Vietnamese</i> ○ <i>Other Asian</i> ○ <i>Native Hawaiian</i> ○ <i>Guamanian or Chamorro</i> ○ <i>Samoan</i> ○ <i>Other Pacific Islander</i> ○ <i>OTHER (Specify)</i>—The client identifies a category that is not listed. ○ <i>REFUSED</i>—The client refuses to provide an answer to the question.
Follow-on Questions	None
Additional Probes	The question is not about the caregiver's racial identity, but rather the client. A caregiver may be asked the question about their child, but they may also not know

and not be able to answer the question. The question can be skipped or REFUSED if the caregiver is unable to answer.

You may need to assure the client that this question is not about US citizenship or where a person was born and does not affect their eligibility for the program. Do not complete a response based on the assumptions from the client's appearance or preferred language; ask this question of every client (or caregiver) and record their response or REFUSED.

Coding Topics

None

Cross-Check Items

None

Tool Version Note

[REVISED] Based on revisions in 2022, this question has expanded answers to include more race options and reduce the use of the other write in category. Grantees should answer the question as written and not try to 'map' the races to different groupings, for example if in a previous or grantee-specific tool two or more races were combined that are now separated out.

5. [IF CLIENT 5 YEARS OLD OR OLDER] Do you [does your child] speak a language other than English at home?

5a. [IF CLIENT 5 YEARS OLD OR OLDER] [IF QUESTION 5 IS YES] What is this language?

Answered by	Client or caregiver of client 5 years old or older.
Intent/Key Points	<p><i>“Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) [are] a way to improve the quality of services provided to all individuals, which will ultimately help reduce health disparities and achieve health equity. CLAS is about respect and responsiveness: Respect the whole individual and Respond to the individual’s health needs and preferences.”¹⁰</i></p> <p>This question is intended to ascertain whether a different language is spoken in the home and used to identify vulnerable populations which may be at disproportionate risk of experiencing limitations in health care access, poor health quality, and suboptimal health outcomes.</p> <p>The question is not asked to caregivers about young children as they are still developing language skills.</p>
Skip Pattern	If the answer to Question 5 is “No”, skip the follow-up Question 5a, “What is this language?”
Response Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Yes—The client speaks a language other than English at home. ○ No—The client does not speak a language other than English at home. ○ NOT APPLICABLE—If the client is under 5 years old.
Follow-on Questions	<p>If you indicate “Yes” to Question 5, answer the follow-up question 5a:</p> <p>➤ 5a. What is this language?</p> <p><i>Response Options</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Spanish ○ OTHER (Specify)—The client speaks a language other than Spanish at home.

¹⁰ [Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services – Think Cultural Health \(https://thinkculturalhealth.hhs.gov/clas\)](https://thinkculturalhealth.hhs.gov/clas)

Additional Probes	<p>PLEASE NOTE: Client may feel uncomfortable answering. If a client refuses to answer, staff can continue to the next question on the paper tool by leaving it blank and should record it as MISSING in SPARS.</p> <p>You may need to assure the client that this question is not about US citizenship or where a person was born and does not affect their eligibility for the program. Do not complete a response based on the assumptions from the client's ethnicity or race.</p> <p>At this point in the interview, if you have capacity to offer services in different languages, you may want to identify if the client or caregiver prefers to continue in the language spoken at home. A Spanish translation of the NOMs Client-Level Services tool (https://spars.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/2022-09/CMHSNOMSToolSpanish.pdf) is posted on SPARS.</p>
Coding Topics	None
Cross-Check Items	<p>Note that Question 5a is different in the English and Spanish versions of the NOMs Services tool. In the English version, Spanish is offered as an option and then OTHER. In the Spanish version, English is offered as an option and then OTHER. See the codebook for further information on how to ensure these responses do not overwrite each other in data entry and upload.</p>
Tool Version Note	<p>[ADDED] Based on revisions in 2022, this question was added to the DEMOGRAPHIC DATA section.</p>

6. [ADULT ONLY] Have you ever served in the Armed Forces, the Reserves, or the National Guard?

Answered by	Client older than 16 years of age.
Intent/Key Points	<p>The intent is to determine whether the client (if over 16 years old) ever served in a military force. While the question was written from the perspective of the U.S. military, any military service in any country should be captured here as the culture and experiences may have similar behavioral health needs to those from other armed forces. This information will allow CMHS to better serve military families through service coordination between SAMHSA and other federal agencies.</p> <p>A caregiver prompt was not included in this question. If a caregiver is responding for a child or adolescent who is at least 17 years old, please note that the response should refer to the client and not the caregiver.</p> <p><i>For further guidance:</i> SAMHSA stakeholders and grantees can receive technical assistance on the behavioral health needs of service members, veterans, and their families through the SAMHSA Service Members, Veterans, and their Families Technical Assistance (SMVF TA) Center.¹¹</p>
Skip Pattern	<p>If the answer to Question 6 was “No,” DON’T KNOW, or NOT APPLICABLE, go to Section A FUNCTIONING.</p> <p>If the client is under 17 years old, select NOT APPLICABLE and go to Section A FUNCTIONING.</p>
Response Options	<p>Select one of the following response options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Yes</i> – The client has served in the military, regardless of whether that is on a part-time (e.g., Reserves) or full-time basis. ○ <i>No</i> – The client has never served in the military, regardless of whether that is on a part-time (e.g., Reserves) or full-time basis. ○ <i>DON’T KNOW</i> – The client is unsure if they ever served in the military, regardless of whether that is on a part-time (e.g., Reserves) or full-time basis. ○ <i>NOT APPLICABLE</i> – The client is under 17 years old.

¹¹ [Service Members, Veterans, and their Families Technical Assistance \(SMVF TA\) Center | SAMHSA \(https://www.samhsa.gov/smvf-ta-center\)](https://www.samhsa.gov/smvf-ta-center)

Follow-on Questions	None
Additional Probes	<p>This question is asking if the client has “ever” served in the military. Any and all forms of military service can be included as a positive response for this question. Military service would include any and all branches, any length of service, any discharge status, and any role in the military.</p> <p>Clients may ask about service in civilian law enforcement, police officers, or other civilian security jobs; these should not be included as military service for this question.</p>
Coding Topics	<p><i>Armed Forces</i>—A country’s military forces. The U.S. armed forces include the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Space Force, and Coast Guard.</p> <p><i>Reserves</i>—A member of the military that typically serves on a part-time basis and are meant to augment the needs of the active-duty force in times of conflict or declared war.</p> <p><i>National Guard</i>—A member of a state or territory force whose primary mission is to defend and respond to needs in that state or territory but can also be activated for federal duty.</p>
Cross-Check Items	None
Tool Version Note	[REVISED] Based on revisions in 2022, this question was moved from the Military Family and Deployment section to the DEMOGRAPHIC DATA section and simplified by removing the follow up question specifying which mission.

7. [ADULT ONLY] [IF QUESTION 6 IS YES] Are you currently serving on active duty in the Armed Forces, the Reserves, or the National Guard?

Answered by	Client older than 16 years of age.
Intent/Key Points	<p>The intent is to determine the client's (if over 16 years old) current military status (at time of interview).</p> <p>This question differs from Question 6 in focusing specifically on active status. Clients who have been discharged for any reason or have retired would respond "No" to Question 7.</p> <p><i>For further guidance:</i> SAMHSA stakeholders and grantees can receive technical assistance on the behavioral health needs of service members, veterans, and their families through the SAMHSA Service Members, Veterans, and their Families Technical Assistance (SMVF TA) Center.¹²</p>
Skip Pattern	If the client is under 17 years old, go to Section A FUNCTIONING.
Response Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Yes</i>—The client is currently serving in the military, regardless of whether that is on a part-time (e.g., Reserves) or full-time basis. ○ <i>No</i>—The client is not currently serving in the military, regardless of whether that is on a part-time (e.g., Reserves) or full-time basis. ○ <i>REFUSED</i>—The client refuses to provide an answer to the question. ○ <i>DON'T KNOW</i>—The client is unsure if they are or are not serving in the military, regardless of whether that is on a part-time (e.g., Reserves) or full-time basis.
Follow-on Questions	None
Additional Probes	If the client responded to Question 6 by using the past tense or indicating they had served many years ago, for example in the Vietnam war, you may prompt further to explore if the service is active.
Coding Topics	<i>Active Duty</i> —The client is currently serving in the military, regardless of whether that is on a part-time (e.g., Reserves) or full-time basis. Active duty

¹² [Service Members, Veterans, and their Families Technical Assistance \(SMVF TA\) Center | SAMHSA \(https://www.samhsa.gov/smvf-ta-center\)](https://www.samhsa.gov/smvf-ta-center)

Cross-Check Items

applies regardless of whether the service member is deployed to a foreign location or not.

Any and all forms of military service can be included as a positive response for this question. Military service would include any and all branches, any length of service, any deployment experience, and any role in the military.

Clients may ask about service in civilian law enforcement, police officers, or other civilian security jobs; these should not be included as military service for this question.

Tool Version Note

[REVISED] Based on revisions in 2022, this question was moved from the Military Family and Deployment section to the DEMOGRAPHIC DATA section and simplified by removing the follow up question.

A. Functioning

This section pertains to issues of emotional/mental health and daily functioning. Introduce the section to the client or caregiver, for example by saying: “This section of the interview asks about your day-to-day functioning.”

The scales in this section ask the client to report on their perception of their current mental health and daily functioning. Do not read NO RESPONSE/REFUSED as options.

Section Instructions

Section A FUNCTIONING information is asked of the client at BASELINE, REASSESSMENT, and DISCHARGE when an interview is conducted.

Please ask the questions and mark the response given by the client or the caregiver. If the client refuses to answer a question, mark the REFUSED option (where applicable), and go to the next question. Do not read response options in ALL CAPS.

1. How would you rate your [your child’s] overall mental health right now?

Answered by	Client or caregiver.
Intent/Key Points	<p>The intent is to determine information about the client’s self-report of their overall mental health status at the time of the interview. This question applies to emotional and/or mental health.</p> <p>For this item, read the question and response choices ranging from “Excellent” to “Poor” and record the client’s answer.</p>
Skip Pattern	None
Response Options	<p>Select one of the following response options</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> <i>Excellent</i> <input type="radio"/> <i>Very Good</i> <input type="radio"/> <i>Good</i> <input type="radio"/> <i>Fair</i> <input type="radio"/> <i>Poor</i> <input type="radio"/> <i>NO RESPONSE/REFUSED</i>
Follow-on Questions	None

Additional Probes	If needed, clarify that the question refers to emotional and/or mental health, not physical health. Acknowledge that the two may be related but encourage the client or caregiver to consider their emotions and feelings in responding. Mental health is not defined as the absence of mental illness, rather it is a person's condition regarding their resilience, psychological and emotional well-being.
Coding Topics	None
Cross-Check Items	None
Tool Version Note	[REVISED] Based on revisions in 2022, this question has been revised to refer to mental health only rather than overall health or physical health.

2. To provide the best mental health and related services, we need to know how well you were [your child was] able to deal with everyday life during the past 30 [thirty] days.

Please indicate your [your child's] response to each of the following statements:

During the past 30 [thirty] days...

2a. I am [my child is] handling daily life.

2b. I am [my child is] able to deal with unexpected events in my [their] life.

2c. I [my child does] get along with friends and other people.

2d. I [my child does] get along with family members.

2e. I do [my child does] well in social situations.

2f. I do [my child does] well in school and/or work.

2g. I have [my child has] a safe place to live.

Answered by	Client or caregiver.
Intent/Key Points	<p>The intent is to determine information about the client's recent functioning. Ask specifically about how the client was able to deal with everyday life during "the past 30 calendar days." Do not use "in the past month" as a substitute—this may lead to confusion and inaccurate responses. For example, if the interview occurs on May 15, the last 30 calendar days covers April 15–May 15.</p> <p>Read the instructions and then each statement followed by the response options of "Yes" or "No". It is important to read all the functioning statements (items A2a–A2g) regardless of whether the client refuses to respond to one of the statements.</p>
Skip Pattern	None
Response Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Yes</i>—The client agrees with the statement about their social supports and living conditions within the past 30 days. ○ <i>No</i>—The client disagrees with the statement about their social supports and living conditions within the past 30 days. ○ <i>NO RESPONSE/REFUSED</i>— The client refused to provide an answer or there was no response given.
Follow-on Questions	None

<p>Additional Probes</p>	<p>If needed, can provide some of the following probes and clarifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clarify that the mental health and related services refer to services and, treatment that are provided as a result of the grant. These services may include those pertaining to physical health, housing, employment, criminal or juvenile justice involvement, child welfare, education, social and family relationships, independent living skills, peer support, financial well-being, etc. ○ Daily life means doing the things that happen routinely in our lives such as making sure we wake up, take meals, go to school or work, and do basic tasks. ○ Unexpected events may be hearing surprising news or managing despite severe weather. ○ Family members can include the broader family, not only those that live with the client. ○ Examples of social situations include having to attend a parent-teacher meeting or being invited to a dinner or party at a friend or colleague's house. ○ Doing well in school or work is relative to the individual; it does not have to mean all A's or a promotion. ○ Having a safe place to live is about where the client lives now rather than what they own. <p>If the client is having trouble remembering, start with the past week and work backward in small increments.</p> <p>If needed, remind clients that the answer options are "Yes" and "No" so they should select what they feel best represents their experience.</p>
<p>Coding Topics</p>	<p>If the client refuses to answer a question, mark the NO RESPONSE/REFUSED option, and continue with the next sub-question in A2.</p>
<p>Cross-Check Items</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Tool Version Note</p>	<p>[REVISED] Based on revisions in 2022, each statement has been revised and answer options have been simplified to "Yes" or "No" rather than ranging from "Strongly disagree" to "Strongly agree". This allows the interview to take less time and the client to identify their answer more easily.</p>

3. The following questions ask about how you have [your child has] been feeling during the past 30 [thirty] days. Please indicate your [your child's] response to each question:

During the past 30 [thirty] days did you [your child] feel ...

3a. Nervous?

3b. Hopeless?

3c. Restless or fidgety?

3d. So depressed that nothing could cheer you [your child] up?

3e. That everything was an effort?

3f. Worthless?

3g. Bothered by psychological or emotional problems?

Answered by	Client or caregiver.
Intent/Key Points	<p>The intent is to assess if the client experienced psychological distress within the past 30 days and if the client was bothered by these problems.</p> <p>Read the instructions and then each statement followed by the response options of "Yes" or "No". It is important to read all the functioning statements (items A3a–A3g) regardless of whether the client refuses to respond to one of the statements.</p>
Skip Pattern	None
Response Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Yes</i>—The client agrees that they have felt the indicated feeling in the past 30 days. ○ <i>No</i>— The client does not think that they have felt the indicated feeling in the past 30 days. ○ <i>NO RESPONSE/REFUSED</i>—The client refuses to provide an answer or there was no response given.
Follow-on Questions	None
Additional Probes	<p>If the client is having trouble remembering, start with the past week and work backward in small increments.</p> <p>If needed, remind clients that the answer options are "Yes" and "No" so they should select what they feel best represents their experience.</p>

Coding Topics	If the client refuses to answer a question, mark the NO RESPONSE/REFUSED option, and continue with the next sub-question in A3.
Cross-Check Items	None
Tool Version Note	[REVISED] Based on revisions in 2022, answer options have been simplified to “Yes” or “No” rather than ranging from “All of the time” to “None of the time” or “Not at all” to “Extremely”.

B. Stability in Housing

Section B is asked at all interviews. This section pertains to the client's housing situation in the past 30 calendar days. Introduce the section to the client or caregiver, for example by saying: "Now I am going to ask about your [your child's] housing situation."

Section Instructions

Section B STABILITY IN HOUSING information is asked of the client at BASELINE, REASSESSMENT, and DISCHARGE when an interview is conducted.

Please ask the questions and mark the response given by the client or the caregiver. If the client refuses to answer a question, mark the REFUSED option (where applicable), and go to the next question. Do not read response options in ALL CAPS.

1. In the past 30 [thirty] days, have you [has your child] ...

1a. Been homeless?

1b. Spent time in a hospital for mental health care?

1c. Spent time in a facility for detox/inpatient or residential substance abuse disorder?

1d. Spent time in a correctional facility (e.g., jail, prison, [juvenile] facility)?

1e. Gone to an emergency room for a mental health or emotional problem?

1f. Been satisfied with the conditions of your living space?

Answered by	Client or caregiver.
Intent/Key Points	The intent of these questions is to determine the client's ability to maintain life within the community during the past 30 days. Read each question and record if the client spent time in each type of setting.
Skip Pattern	None
Response Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Yes</i>—The client indicates that the statement has applied to them in the past 30 days. ○ <i>No</i>—The client indicates that the statement has not applied to them in the past 30 days. ○ <i>NO RESPONSE/REFUSED</i>—The client refused to provide an answer or there was no response given.
Follow-on Questions	None

Additional Probes	If the client is having trouble remembering, start with the past week and work backward in small increments.
Coding Topics	<p><i>Homeless</i>—Defined as living in a shelter, on the street (in cars, vans, or trucks), outdoors, or in a park.</p> <p><i>Hospital for mental health care</i>—Defined as a hospital for the care and treatment of patients affected with acute or chronic mental illness; includes a stay in the psychiatric ward of a general hospital. Do not count veterans’ hospitals.</p> <p><i>Detox/inpatient or residential substance abuse treatment facility</i>—Defined as a medically supervised treatment program for alcohol or drug addiction designed to purge the body of intoxicating or addictive substances.</p> <p><i>Correctional facility (Jail, prison, [juvenile] facility)</i>—Defined as living in lockup and/or holding cells in courts or other locations, in addition to living in a prison facility.</p> <p><i>Emergency Room</i>—The department of a hospital that provides immediate treatment for acute illnesses and trauma. It also includes urgent care or care outside of normal hours without an appointment.</p>
Cross-Check Items	None
Tool Version Note	[REVISED] Based on revisions in 2022, answer options have been simplified to “Yes” or “No” rather than asking about the number of nights.

2. In the past 30 [thirty] days, where have you [has your child] been living most of the time?

Answered by	Client or caregiver
Intent/Key Points	<p>The intent is to determine the client’s housing stability during the past 30 calendar days. Read the item as an open-ended question and then code the client’s response in the category that best matches their response.</p> <p>Fifteen or more calendar days is considered most of the time.</p>
Skip Pattern	None
Response Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>PRIVATE RESIDENCE</i>—Count living in a room, boarding house, public or subsidized housing, hotel/motel, room at the YMCA/YWCA, and living in an RV or trailer. ○ <i>FOSTER HOME</i>—Count living in a standard foster care arrangement with or without a standard treatment component. Count living in a private home with care provided by foster care parents. ○ <i>RESIDENTIAL CARE</i>—Count living in a residential facility that provides long-term care given to adults or children who stay in a residential setting rather than in their own home or family home. ○ <i>CRISIS RESIDENCE</i>—Crisis residence provides 24-hour rapid crisis stabilization and multi-disciplinary evaluation for individuals who do not meet criteria for an acute or subacute inpatient level of care but need help transitioning to community services and supports (i.e., connect with case manager, outpatient, etc.). ○ <i>RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT CENTER</i>—Count living in a live-in health care facility providing therapy for substance use disorders, mental illness, or other behavioral problems. ○ <i>INSTITUTIONAL SETTING</i>—Count hospitalization or other institutions not listed as a response option as “institution”. ○ <i>JAIL/CORRECTIONAL FACILITY</i>—Count living in lockup and/or holding cells in courts or other locations, in addition to living in a juvenile detention center or “youth only” correctional facility with high structure and supervision. ○ <i>HOMELESS/SHELTER</i>—Count living in a shelter, on the street (in cars, vans, or trucks), outdoors, or in a park. ○ <i>OTHER (SPECIFY)</i>—The client provides an answer that does fall into the any of the listed categories. Please capture the specific response from the client. ○ <i>DON’T KNOW</i>—The client does not know where they have been living most of the time.

Follow-on Questions	None
Additional Probes	If the client asks what is meant by “Where they have been living most of the time”, explain that it means where they have been staying or spending their nights. If the client is having trouble remembering, start with the past evening and work backward in small increments (i.e., “Where did you sleep last night?”, “Where did you sleep most of last week?”).
Coding Topics	<p>Mark only one response. If the client has been living in more than one place for the past 30 calendar days, count where they have been living for 15 or more calendar days or where they have been living the longest.</p> <p>If the client reports that they have been living in two different places for 15 calendar days each, record the most recent living arrangement.</p> <p>If the client or caregiver response seems to fit more than one response, for example that they have been ‘institutionalized in a correctional facility’, choose the most specific response option, for example ‘JAIL/CORRECTIONAL FACILITY’.</p>
Cross-Check Items	None
Tool Version Note	[REVISED] Based on revisions in 2022, answer options have been revised by combining previous answer options together to simplify and clarify answer options.

C. Education and Employment

Section C is asked at all interviews. This section pertains to the client's education and employment status. Introduce the section to the client or caregiver, for example by saying to a caregiver of a child: "This next section is going to ask about school."

Section Instructions

Section C EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT information is asked of the client at BASELINE, REASSESSMENT, and DISCHARGE when an interview is conducted.

Please ask the questions and mark the response given by the client or the caregiver. If the client refuses to answer a question, mark the REFUSED option (where applicable), and go to the next question. Do not read response options in ALL CAPS.

1. Are you [is your child] currently enrolled in school or a job training program?

Answered by	Client or caregiver.
Intent/Key Points	The intent is to determine whether the client is currently involved in an educational or job training program.
Skip Pattern	None
Response Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Yes</i>—The client is currently enrolled in school or a job training program. ○ <i>No</i>—The client is not currently enrolled in school or a job training program. ○ <i>NO RESPONSE/REFUSED</i>—The client refuses to provide an answer to the question or give another response.
Follow-on Questions	None
Additional Probes	<p>If clarity is needed, job training programs can include apprenticeships, internships, or formal training for a trade.</p> <p>Persons are enrolled in a job training program or GED while at a correctional facility can be counted as Yes.</p>
Coding Topics	<i>Job training program</i> —Programs to improve employment prospects for adults, youth and dislocated workers. These programs aim to improve an individual's employability and earnings.

Cross-Check Items

None

Tool Version Note

[REVISED] Based on revisions in 2022, response options have been simplified by removing the clarification about full or part time and the question was merged across the adult and child versions.

4. In the past 30 [thirty] days, did you have enough money to meet your [your child's] needs?

Answered by	Client or caregiver.
Intent/Key Points	<p>The intent is to determine whether the person responsible for providing basic needs (e.g., housing, food, gas or bus fare) believes they have enough money to do so. Basic needs do not include having money for discretionary or extra spending.</p> <p>This question is not asked of a child unless they are emancipated or living on their own.</p>
Skip Pattern	If the respondent is a child who is emancipated or living on their own, and the child is responding to the interview, skip to Section D CRIME AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE STATUS.
Response Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Yes</i>—The client or caregiver feels they have had enough money to meet their [their child's] needs in the past 30 days. ○ <i>No</i>—The client or caregiver feels they have not had enough money to meet their [their child's] needs in the past 30 days. ○ NO RESPONSE/REFUSED—The client refuses to answer or provides no response to the question.
Follow-on Questions	None
Additional Probes	If the client is having trouble remembering, start with the past week and work backward in small increments.
Coding Topics	<p>If a caregiver is the respondent, the caregiver should respond to this question about their child's needs. The response question can be skipped or REFUSED if the caregiver is unable to answer.</p> <p>If the client is an adult and responding, they should be asked about their own needs.</p>
Cross-Check Items	None

Tool Version Note

[REVISED] Based on revisions in 2022, response options have been simplified to “Yes” or “No” rather than ranging from “Not at all” to “Completely”.

D. Crime and Criminal Justice Status

Section D is asked at all interviews. This section asks basic information about the client’s involvement with the criminal justice system. Introduce the section to the client or caregiver, for example by saying: “This next section includes questions about arrests and your involvement with the criminal justice system.”

Even if the client is court mandated to treatment, these questions must be asked, and the client’s answers recorded. There may be additional information that was not part of the court mandate. Some clients may be reluctant to offer this information. Reassure the client that their identity will be protected when providing this information.

Section Instructions

Section D CRIME AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE STATUS is asked of the client at BASELINE, REASSESSMENT, and DISCHARGE when an interview is conducted.

Please ask the questions and mark the response given by the client or the caregiver. If the client refuses to answer a question, mark the REFUSED option (where applicable), and go to the next question. Do not read response options in ALL CAPS.

1. In the past 30 [thirty] days, have you [has your child] ...

1a. Been arrested?

1b. Spent time in jail or a correctional facility or been on probation?

Answered by	Client or caregiver.
Intent/Key Points	<p>The intent is to determine if the client has been formally arrested and official charges were filed in the last 30 calendar days or if the client has spent time in a jail or correctional facility or on [juvenile] probation in the last 30 calendar days. These instances should only include formal arrests, not times when the client was just picked up or questioned.</p> <p>For this item, read the question and response choices, “Yes” or “No”, and record the client’s answer, not the interviewer’s opinion or data from jail, correctional facility, or probation records available to the program.</p>
Skip Pattern	<p>For BASELINE interviews, go to Section F SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS.</p> <p>For REASSESSMENTS or clinical DISCHARGE, go to Section E PERCEPTION OF CARE.</p>
Response Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Yes</i>—The client has been arrested or spent time in a jail, correctional facility, or been on probation in the past 30 days. ○ <i>No</i>—The client has not been arrested or spent time in a jail, correctional facility, or been on probation in the past 30 days.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>NO RESPONSE/REFUSED</i>—The client refuses to answer the question or provides no response.
Follow-on Questions	None
Additional Probes	If the client is having trouble remembering, start with the past week and work backward in small increments.
Coding Topics	<p><i>Arrest</i>—An instance when a person is seized or forcibly restrained by a law enforcement officer and is in the custody of legal authorities for a criminal charge. This does not include times when the client was just picked up, rousted, or questioned.</p> <p><i>Jail or Correctional Facility</i>—Count living in lockup and/or holding cells in courts or other locations, in addition to living in a juvenile detention center or “youth only” correctional facility with high structure and supervision.</p>
Cross-Check Items	None
Tool Version Note	[REVISED] Based on revisions in 2022, response options have been simplified to “Yes” or “No” rather than number of times and the question text has been revised to reflect that change.

E. Perception of Care

Section E is only asked at reassessment and clinical discharge interviews. This section pertains to the client's perception of the services they received during the past 30 calendar days. Introduce the section to the client or caregiver, for example by saying: "Now I am going to ask about how you perceive the care that you have received here at [name of your organization or site]."

Section Instructions

Question 1 of Section E PERCEPTION OF CARE is asked of the client at REASSESSMENT and DISCHARGE when an interview is conducted. Question 2 is answered by the grantee staff at REASSESSMENT and DISCHARGE when an interview is conducted.

Please ask the questions and mark the response given by the client or the caregiver. If the client refuses to answer a question, mark the REFUSED option (where applicable), and go to the next question. Do not read response options in ALL CAPS.

Ask specifically about the client's perceptions during "the past 30 calendar days." Do not use "in the past month" as a substitute—this may lead to confusion and inaccurate responses. For example, if the interview occurs on May 15, the past 30 calendar days covers April 15–May 15.

1. In order to provide the best possible mental health and related services, we need to know what you [your child] think[s] about the services you [they] received during the past 30 [thirty] days, the people who provided it, and the results.

Please indicate your [your child's] disagreement/agreement with each of the following statements.

1a. Staff here believe that I [my child] can grow, change, and recover.

1b. I [my child] felt free to complain.

1c. I [my child] was given information about my [my child's] rights.

1d. Staff encouraged me [my child] to take responsibility for how I [they] live my [their] life.

1e. Staff told me [my child] what side effects to watch out for.

1f. Staff respected my [my child's] wishes about who is and who is not to be given information about my [my child's] treatment.

1g. Staff were sensitive to my [my child's] cultural background (race, religion, language, etc.)

1h. Staff helped me [my child] obtain the information I [my child] needed so that I [my child] could take charge of managing my [their] illness.

1i. I [my child] was encouraged to use consumer-run programs (support groups, drop-in centers, crisis phone line, etc.)

1j. I [my child] felt comfortable asking questions about my [their] treatment and medication.

1k. I [my child], not staff, decided my [my child's] treatment goals.

1l. I [my child] like[s] the services received here.

1m. I [my child] would still get services from this agency if there were other choices.

1n. I [my child] would recommend this agency to a friend or family member.

Answered by	Client or caregiver.
Intent/Key Points	<p>The intent is to ascertain information about the client’s perception of care and satisfaction with services recently received.</p> <p>Read the instructions and then each statement followed by the “Yes”/ “No” categories to the client. The grantee may designate an alternate to collect this section of questions from the client in cases where the information collected pertains to care given by the interviewer.</p> <p>It is important to read all of the PERCEPTION OF CARE statements (items E1a–E1n), regardless of whether the client refuses to respond to one of the statements.</p>
Skip Pattern	This data is not collected at BASELINE.
Response Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Yes</i>—The client agrees with the statement related to services received in the past 30 days. ○ <i>No</i>—The client disagrees with the statement about the services they have received in the past 30 days. ○ <i>NO RESPONSE/REFUSED</i>—The client refuses to answer the statement or has no response.
Follow-on Questions	None
Additional Probes	<p>If needed, clarify that the statements refer to mental health or related services, treatment, and/or medications. Consider preparing a list of grant-funded services that can be read to the respondent if necessary.</p> <p>If the client is having trouble remembering, start with the past week and work backward in small increments.</p>
Coding Topics	If the client refuses to answer E1a, for example, mark the NO RESPONSE/REFUSED option and proceed to E1b.

Mental health and related services—Services provided as the result of this grant that pertain to people with mental illness or at risk of mental illness. When people with mental illness are the population of focus, a wide array of subject areas may be considered mental health–related by virtue of the connection with this population. Under such circumstances, mental health–related areas may include (but are not limited to) those pertaining to physical health, housing, employment, criminal or juvenile justice involvement, child welfare, education, social and family relationships, independent living skills, peer support, financial well-being, etc.

Cross-Check Items

None

Tool Version Note

[REVISED] Based on revisions in 2022, response options have been simplified to “Yes” or “No” rather than ranging from “Strongly disagree” to “Strongly agree”. In addition, the child version was merged with the adult version to make one question.

2. Indicate which grantee staff administered section E to the client for this interview:

Answered by	Grantee staff.
Intent/Key Points	The intent is to record information about who administered Section E PERCEPTION OF CARE to the client for each interview. This item contains information provided by the grantee and is not asked of the client.
Skip Pattern	If this is a BASELINE interview, skip to Section F SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS.
Response Options	<p>Select one of the following responses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> <i>Administrative staff</i> <input type="radio"/> <i>Care coordinator</i> <input type="radio"/> <i>Case manager</i> <input type="radio"/> <i>Clinician providing direct services</i> <input type="radio"/> <i>Clinician not providing direct services</i> <input type="radio"/> <i>Consumer/peer</i> <input type="radio"/> <i>Data collector/evaluator</i> <input type="radio"/> <i>Family advocates</i> <input type="radio"/> <i>Other (Specify)</i>
Follow-on Questions	None
Considerations for Grantee Staff	None
Coding Topics	Please use the “Other (Specify)” category only in cases where no other category provided adequately describes who completed this portion of the tool with the client.
Cross-Check Items	None
Tool Version Note	[REVISED] Based on revisions in 2022, response options were consolidated to simplify the choices and make it easier for grantees to identify the role of the staff member who administered Section E PERCEPTION OF CARE.

F. Social Connectedness

Section F is asked at all interviews. This section pertains to the client's recent social support by persons other than their mental health care providers. Introduce the section to the client or caregiver, for example by saying: "This next section asks about your social connections."

Section Instructions

Section F SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS information is asked of the client at BASELINE, REASSESSMENT and DISCHARGE when an interview is conducted.

Ask specifically about the client's social connections over "the past 30 days." Do not use "in the past month" as a substitute—this may lead to confusion and inaccurate responses. For example, if the interview occurs on May 15, the past 30 calendar days covers April 15–May 15. Do not read the response options shown in ALL CAPS.

1. Please indicate YES or NO for each of the following statements. Please answer for relationships with persons other than your [your child's] mental health provider(s) over the past 30 [thirty] days.

1a. I [my child is] am happy with my [their] friendships.

1b. I have [my child has] people with whom I [they] can do enjoyable things.

1c. I feel [my child feels] that I [they] belong in the community.

1d. In a crisis, I [my child] would have the support needed from family or friends.

1e. I have [my child has] family or friends that are supportive of my [their] recovery.

1f. I [my child] generally accomplish[es] what I [they] set out to do.

Answered by	Client or caregiver.
Intent/Key Points	<p>The intent is to determine information about the client's perception of their support network and social supports.</p> <p>Read the instructions and then each statement, followed by the "Yes"/ "No" categories to the client. It is important to read all the social connectedness statements (items F1a–F1f), regardless of whether the client refuses to respond to one of the statements.</p>
Skip Pattern	<p>After this question is answered, if your program does not require Section G:</p> <p>If this is a BASELINE interview, stop now. The interview is complete.</p>

	<p>If this is a REASSESSMENT or clinical DISCHARGE interview, go to Section H SERVICES RECEIVED AND CLINICAL DISCHARGE.</p> <p>If your program does require Section G:</p> <p>Go to Section G for your program.</p>
Response Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Yes</i>—The client agrees with the statement about their [their child’s] social support systems within the past 30 days. ○ <i>No</i>—The client disagrees with the statement about their [their child’s] social support systems within the past 30 days. ○ <i>NO RESPONSE/REFUSED</i>—The client refuses to provide an answer or has no response to the statement.
Follow-on Questions	None
Additional Prompts	<p>If the client is having trouble remembering, start with the past week and work backward in small increments.</p> <p>To assist with thinking about relationships with persons other than mental health providers, staff may ask about support from school or teachers, employers or work colleagues, in addition to friends and family.</p> <p>Being “in a crisis” may include disruptive mental health events or incidents, as well as other situations that may negatively impact the client’s ability to conduct their day-to-day activities.</p>
Coding Topics	If the client refuses to answer F1a, mark the REFUSED option and proceed to F1b; follow the same approach until all the questions have been asked.
Cross-Check Items	None
Tool Version Note	[REVISED] Based on revisions in 2022, response options have been simplified to “Yes” or “No” rather than ranging from “Strongly disagree” to “Strongly agree”. In addition, the child version was merged with the adult version to make one question.

H. Services Received and Clinical Discharge Status

Section H is completed only at REASSESSMENT or DISCHARGE and should be completed regardless of whether an interview was conducted with the client as the information is reported by the grantee staff.

Section Instructions

Question 1 is reported by grantee staff about the client at REASSESSMENT and CLINICAL DISCHARGE. Questions 2 and 3 are reported by grantee staff about the client at CLINICAL DISCHARGE only.

1. On what date did the client last receive services?

Identify all the services your grant project provided to the client during their participation in the program. This includes grant-funded and non-grant funded services.

Core Services

1a. Screening

1b. Assessment

1c. Treatment Planning or Review

1d. Psychopharmacological Services

1e. Mental Health Services

1f. Co-occurring Services

1g. Case Management

1h. Trauma-specific Services

1i. Was the client referred to another provider for any of the above core services?

Support Services

1j. Medical Care

1k. Employment Services

1l. Family Services

1m. Child Care

1n. Transportation

1o. Education Services

1p. Housing Support

1q. Social Recreational Activities

1r. Consumer-Operated Services

1s. HIV Testing

1t. Was the client referred to another provider for any of the above support services?

Answered by	Grantee staff.
Intent/Key Points	Question 1 describes the services provided to the client from the program. Services recorded in this section should include those funded or not funded by this CMHS grant from baseline to the date of reassessment or discharge.
Skip Pattern	After this question is answered, if this is a REASSESSMENT, stop here.
Response Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Enter date as MM/YYYY, as numbers <input type="radio"/> <i>Provided, Yes</i>—If the service was provided to the client. <input type="radio"/> <i>Provided, No</i>—If the service was not provided to the client. <input type="radio"/> <i>Unknown</i>—If it is unknown if the service was provided to the client. <input type="radio"/> <i>Service Not Available</i>—Your organization does not provide this service to clients. Please note this answer is not valid in SPARS for items 1i and 1t.
Follow-on Questions	None
Considerations for Grantee Staff	<p>This section does not have to be completed at the same time as the interview and does not require an interview with the client to complete. This information may be found in other systems like EHR or clinic logs.</p> <p>If the service is not provided to a client because it is not applicable to them, select “No”.</p>
Coding Topics	<p>Core Services</p> <p><i>Screening</i>—A gathering and sorting of information used to determine if an individual has a mental health problem—and, if so, whether a detailed clinical assessment is appropriate.</p> <p><i>Assessment</i>—To examine systematically to determine suitability for mental health treatment.</p> <p><i>Treatment Planning or Review</i>—A program or method worked out beforehand to administer or apply remedies to a patient for mental health treatment.</p> <p><i>Psychopharmacological Services</i>—The use of any pharmacological agent to affect the treatment outcomes of clients with a mental health disorder or illness, including medication evaluation and management services.</p>

Mental Health Services—Services include individual, group, and family psychotherapy, psychiatric crisis, and/or emergency services.

Co-occurring Services—Assistance and resources provided to clients who suffer from both mental illness disorder(s) and substance use disorder(s).

Case Management—Assisting clients with accessing services and making choices about opportunities and services; these services assist clients and their families in making effective use of formal and informal helping systems to gather resources to live in the community.

Trauma-specific Services—Designed to treat the violence or trauma in any setting (including community or school violence; domestic violence; physical, psychological, or sexual maltreatment/assault within or outside of the family; natural disaster; terrorism; neglect; or traumatic grief).

Support Services

Medical Care—Medical care includes a variety of activities for the promotion, prevention, and maintenance of health that is provided in various healthcare settings. This includes primary care and other physical health services (such as physical health screenings).

Employment Services—Resources provided to help clients to find and keep jobs and to advance in their careers.

Family Services—Resources provided to assist in the well-being and safety of children, families, and the community; includes marriage education, parenting, and child development services and evidence-based family psychoeducation.

Child Care—Care provided to children for a specified duration of time.

Transportation—Providing a means of transport for clients to travel from one location to another; excluding transportation to and/or from employment.

Education Services—Services aimed at supporting and assisting clients in their educational pursuits.

Housing Support—Providing assistance for living arrangements to clients.

Social Recreational Activities—Organizing and chaperoning community or social activities with the purpose of renewing clients' health and spirits through enjoyment, relaxation, and socialization.

Consumer-Operated Services—Peer-run service that is administratively controlled and operated by mental health clients and emphasizes self-help as its operational approach. Consumers (clients) constitute the majority (at least 51%) of the board or group that decides all policies and procedures. With limited exceptions, the staff consists of consumers (clients) who are hired by and operate the consumer-

operated services. The term “consumers” for the purposes of this item is defined as people who currently receive mental health services, have received mental health services in the past, or are eligible to receive mental health services but choose not to.

HIV Testing—HIV antibody or PCR diagnostic test, not a viral load or CD4 count for monitoring of HIV infection

Cross-Check Items

Enter the date as MM/YYYY. The date provided must be on or before the reassessment or the clinical discharge date (month and year only), as applicable. The date provided must be on or after the baseline interview date (month and year only). The date provided must be on or after the most recent date recorded for the last date services were received (month and year only) if a reassessment interview or administrative data were previously recorded.

Tool Version Note

[REVISED] Based on revisions in 2022, the number of times Mental Health Services were delivered is no longer required to be reported.

2. On what date was the client discharged?

Answered by	Grantee staff.
Intent/Key Points	The intent of the question is to document when the client was clinically discharged from treatment. Enter the date, month and year only, the client was discharged, not the date of the discharge interview.
Skip Pattern	None
Response Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Enter date as MM/DD/YYYY, as numbers
Follow-on Questions	None
Considerations for Grantee Staff	A clinical discharge is defined by the grantee. However, if the client has not had contact with the project for 90 calendar days or more or the client has died, the client should be considered discharged. Contact refers to services or referrals provided, phone calls related to a treatment plan (not scheduling), or crisis intervention or emergency services.
Coding Topics	<p><i>Discharge date after no contact</i>—In the case of no contact within 90 days of last encounter, discharge dates should be the date that someone reviews the file and determines that the client is no longer active in care or has finished services. For example, a client enters a program on June 1 and completes the baseline interview. The client is then not in contact with the program for 90 calendar days or more since the last service encounter. The discharge date should be the date that someone reviews the file and determines that the client is no longer active in care or has finished services.</p> <p><i>Discharge date in case of a client death</i>—the discharge date should be the date of death if known, or the date that it was determined or learned that the client had died.</p> <p><i>Discharge date after completing services</i>—the discharge date should be the last visit when it was determined that the service was completed. For example, a client enters a program on June 1 and completes a baseline interview. They are discharged by the project according to the grantee’s definitions of discharge on September 1.</p>

Cross-Check Items	None
Tool Version Note	[UNCHANGED]

3. What is the client's discharge status?

Answered by	Grantee staff.
Intent/Key Points	The intent of this question is to determine the client's clinical discharge status. If more than one response category applies, choose the primary reason the client is being discharged.
Skip Pattern	None
Response Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Mutually agreed cessation of treatment</i>—Client was compliant with the project/treatment plan and either completed or graduated or left before completion with the agreement of the treatment staff. ○ <i>Withdrew from/refused treatment</i>—Client ended or did not follow the treatment against medical advice. ○ <i>No contact within 90 days of last encounter</i>—Client was not in contact with the grant for 90 calendar days or more since their last encounter. No other information is known about their status. Contact refers to services/referral provided, phone calls related to a service plan (not scheduling), or crisis intervention or emergency services. ○ <i>Clinically referred out</i>—Client was referred to another program or services; this includes referrals to non-CMHS funded services. ○ <i>Death</i>—Client died prior to completing treatment. ○ <i>Other</i>—Client's status does not meet any of the above noted conditions. For example, the client was not compliant with the treatment plan and was terminated by the grantee. Mark "Other" and specify the reason for the clinical discharge in the space provided.
Follow-on Questions	None
Considerations for Grantee Staff	If a clinical discharge record (interview or administrative data) is submitted and over 90 days have passed, you will have to conduct a new baseline interview for the client if the client re-enters treatment at the same grantee project.
Coding Topics	None

Cross-Check Items

If the clinical discharge interview was completed by the client, then “Death” or “No contact” are not valid options for clinical discharge status.

Tool Version Note

[UNCHANGED]