

**Subject** Behavioral health homes and medical respite health homes

**Authors** Morrison and others

**Analyst** Sarah Sunderman

**Date** March 13, 2019

## Overview

Medical assistance has covered behavioral health home services in Minnesota since July 2016, under the health home model provision of the Affordable Care Act. Behavioral health homes offer services for primary care, mental health, substance use disorder treatment, long-term services and support, and social services, for persons with serious mental illness or emotional disturbance. This bill directs the commissioner to establish medical respite health homes, modifies provisions governing health home services under MA, and establishes provider and service requirements specific to behavioral health homes.

## Summary

Section	Description
1	<p><b>Provision of coverage.</b></p> <p>Amends § 256B.0757, subd. 1.</p> <p>Modifies cross-reference; requires the commissioner of human services to establish medical respite health homes for eligible homeless individuals.</p> <p>Makes this section effective upon federal approval.</p>
2	<p><b>Eligible individual.</b></p> <p>Amends § 256B.0757, subd. 2.</p> <p>Modifies provisions governing health home services. Permits commissioner to develop health home models that comply with federal law. Allows for coverage of health home services for persons eligible for medical assistance who have a mental illness or emotional disturbance, or for persons who are homeless.</p> <p>Makes this section effective the day following final enactment.</p>
3	<p><b>Discharge criteria.</b></p> <p>Amends § 256B.0757 by adding subd. 2a.</p>

Section	Description
	<p>Paragraph (a) specifies that an individual may be discharged from a behavioral health home if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ The provider cannot locate, contact, and engage the individual for over three months, after persistent efforts; or</li><li>▪ the individual is unwilling to participate in behavioral health home services.</li></ul> <p>Paragraph (b) requires the provider to offer a face-to-face meeting with the individual, the individual’s identified supports, and the provider to discuss available options, prior to discharge.</p> <p>Makes this section effective the day following final enactment.</p>
4	<p><b>Designated provider.</b> Amends § 256B.0757, subd. 4.</p> <p>Removes paragraph directing the commissioner to develop and implement certification standards for behavioral health homes.</p> <p>Makes this section effective the day following final enactment.</p>
5	<p><b>Behavioral health home services provider requirements.</b> Amends § 256B.0757 by adding subd. 4a.</p> <p>Requires a behavioral health home services provider to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Be an enrolled Minnesota Health Care Programs provider;</li><li>2) Provide MA-covered primary care or behavioral health service;</li><li>3) Use electronic health records;</li><li>4) Use an electronic patient registry;</li><li>5) Demonstrate capacity to administer approved screenings for substance use disorder or alcohol and tobacco use;</li><li>6) Demonstrate capacity to make appropriate referrals;</li><li>7) Have policies and procedures to track and evaluate referrals;</li><li>8) Conduct a brief needs assessment when services begin;</li><li>9) Conduct a health wellness assessment within 60 days of intake;</li><li>10) Conduct a health action plan within 90 days of intake, and at least once every six months;</li><li>11) Agree to cooperate with state monitoring and evaluation of services; and</li><li>12) Use an approved form to obtain written consent for behavioral health home services.</li></ol> <p>Makes this section effective the day following final enactment.</p>

Section	Description
6	<p data-bbox="355 275 1386 302"><b>Behavioral health home provider training and practice transformation requirements.</b></p> <p data-bbox="355 317 846 344">Amends § 256B.0757 by adding subd. 4b.</p> <p data-bbox="355 386 1386 449">Paragraph (a) requires providers to ensure that staff delivering behavioral health home services complete adequate training; specifies what training must include.</p> <p data-bbox="355 491 1386 554">Paragraph (b) requires providers to ensure that staff are capable of delivering culturally responsive services.</p> <p data-bbox="355 596 1386 659">Paragraph (c) requires providers to participate in the department's practice transformation activities to support continued skill and competency development.</p> <p data-bbox="355 701 1097 720">Makes this section effective the day following final enactment.</p>
7	<p data-bbox="355 779 886 806"><b>Behavioral health home staff qualifications.</b></p> <p data-bbox="355 821 846 848">Amends § 256B.0757 by adding subd. 4c.</p> <p data-bbox="355 890 1308 953">Paragraph (a) requires providers to maintain staff with required and appropriate professional qualifications.</p> <p data-bbox="355 995 1328 1058">Paragraph (b) requires an integration specialist to be a licensed registered nurse if behavioral health home services are offered in a mental health setting.</p> <p data-bbox="355 1100 1346 1163">Paragraph (c) requires an integration specialist to be a mental health professional if behavioral health home services are offered in a primary care setting.</p> <p data-bbox="355 1205 1386 1289">Paragraph (d) requires the systems navigator to be a mental health practitioner or community health worker, as defined in statute, if behavioral health home services are provided in a mental health or primary care setting.</p> <p data-bbox="355 1331 1373 1358">Paragraph (e) specifies requirements for the qualified health home specialist position.</p> <p data-bbox="355 1400 1097 1428">Makes this section effective the day following final enactment.</p>
8	<p data-bbox="355 1486 976 1514"><b>Behavioral health home service delivery standards.</b></p> <p data-bbox="355 1528 846 1556">Amends § 256B.0757 by adding subd. 4d.</p> <p data-bbox="355 1598 1369 1661">Paragraph (a) lists service delivery standards a behavioral health home provider must meet.</p> <p data-bbox="355 1703 1419 1831">Paragraph (b) requires the provider to create a plan with the individual and the individual's supports, to support the individual after discharge from a hospital, residential treatment program, or other setting. Specifies protocols that must be included in the plan.</p>

Section	Description
9	<p>Paragraph (c) specifies requirements for notification and communication if the individual is enrolled in a managed care plan.</p> <p>Paragraph (d) requires a provider to provide 60 days' notice to individuals, the department, and managed care plans, before terminating behavioral health home services; requires a provider to refer individuals receiving services to a new provider.</p> <p><b>Behavioral health home provider variances.</b></p> <p>Amends § 256B.0757 by adding subd. 4e.</p> <p>Paragraph (a) allows the commissioner to grant variances to specific behavioral health home requirements.</p> <p>Paragraph (b) allows the commissioner to grant a variance if (1) failure to grant the variance would result in hardship or injustice to the applicant; (2) the variance would be consistent with the public interest; and (3) the variance would not reduce the level of service.</p> <p>Paragraph (c) allows the commissioner to grant a variance for innovative services.</p> <p>Paragraph (d) specifies that the commissioner's decision to grant or deny a variance is not appealable.</p> <p>Makes this section effective the day following final enactment.</p>
10	<p><b>Payments.</b></p> <p>Amends § 256B.0757, subd. 5.</p> <p>Requires the commissioner to develop a single, statewide reimbursement rate for behavioral health homes.</p> <p>Makes this section effective upon federal approval.</p>
11	<p><b>Evaluation and continued development.</b></p> <p>Amends § 256B.0757, subd. 8.</p> <p>Clarifies language to include behavioral health homes and medical respite health homes.</p> <p>Makes this section effective the day following final enactment.</p>
12	<p><b>Requirements, standards, and qualifications for medical respite health homes.</b></p> <p>Directs the commissioner to develop requirements and standards for medical respite health homes.</p>

Section	Description
	Makes this section effective the day following final enactment.
13	<b>Appropriation.</b> Appropriates money for grants to medical respite health home providers to cover costs while the MA benefit is pending. Specifies grant requirements; specifies that this is a onetime appropriation.



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