Frequently Asked Questions

What is a substance use disorder?
A substance use disorder is a disease which occurs when the recurrent use of alcohol and/or drugs causes significant impairments. Impairments may include health problems, disability and failure to meet major responsibilities at work, school or home.

What is an assessment?
An assessment includes an interview with a trained clinician to review a person’s substance use and its impact on his or her daily life.

How are services determined?
A trained clinician recommends treatment services based on an assessment with the individual to best meet his or her needs.

How are services funded?
A variety of funding options are available for an individual who is assessed as needing services. Funding options include:

- Insurance
- Private pay
- Other 3rd party payers
- Combination of state and federal funding
- Medicaid (children and pregnant women)

How do I qualify for state and federal funding?
Individuals who meet programmatic and financial eligibility may qualify for state funded services. The treatment provider will assist the individual in completing the eligibility process.

Is there a program to help pay for medications for behavioral health disorders?
The Indigent Medication Program provides temporary funding for medications to treat behavioral health disorders for individuals whose income is at or below 185 percent of the federal poverty level. For additional questions regarding the Indigent Medication Program, email dssbhindmed@state.sd.us or call 605.773.3123.

Contact Us

For more information or to ask questions, please contact the Division of Behavioral Health at dss.sd.gov/behavioralhealth/ or 1.855.878.6057.

The Department of Social Services does not exclude, deny benefits to, or otherwise discriminate against any person on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, gender identity, sexual orientation or disability in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in its programs, activities, or services. For more information about this policy or to file a Discrimination Complaint you may contact: Discrimination Coordinator, Director of DSS Division of Legal Services, 700 Governor’s Drive, Pierre, SD 57501, 605.773.3305.

Español (Spanish) - ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 1.800.305.9673 (TTY: 711).

Deutsch (German) - ACHTUNG: Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung. Rufnummer: 1.800.305.9673 (TTY: 711).
Substance Use Disorder Services

The Division of Behavioral health accredits and contracts with addiction treatment agencies across the state to provide quality services to both adults and youth. Services include screenings and assessments, early interventions, detoxification, outpatient and inpatient treatment services. Individuals who meet programmatic and financial eligibility guidelines, or who have considerable personal circumstances, may qualify for state funded services.

Early Intervention Services
Early intervention services offer outpatient services to individuals who may have substance use related problems, but are not diagnosed with a substance use disorder.

Outpatient Treatment Services
Outpatient treatment services provide counseling services to individuals diagnosed with substance use disorders.

Low Intensity Residential Treatment Services
Low intensity residential treatment services include residential, peer-oriented treatment programs for individuals with substance use disorders whose living situation or recovery environment is incompatible with recovery goals. To prepare the client to live successfully in the community, the program provides substance use disorder counseling along with case management services.

Inpatient Treatment Services
Inpatient treatment services provide residential treatment with medically monitored intensive treatment for individuals with severe substance use disorders.

Detoxification Treatment Services
Detoxification treatment services are residential treatment services delivered by trained staff who provide 24-hour supervision, observation and support for individuals who are intoxicated or experiencing withdrawal symptoms. The goal is to motivate the individual to seek further treatment services.

Resources for Local Treatment Providers

• SAMHSA Treatment Locator - findtreatment.samhsa.gov/
• DSS - dss.sd.gov/behavioralhealth/agencycounty.aspx