



Quick Reference Handout 2.3: Quick Guide to RWHAP Part A-Fundable Service Categories

Introduction

The chart below provides brief summary explanations of the 28 service categories that can be funded through Part A of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP). They are designed to provide an understanding of the kinds of services supported through RWHAP Part A, but are not intended to provide formal definitions.

The service categories are arranged into two groups, RWHAP Core Medical Services and RWHAP Support Services, and are listed alphabetically within those groups:

- The 13 RWHAP Core Medical Services are specified in the legislation [§2604(c)(3)(A-M)].
- The 15 Support Services were approved by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and are defined as “needed for individuals with HIV/AIDS to achieve their medical outcomes (such as respite care for persons caring for individuals with HIV/AIDS, outreach services, medical transportation, linguistic services, and referrals for health care and support services).” “Medical outcomes” are “those outcomes affecting the HIV-related clinical status of an individual with HIV/AIDS” [§2604(d)(1-2)].

The brief descriptions below are based on HRSA/HAB Policy Clarification Notice (PCN) 16-02 (Revised 10/22/18),¹ supplemented by clarifications in the related Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document.²

RWHAP Core Medical Services (13)

SERVICE CATEGORY	EXPLANATION
1. AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) Treatments	Provides HIV-related medications to low-income clients living with HIV; can also provide access to medications by using program funds to purchase health insurance coverage and through medication cost sharing; administered by the state through RWHAP Part B, but Part A program can contribute funds
2. AIDS Pharmaceutical Assistance [Local Pharmaceutical Assistance Program] (LPAP)	Serves as supplemental local source of medication assistance that can be used when ADAP has a restricted formulary, a waiting list, or restricted financial eligibility criteria

SERVICE CATEGORY	EXPLANATION
3. Early Intervention Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes a combination of services designed to identify individuals with HIV and help them access services • Can serve newly diagnosed as well as PLWH who know their status but are not in care • Is the only RWHAP service category that can pay for HIV testing
4. Health Insurance Premium & Cost Sharing Assistance for Low-Income Individuals	Provides financial assistance to enable PLWH to maintain health insurance or standalone dental insurance by paying their premiums or other cost-sharing expenses, including co-pays, deductibles, and funds to contribute to a client’s Medicare Part D true out-of-pocket costs (TrOOP)
5. Home & Community-Based Health Services	Provides services in the home or in community settings based on a medical care team’s written plan of care; services may include mental health, developmental, and rehabilitation services; day treatment or partial hospitalization; durable medical equipment; and/or home health aide and personal care services in the home
6. Home Health Care	Supports medical-related services provided in the home by licensed medical professionals, such as administration of prescribed treatments, preventive and specialty care, and routine diagnostic testing
7. Hospice Services	Provides end-of-life services to clients in the terminal stage of HIV-related illness, at home or in a residential facility
8. Medical Case Management, including Treatment Adherence Services	Provides client-centered activities designed to improve health outcomes, such as assessment of service needs, development and updating of an individualized care plan, coordinated access to medical care and support services, continuous client monitoring, treatment adherence counseling, and sometimes assistance in accessing public and private benefits for which the client may be eligible
9. Medical Nutrition Therapy	Provides nutritional assessment and screening, evaluation, education and/or counseling, and food and/or nutritional supplements, all based on a medical provider’s referral and on a nutritional plan developed by a registered dietitian or other licensed nutrition professional
10. Mental Health Services	Provides psychological and psychiatric screening, assessment, diagnosis, treatment, and counseling in an individual or group setting by a licensed mental health professional (usually a psychiatrist, psychologist, or licensed clinical social worker)

SERVICE CATEGORY	EXPLANATION
11. Oral Health Care	Supports outpatient diagnostic, preventive, and therapeutic oral health services by dental health care professionals based on an oral health treatment plan
12. Outpatient/ Ambulatory Health Services (OAHS)	Supports diagnostic and therapeutic services, such as primary care, diagnostic testing including laboratory testing, treatment adherence, and specialty services provided directly to a client by a licensed healthcare provider in an outpatient medical setting
13. Substance Abuse Outpatient Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides outpatient services for the treatment of drug or alcohol use disorders, including both drug-free treatment and counseling and medication-assisted therapy • Includes harm reduction; can include syringe access services that meet current appropriations law and applicable HHS-, HRSA-, and HAB-specific guidance; does not include purchase of syringes

RWHAP Support Services (15)

SERVICE CATEGORY	EXPLANATION
1. Child Care Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pays for intermittent services for children living in the household of clients with HIV so they can attend medical visits, related appointments, and/or RWHAP-related meetings, groups, or training sessions • Can be provided by a licensed or registered child care provider or informal child care provided by a neighbor, family member, or other person
2. Emergency Financial Assistance (EFA)	<p>Provides limited one-time or short-term payments to assist RWHAP clients with an urgent need for essential items or services necessary to improve health outcomes, including utilities, housing, food (including groceries and food vouchers), transportation, medication not covered by an ADAP or LPAP, or another RWHAP-allowable cost</p>
3. Food Bank/ Home-Delivered Meals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides food items, hot meals, or a voucher program to purchase food • Can be used for essential non-food items limited to personal hygiene products and household cleaning supplies, plus water filtration/purification systems in communities with water safety issues
4. Health Education & Risk Reduction (HERR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides education to PLWH about HIV transmission and how to reduce risk, and information about services to improve their health status • Includes treatment adherence services provided as a stand-alone activity
5. Housing Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides transitional, short-term, or emergency housing assistance to enable a client or family to gain or maintain health services and treatment, including temporary assistance necessary to prevent homelessness and to gain or maintain access to medical care • May include core medical or support services • Also includes housing referral services, including assessment, search, placement, and housing advocacy services, and related fees
6. Linguistic Services	<p>Provides oral interpretation and written translation services by qualified providers when necessary to facilitate communication between the provider and client and/or support delivery of RWHAP-eligible services</p>

SERVICE CATEGORY	EXPLANATION
7. Medical Transportation	Provides nonemergency transportation services so clients can access or be retained in core medical and support services; can use various methods, including contracts with transportation providers, non-cash mileage reimbursement, purchase or lease of organizational vehicles for client transportation, voucher or token systems, and organization and use of volunteer drivers
8. Non-Medical Case Management Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports client-centered activities focused on improving access to and retention in needed core medical and support services • Provides coordination, guidance, and assistance in accessing medical, social, community, legal, financial, employment, vocational, and other needed services, and sometimes help in accessing public and private programs for which clients may be eligible, based on activities such as an initial assessment of service needs, development and regular re-evaluation of an individualized care plan, client monitoring, and timely and coordinated access to medically appropriate levels of health and support services and continuity of care
9. Other Professional Services [Includes Legal Services and Permanency Planning]	Supports professional and consultant services, including legal services, permanency planning, and income tax preparation services to assist clients in filing Federal tax returns that are required by the Affordable Care Act for all individuals receiving premium tax credits
10. Outreach Services	Identifies PLWH who either do not know their HIV status or know their status but are not currently in care, and carries out activities to link or re-engage PLWH who know their status into RWHAP services, including provision of information about health care coverage options
11. Psychosocial Support Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides group or individual support and counseling services to assist clients to address behavioral and physical health concerns, including support groups, nutrition counseling provided by a non-registered dietitian, and other types of counseling • Does not require that services be provided by a licensed mental health professional

SERVICE CATEGORY	EXPLANATION
12. Referral for Healthcare and Supportive Services	Supports referral of clients to needed core medical or support services in person or through telephone, written, or other types of communication; may also include referrals to assist clients in obtaining access to public or private benefit programs for which they may be eligible
13. Rehabilitation Services	Provides HIV-related therapies, including physical, occupational, speech, and vocational therapy, intended to improve or maintain a client’s quality of life and optimal capacity for self-care on an outpatient basis
14. Respite Care	Provides periodic non-medical care for clients in community or home-based settings, designed to provide care for an HIV-infected client to relieve the primary caregiver responsible for the day-to-day care of an adult or minor living with HIV
15. Substance Abuse Services (Residential)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides services for the treatment of drug or alcohol use disorders in a residential setting, including screening, assessment, diagnosis, and treatment, based on a written referral from the clinical provider as part of a RWHAP-funded substance abuse disorder treatment program • Includes detoxification if offered in a separate licensed residential setting

Note: Direct cash payments to clients or primary caregivers are not permitted under any RWHAP Part A service category.

References

- 1 Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Services: Eligible Individuals & Allowable Uses of Funds Policy Clarification Notice (PCN) #16-02 (Revised 10/22/18). Available at: https://hab.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/hab/program-grants-management/ServiceCategoryPCN_16-02Final.pdf.
- 2 Frequently Asked Questions for Policy Clarification Notice 16-02. Available at: https://hab.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/hab/Global/faq_service_definitions_pcn_final.pdf