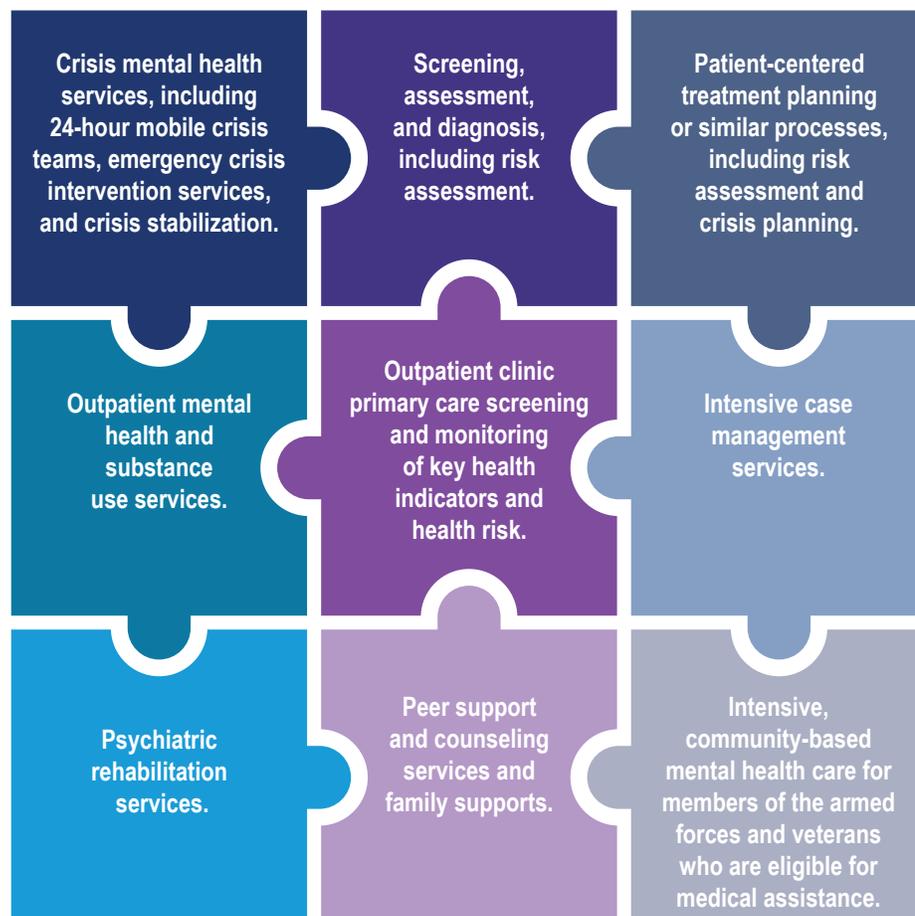


# The Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics Demonstration

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## An Overview and Mercer's Support

Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs) provide valuable, timely, comprehensive outpatient behavioral health care to any individual who needs the services, regardless of income, and can give payers and providers a more predictable financing strategy through an alternative payment model. The services CCBHCs must provide include:



Since 1985, we have worked with 45 US states and territories. We bring the right mix of battle-tested experts and multi-disciplinary practitioners to the table to shape real-world solutions and face the toughest issues.

## Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) CCBHC Certification Criteria

**Staffing:** Staffing plan driven by local needs assessment, licensing, and training to support service delivery.

**Availability and Accessibility of Services:** Standards for timely and meaningful access to services, outreach and engagement, 24/7 access to crisis services, treatment planning, and acceptance of all patients regardless of ability to pay or place of residence.

**Care Coordination:** Care coordinate agreements across services and providers (e.g., Federally Qualified Health Centers, inpatient, and acute care), defining accountable treatment team, health information technology, and care transitions.

**Scope of Services:** Nine required services, as well as person-centered, family-centered, and recovery-oriented care.

**Quality and Other Reporting:** Required quality measures, a plan for quality improvement, and tracking of other program requirements.

**Organizational Authority and Governance:** Consumer representation in governance and appropriate state accreditation.

## Demonstration Status

- **CCBHC Demonstration States and Expansion:** Currently, eight states have been selected for participation in the CCBHC Demonstration, with up to 10 additional states to be selected on July 1, 2024, as authorized by the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA). Up to 10 additional states will be selected for the Demonstration every two years after July 2024.
- **CCBHC Demonstration Extension:** The BSCA extended the demonstration end date for states and CCBHC sites currently participating in the original Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) CCBHC Demonstration from September 30, 2023 to September 30, 2025.
- **Updated CCBHC Guidance:** On February 15, 2024, CMS released updated CCBHC Prospective Payment System (PPS) guidance, including establishing new special crisis PPS rates under PPS-3 and PPS-4, designating PPS-2 special populations as optional, updating the quality bonus payment criteria to give states the ability to make payments for meeting specific quality measures, and designating a mandatory rebase to cost after the initial demonstration period and at least every three years.

A new state planning grant Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) and further information from the federal government is anticipated to be released in Fall 2024. With this release, there are several planning items for states to consider, such as:



### Consideration for States

- Reviewing the CCBHC model and federal CCBHC Demonstration requirements
- Analyzing the impact of the enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percentage on state budgets for CCBHC programming
- Understanding the differences between the CCBHC Demonstration and the use of other Medicaid authorities
- Understanding the state's role in developing and implementing a CCBHC program
- Evaluating how the CCBHC Demonstration fits into the state's long-term behavioral health delivery system
- Identifying a CCBHC planning grant and implementation team
- Communicating and obtaining feedback from stakeholders



## Potential Mercer Government Support

Mercer Government has provided critical policy, operational, and financial CCBHC support and technical assistance to states since 2014. With technical experts and consultants that led state CCBHC programs, we are ready to support states at all stages of CCBHC implementation including, but not limited to:

- Strategic planning, technical assistance, and drafting support for the state planning grant NOFO.
- Developing clinic-based PPS rates, including cost report training, education, and support.
- Incorporating CCBHC rates into risk-based capitation payments for managed care.
- Performing fiscal analysis and budget projections, including potential state savings.
- Assisting in the development and evaluation of Quality Bonus Payments.
- Drafting or helping to develop requisite state Medicaid policy for CCBHC operations.
- Identifying and analyzing Medicaid Management Information System enhancements to support operations.
- Developing the CCBHC service array and required service codes.
- Defining CCBHC eligibility and assignment policies/procedures.
- Creating a statewide or regional needs assessment to ensure delivery system transformation aligns with department goals and objectives.
- Developing managed care requirements and related contract language.
- Assisting in the creation of the state-based CCBHC certification.
- Reviewing and evaluating CCBHC certification applications.
- Helping facilitate provider education and communication.
- Developing or supporting state CCBHC program oversight, including standard reporting, dashboards, key performance indicators, and evaluating quality metrics.
- Developing strategies for states seeking to benefit from the demonstration in cases where state plan authority for CCBHC coverage already exists.
- Drafting requisite CMS authorities to sustain/expand CCBHC services beyond the Demonstration.

## For more information

Visit our website at [www.mercer-government.mercer.com](http://www.mercer-government.mercer.com) to view our experience, services, and client feedback.

