

Behavioral Health Administration

2016 Fact Sheet: Programs and Initiatives

Title: Psychiatric Boarding and Single Bed Certification

<p>Overview</p>	<p>In 2014, The Supreme Court of the state of Washington held in the case of <i>D.W. et al vs. the Department of Social and Health Services and Pierce County</i> that it is illegal to detain individuals under the Involuntary Treatment Act (ITA) if adequate evaluation and individualized treatment is not provided. This ruling held that people cannot held under the ITA solely because there is not an evaluation and treatment bed available.</p> <p>Psychiatric boarding happens when a psychiatric patient waits at a hospital for an available bed at an Evaluation and Treatment (E&T) facility.</p> <p>RCW 71.05 permits people to be detained only to E&T facilities certified by the state. There is a process for temporary certification of a medical facility when the needed services are not available. The facility must attest to their ability to provide or arrange for evaluation and individualized treatment during an episode of psychiatric boarding if the person is being held on an involuntary basis.</p> <p>Following the court’s decision, the Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR) revised and clarified the single bed certification procedures, began tracking data specific to inpatient authorizations and certifications, and is taking steps to promote additional evaluation and treatment capacity and improve detention processes across the state.</p>
<p>Eligibility Requirements</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Authority</p>	<p>RCW 71.24 RCW 71.05 RCW 71.34 Single Bed Certifications are authorized as described in WAC 388-865-0500.</p>
<p>Budget</p>	<p>As a result of the D.W. decision, proviso funding for Single Bed Certification related hospitalization activities is: GF-S - \$16,631,000 and GF-F - \$10,509,000</p>
<p>Rates</p>	<p>Rates for persons under Single Bed Certification vary by facility according to their inpatient service rate—ranging from roughly \$712 dollars per day to \$1800 dollars or more per day.</p>

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Numbers served	In the past year, an average of 127 people were served daily on a single bed certification.
Partners	DBHR has ongoing partnership with the Washington State Hospital Association, Washington Association of Designated Mental Health Professionals, Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, and Regional Support Networks through the Best Practices Workgroup.
Oversight	Quality oversight is accomplished through monthly review and reporting conducted by DBHR . The Washington State Institute for Public Policy provides annual reports on ITA investigations, detentions and the E&T bed capacity.

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