# **CSSP Standards Tool Overview**

The CSSP Standards Tool functions as a practical "checklist" for certifying Community Support System Provider (CSSP) Agencies. CSSPs are certified on three different levels with different associated standards: 1) basic, 2) intensive, and 3) enhanced. The tool identifies the relevant standards which are **required** in order to receive a CSSP certification.

The tool indicates where all items must be selected in order to meet a requirement (must include all) or where there are multiple options to meet a requirement (select one). If a section applies to the CSSP applicant agency based on the level of certification and type of service they are providing, **all checkbox sections within the subsection must be completed**. For example, if an agency is applying for an Enhanced CSSP certification and plans to provide meals to beneficiaries, subsection "3C: PHYSICAL LOCATION FOOD SERVICE REQUIREMENTS" under Enhanced must be completed in its entirety. Each level of certification builds upon the next. In other words, Intensive level CSSP applicants must meet the requirements listed under *both* the Base and Intensive sections. Enhanced level applicants must meet the requirements under *all three* levels.

- <u>Certification levels build upon the</u> <u>previous level:</u>
  - An Intensive certified CSSP must meet the requirements for both the Base and Intensive certifications.
  - An Enhanced certified CSSP must meet the requirements for the Base, Intensive, and Enhanced certifications.
- <u>Certified services build upon the</u> previous level's services:
  - An Intensive certified CSSP is eligible to provide services listed under both the Base and Intensive certifications.
  - An Enhanced certified CSSP is eligible to provide services listed under the Base, Intensive, and Enhanced certifications.



# Section 1: CSSP Base Level Certification Standards

## **Base Level Certification Review**

CSSP agency applications at the base level do not necessarily require a site visit, unless the applicant cannot provide documentation electronically, as applicants can demonstrate that they fulfill the standards and requirements with documentation only. DPSQA may still conduct site visits at their discretion. The certification applies to the provision of any HCBS services the agency is certified to provide, regardless of location. The certification is tied to the agency's business address.

# 1A: ORGANIZATION AND OWNERSHIP STANDARDS

Applicant agency should provide all listed example documentation, if applicable.		
	Copy of Certificate of Good Standing from the Arkansas Secretary of State	
	Single manager as point of contact for DHS with authority over the CSSP and all employees (listed on application)	
	Copy of Current Accreditation (select one)   The Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities  The Joint Commission  The Council on Accreditation  The Council on Quality and Leadership	
	<ul> <li>Documentation demonstrating the ownership (must include all below)</li> <li>□ Financial interests (Documentation could include copy of annual operating budget which is submitted to agency's Board)</li> <li>□ Governing body (Documentation could include organizational chart that reflects all leadership positions, mid-level managers, supervisors, and direct care staff; Board/Governing Body document which clearly indicates positions, names, phone numbers, addresses and emails for each person)</li> <li>□ Business interests (Documentation could include Articles of incorporation; Sole proprietorship documentation, 501c3 documentation, IRS documentation; Business policies and procedures)</li> </ul>	
	Documentation of management, management structure and members of the management team (Documentation could include an organization chart reflecting all leadership positions, mid-level managers, supervisors, and direct care staff; Documentation demonstrating in- and out-of-state management and ownership; Documentation of Management Company involvement, if relevant)	

#### **1B: EMPLOYEE AND CONTRACTOR BACKGROUND AND REGISTRY CHECKS** *All below information should be included in an employee/contractor's personnel file. DPSQA should request all relevant employee and contractor files and audit <u>at least 5</u> <i>files to ensure compliance with background and registry requirements.*

	State criminal background checks for employees and operators
	National criminal background checks for employees and operators
	Child Maltreatment Registry checks for employees and operators
	Adult Maltreatment Registry checks for employees and operators
	Sex Offender Central Registry checks for employees and operators
	Documentation of a five (5) panel drug screen or signed affidavit that employees have been given and passed drug screen
	Signed affidavit that the CSSP is not using contractors <ul> <li>Documentation provided</li> </ul>
	N/A – CSSP uses contractors and has supplied the above background and registry check documentation
	* Drug screens, criminal background, and registry checks and searches described above are <b>not</b> required for any licensed professional

1C: EMPLOYEE AND CONTRACTOR CERTIFICATION AND TRAINING
REQUIREMENTS

All below information should be included in an employee's personnel file. DPSQA should request all relevant employee and contractor files and audit <u>at least 5</u> files to ensure compliance with certification and training requirements.

Employee must be 18+ years of age (found on government ID)
Employee must have 1 year experience working with people with IDD or BH needs ( <i>found on resume/ application materials</i> )
Documentation of at least High School Diploma or GED
Documentation demonstrating employees have received training on the following topics (must include all below)*
HIPAA and other state/federal records regulations
Mandated reporter requirements and procedures
Incident and accident reporting
Basic health and safety practices
Infection control practices
Verbal intervention
De-escalation techniques
Documentation demonstrating employees have received the following beneficiary-specific training (must include all below)*
🗆 Treatment plan
Diagnosis and medical records
Medication management plan, if applicable
Positive behavioral support plan, if applicable
Behavioral prevention and intervention plan, if applicable
Permitted interventions; if applicable
Setting-specific emergency and evacuation procedures
* A licensed professional is <b>not required</b> to receive the training prescribed above.

#### 1D: ADDITIONAL EMPLOYEE AND CONTRACTOR CERTIFICATION AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR HCBS EMPLOYEES

All below information should be included in an employee's personnel file for employees performing Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS). These are staff directly providing services to beneficiaries, such as direct support professionals. Standards in this section do not apply to administrative staff. Staff roles can be confirmed with the job description in an employee's file.

	CPR certification from (check one)*
	American Heart Association
	Medic First Aid
	American Red Cross
	First aid certification from (check one)*
	American Heart Association
	Medic First Aid
	American Red Cross
	* A licensed professional is <b>not required</b> to receive the certification prescribed above.

A CSSP must maintain a separate, updated, and complete service record for each beneficiary documenting the home and community-based services provided to the beneficiary. DPSQA should request all relevant beneficiary files and audit at least 5 files to ensure compliance with certification and training requirements.
A beneficiary's service record must include a <b>summary document</b> at the front that includes (must include all below, unless marked as "if appliable")
<ul> <li>Full name</li> <li>Address and county of residence</li> <li>Telephone number and email address, if available</li> <li>Date of birth</li> <li>Primary language</li> <li>Diagnoses</li> <li>Medications, dosage, and frequency, if applicable</li> <li>Known allergies</li> <li>Social Security Number</li> <li>Medicaid number</li> <li>Commercial or private health insurance information, if appliable</li> <li>Assigned Provider-Led Arkansas Shared Savings Entity (PASSE)</li> <li>The date beneficiary began receiving home and community-based services from the CSSP</li> <li>The date beneficiary exited from the CSSP, if applicable</li> <li>The name, address, phone number, and email address, if available, of the beneficiary's legal guardian</li> <li>The name, address, and phone number of the beneficiary's primary care provider (PCP)</li> </ul>
A beneficiary's <b>service record</b> must include at least the following information and documentation (must include all below, unless marked as "if appliable") Beneficiary Person-Centered Service Plan The treatment plan developed by CSSP for the beneficiary All home and community-based service authorizations Positive behavioral support plan, if applicable Behavioral prevention and intervention plan (or crisis plan), if applicable Service logs or other documentation for each home and community-based service Medication management plan, if applicable Medication logs, if applicable Copies of all completed beneficiary assessments and evaluations Copies of any court orders that place the beneficiary in the custody of another person or entity

#### **1E: BENEFICIARY SERVICE RECORDS**

A CSSP must maintain a separate, updated, and complete service record for each beneficiary documenting the home and community-based services provided to the beneficiary. DPSQA should request all relevant beneficiary files and audit at least 5 files to ensure compliance with certification and training requirements.

 $\Box$  Copies of any leases or residential agreements related to the beneficiary's care

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#### **1F: OTHER BENEFICIARY RECORDS**

	Complete only if CSSP is managing a beneficiary's funds or other assets.
	Financial records that document all uses of a beneficiary's funds, if applicable, or other assets with documentation of (check one):
	Written consent to use or access beneficiary's funds from the beneficiary or guardian
	Documentation of other legal authority
	(Demonstrating documentation could include agency policies and procedures regarding use of beneficiary funds).
	Documentation that the use, management, or access to a beneficiary's funds or other assets is being used for the benefit of the beneficiary ( <i>Demonstrated</i> <i>by review of beneficiary account balances and receipts/logs of purchases. Can</i> <i>be paper or electronic program</i> ).

# Section 2: CSSP Intensive Level Certification Standards

## **Intensive Level Certification Review**

CSSP intensive level applicants must demonstrate compliance with **both** base and intensive level standards. CSSP agency applications at the intensive level do not necessarily require a site visit, unless the applicant cannot provide documentation electronically, as applicants can demonstrate that they fulfill the standards and requirements with documentation only. DPSQA may conduct site reviews at their discretion. The certification applies to the provision of any HCBS services the agency is certified to provide, regardless of location. The certification is not tied to a specific facility.

2A: ADDITIONAL EMPLOYEE AND CONTRACTOR CERTIFICATION AND
TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR HCBS EMPLOYEES

All below information should be included in an employee's personnel file for employees performing Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) providing services at the Intensive and Enhanced levels. These are staff directly providing services to beneficiaries, such as direct support professionals. Standards in this section do not apply to administrative staff. Staff roles can be confirmed with the job description in an employee's file.

Documentation demonstrating employees have received the following training (must include all below)\*

□ Home and community-based service record keeping

□ Appropriate relationships with a beneficiary

- □ Group interaction
- □ Listening techniques
- Confidentiality

□ Community resources available to individuals within community settings

- □ Cultural competency
- □ Direct care ethics
- □ Childhood development, if serving a child or adolescent
- beneficiaries

\* A licensed professional is **not required** to receive the training prescribed above.

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2B: INTENSIVE LEVEL EMPLOYEE AND STAFFING REQUIREMENTS: MEDICAL DIRECTOR AND CLINICAL DIRECTOR
Medical director who is a licensed physician in good standing with the Arkansas Medical Board employed or contracted with the CSSP (Demonstrated by current Medical License; Copy of Contract or Job Description)
Employ or contract with a licensed psychiatrist certified by one of the specialties of the American Board of Medical Specialties to serve as a consultant to the medical director and other employees*
Employ or contract with a board-certified child psychiatrist to serve as a consultant to the CSSP medical director and other employees, if serving beneficiaries under the age of twenty-one (21)**
Employ or contract with a full-time clinical director (or functional equivalent) who holds one (1) of the following State of Arkansas licenses or certifications: (select one that applies): Psychologist Certified Social Worker Psychological Examiner – Independent Professional Counselor Marriage and Family Therapist Advanced Practice Nurse with (must include all): A specialty in psychiatry or mental health A specialty in psychiatry or mental health A minimum of two (2) years' clinical experience post master's degree Clinical Nurse Specialist with a specialty in psychiatry or mental health
The full-time clinical director (or functional equivalent) must have a minimum of two (2) years' clinical experience post master's degree ( <i>Demonstrated by clinical director's resume</i> )
dical director is certified by one of the specialties of the American Board of Medical Specialties, a CSSP is not required to retain a second licensed psychiatrist. 's medical director is a board-certified child psychiatrist, a CSSP is not required to retain a second

board-certified child psychiatrist.

## 2C: BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS RESPONSE SERVICES

A site-specific crisis response plan for all CSSP owned, leased, or controlled locations. Each site-specific crisis response plan must include a twenty-four (24) hour emergency telephone number that provides for a (must include all below): Direct access call with a mental health professional (MHP) within fifteen (15) minutes of an emergency/crisis Face-to-face crisis assessment of a beneficiary within two (2) hours of an emergency/crisis (which may be conducted through telemedicine) Clinical review by the clinical director within twenty-four (24) hours
of the emergency/crisis
Twenty-four (24)-hour emergency telephone number available to all beneficiaries
Twenty-four (24)-hour emergency telephone number on all public entrances to each location
Twenty-four (24)-hour emergency telephone phone number included on all answering machine greetings

Section 3: CSSP Enhanced Level Certification Standards

## **Enhanced Level Certification Review**

CSSP enhanced level applicants must demonstrate compliance with **all base and intensive level standards**, in addition to facility-specific physical requirements. CSSP enhanced level certifications require a site visit to verify compliance with physical standards. Enhanced level CSSP certifications are specific to **each** separate physical location. Different standards will apply if an agency is only applying services during the day (Section 3E) versus agencies providing residential services where beneficiaries sleep overnight at the location (Section 3F). An agency will need a unique application and certification for each physical location providing enhanced level services.

# 3A: ENHANCED LEVEL EMPLOYEE AND STAFFING REQUIREMENTS: MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Medical director on-site or on-call during hours of operation
An on-call medical director must respond (must include all):
$\Box$ Within twenty (20) minutes of initial contact
In-person if required by the circumstances
(Demonstrated through documentation- either physical documentation or electronic medical records- indicating the time the issue was originally identified, the time the Medical director was contacted, and when the intervention was initiated).
<ul> <li>Document of after-hours contact with a its medical director, including (must include all):</li> <li>□ Date and time the medical director was contacted</li> <li>□ Date and time the medical director responded</li> <li>□ Date and time an on-call medical director came on-site when called in due to circumstances</li> </ul>

 <b>3B: PHYSICAL LOCATION INFECTION CONTROL REQUIREMENTS</b> Standards substantiated via a site visit.
Personal protective equipment provided for all employees and beneficiaries as may be required in the circumstances
Evidence that employees and beneficiaries must wash their hands with soap before eating, after toileting
Evidence that beneficiary's legal guardians are notified if the beneficiary becomes ill (Demonstrated by facility policies and procedures, including documentation or protocol for notifying beneficiary's legal guardians).

	<b>3C: PHYSICAL LOCATION FOOD SERVICE REQUIREMENTS</b> Complete only if CSSP is providing food services to beneficiaries. Standards substantiated via a site visit.
	Food obtained or purchased by a CSSP from outside sources for beneficiary consumption must be (must select at least one):
	<ul> <li>From restaurants and other food service providers approved by Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) and transported per ADH requirements</li> <li>In individual, commercially pre-packaged containers</li> </ul>
	Food provided to beneficiaries meet the specialized diet requirements of each beneficiary arising from medical conditions or other individualized needs, including without limitation allergies, diabetes, and hypertension. ( <i>Demonstrated by review of individualized menus, signed off by appropriate</i> <i>professional such as a Dietician</i> ).
	Food prepared by an employee is prepared, cooked, served, and stored in a manner that protects against contamination and spoilage
	Perishable food not used after its expiration date
	All surfaces used by employees to prepare or serve food to beneficiaries are clean and in sanitary condition
	Food must be served to beneficiaries on individual plates, bowls, or other dishes that can be sanitized or discarded
	All food scraps are placed in garbage cans with airtight lids and bag liners that are emptied as necessary and no less than once every day
	All food stored separately from medications, medical items, or hazardous items
	<ul> <li>Appropriate temperature used for food storage (must include both, if applicable)</li> <li>Refrigerators used for food storage are maintained at a temperature of forty-one (41) degrees Fahrenheit or below</li> <li>Freezers used for food storage are maintained at a temperature of zero (0) degrees Fahrenheit or below</li> </ul>

3D: EMERGENCY PLANS AND DRILLS SETTINGS REQUIREMENTS
Standards substantiated via a site visit.
Site-specific, written emergency plan. Written emergency plan must address
all foreseeable emergencies including (must include all):
□ Fire
Flood
🗆 Tornado
Utility disruption
Bomb threat
□ Active shooter
Infectious disease outbreak
Each written emergency plan must at a minimum include (must include all):
Designated relocation sites and evacuation routes
Procedures for notifying legal guardians of relocation
Procedures for ensuring each beneficiary's safe return
$\square$ Procedures to address the special needs of each beneficiary
$\square$ Procedures to address interruptions in the delivery of services
Procedures for reassigning employee duties in an emergency
Procedures for annual training of employees regarding the
emergency plan
Documentation of <b>monthly</b> emergency fire drills/ annual other emergency
drills including (must include all):
The date and time of the emergency drill
The type of emergency drill
$\Box$ The number of beneficiaries participating in the emergency drill
The length of time taken to complete the emergency drill
$\square$ Notes regarding any aspects of the emergency drill that need
improvement

	<b>3E: GENERAL CSSP OWNED SERVICE SETTING REQUIREMENTS</b> Applicable for facilities providing daytime only Enhanced Adult Day Rehab, Partial Hospitalization, or Substance Abuse Detox AND for facilities providing Enhanced residential settings where beneficiaries stay overnight at the location (Complex Care Homes, Therapeutic Communities, and Community Reintegration). Standards substantiated via a site visit.
	Interior physical building requirements (must include all):
	Be maintained at a comfortable temperature
	Have appropriate interior lighting
	Be well-ventilated
	Have a running source of potable water in each bathroom
	Have a running source of potable water in each kitchen (if applicable)
	$\Box$ Maintained in a safe, clean, and sanitary condition
	□ Be free of:
	□ Offensive odors
	□ Pests
	Lead-based paint
	Hazardous materials
	Exterior physical building requirements- the following must be maintained in
	good repair, and free of holes, cracks, and leaks (must include all):
	□ Roof
	Foundation
	□ Windows
	□ Siding
	□ Porches
	Patios
	🗆 Walkways
	Driveways
	Parking lots
	Surrounding grounds of each CSSP owned, leased, or controlled home and
	community-based service location must be maintained in a safe, clean, and
_	manicured condition free of trash and other objects
	No broken equipment, furniture, or appliances
	Location must have the following (must include all):
	□ A functioning hot water heater
	□ A functioning HVAC unit(s) able to heat and cool
	□ An operable on-site telephone that is available at all hours and
	reachable with a phone number for outside callers

 <b>3E: GENERAL CSSP OWNED SERVICE SETTING REQUIREMENTS</b> Applicable for facilities providing daytime only Enhanced Adult Day Rehab, Partial Hospitalization, or Substance Abuse Detox AND for facilities providing Enhanced residential settings where beneficiaries stay overnight at the location (Complex Care Homes, Therapeutic Communities, and Community Reintegration). Standards substantiated via a site visit.
All emergency contacts and other necessary contact information related to a beneficiary's health, welfare, and safety in a readily available location (must include all):
One (1) or more working flashlights
A smoke detector
A carbon monoxide detector
A first aid kit that includes at least the following (must include all):
Adhesive band-aids of various sizes
□ Sterile gauze squares
□ Adhesive tape
□ Antiseptic
□ Scissors
Disposable gloves
□ Tweezers
At least one (1) fire extinguisher
Screens for all windows and doors used for ventilation
Screens or guards attached to the floor or wall to protect floor furnaces, heaters, hot radiators, exposed water heaters, air conditioners, and electric fans
Written instructions and diagrams noting emergency evacuation routes to be used in case of fire, severe weather, or other emergency posted at least every twenty-five (25) feet, in all stairwells, in and by all elevators, and in each room used by beneficiaries
Lighted "exit" signs at all exit locations
Lockable storage containers or closets for any chemicals, toxic substances, and flammable substances that must be stored at the location
Each bathroom must have the following (must include all):    Toilet  Sink with running hot and cold water  Toilet tissue  Liquid soap  Towels or paper towels

#### **3E: GENERAL CSSP OWNED SERVICE SETTING REQUIREMENTS**

Applicable for facilities providing daytime only Enhanced Adult Day Rehab, Partial Hospitalization, or Substance Abuse Detox AND for facilities providing Enhanced residential settings where beneficiaries stay overnight at the location (Complex Care Homes, Therapeutic Communities, and Community Reintegration). Standards substantiated via a site visit.

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	<b>3F: CSSP OWNED RESIDENTIAL SETTING REQUIREMENTS</b> Only applicable for residential settings where beneficiaries stay overnight at the location (Complex Care Homes, Therapeutic Communities, and Community Reintegration). Do not need to complete for day service only facilities or living arrangements outside of Enhanced Services. Standards substantiated via a site visit.
	<ul> <li>Does not exceed bed requirements:</li> <li>No more than sixteen (16) beneficiaries if a Therapeutic Community or Residential Community Reintegration Facility or</li> <li>No more than eight (8) beneficiaries if a Complex Care Home</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Beneficiary bedrooms must have (must include all):</li> <li>Individual bed measuring at least thirty-six (36) inches wide with</li> <li>A firm, at least 4-inch-thick mattress</li> <li>Moisture repellant material covering</li> <li>Pillows</li> <li>Linens that are cleaned/replaced weekly</li> <li>Shelf space</li> <li>Storage space for personal items</li> <li>Adequate closet space for clothes and other belongings</li> <li>An entrance that can be accessed without going through a bathroom or another person's bedroom</li> <li>An entrance with a lockable door</li> <li>One (1) or more windows that can open and provide an outside view</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Bathroom requirements (must include all):</li> <li>At least one (1) bathtub must have a shower or bathtub</li> <li>All toilets, bathtubs, and showers must provide for individual privacy</li> <li>All toilets, bathtubs, and showers must be designed and installed in an accessible manner for beneficiaries</li> </ul>
	Fifty (50) or more square feet of separate bedroom space for each beneficiary

#### **3F: CSSP OWNED RESIDENTIAL SETTING REQUIREMENTS**

Only applicable for residential settings where beneficiaries stay overnight at the location (Complex Care Homes, Therapeutic Communities, and Community Reintegration). Do not need to complete for day service only facilities or living arrangements outside of Enhanced Services. Standards substantiated via a site visit.

At least one (1) bathroom with a shower/bathtub, sink, and toilet for every four (4) beneficiaries
Each beneficiary with their own locked storage container for beneficiary valuables
Male and female beneficiaries do not share a bedroom
Reasonably furnished living room
Reasonably furnished dining area
A kitchen with equipment, utensils, and supplies necessary to properly store, prepare, serve three (3) or more meals a day for up to one (1) week

## Appendix:

# <u>Community Support System Provider Certification Levels and Location-Specific</u> <u>Certifications</u>

- <u>Certification levels based on physical location:</u>
  - **Base** and **Intensive** CSSP certifications apply to the agency enterprise and are **not physical location specific**. The certification is issued to the provider's **business address**.
  - Enhanced CSSP providers must meet specific physical facility standards. Therefore, the Enhanced certification is specific to each physical location and is issued to the specific facility's address. A provider will need a separate Enhanced certification for each unique facility providing Enhanced level services.
  - A provider with a certified **Enhanced** CSSP facility is certified to provide Base and Intensive level services agency-wide.



# CSSP Base and Intensive

Enterprise-wide Certification; Applies to Indefinite Number of Living Situations



# **CSSP** Enhanced

Facility-Based Certification Level; Provider Can Provide Enhanced Level Services at the Specific Facility Only, but can Provide Base and Intensive Services at an Indefinite Number of Living Situations

# Community Support System Provider Certification Levels and Location-Specific



- **1.** The provider agency submits an application packet indicating the CSSP certification level for which they are applying (Enhanced).
- **2.** DPSQA reviews the application to ensure the agency meets CSSP Base and Intensive level standards.
- **3.** DPSQA certifies that the specific location associated with the Enhanced level application meets the facility-specific standards.
- **4.** DPSQA approves the CSSP Enhanced certification. Provider Onboarding issues a CSSP Enhanced certification to the specific facility address.
- **5.** The agency is certified to provide Base and Intensive level services agencywide. The agency may also provide Enhanced level services at the specifically-certified facility.