

Standard Means Test (SMT) for Adult Supported Community Living (SCL) Consumers

This document is intended to be a guide for applying the SMT for Adult SCL consumers.

The state rules for charging DMH consumers for treatment are found in 9 CSR 10-31.011 Standard Means Test (<http://www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/9csr/9c10-31.pdf>).

SCL consumers are considered “long-term care” by virtue of their admission to a “community placement facility”. 9 CSR 10-31.011 (1)(I)2.

Consumers without spouses or dependents are charged the full cost of residential services until their assets are “reduced to the allowable amount for Medicaid eligibility”. 9 CSR 10-31.011 (8)(B).

Consumers are charged 100% of unearned income on a monthly basis except for an allowance made for personal needs in accordance with 9 CSR 10-31.011 (8)(B) and applicable Social Security Administration guidelines. Unearned income includes benefits such as Social Security, SSI, VA, Family Support Division Supplemental Nursing Care Program Cash Grant, etc. 9 CSR 10-31.011 (1)(O). The mental health service provider should apply for these benefits on behalf of the consumer or assist the consumer in applying for benefits. This is necessary to minimize the mental health provider’s cost for the consumer’s residential services.

Employed consumers are charged 40% of net income exceeding \$100 per month. 9 CSR 10-31.011 (10).

Consumer financial information should be recorded on a Standard Means Test Financial Questionnaire and assessed (<http://dmh.mo.gov/docs/mentalillness/standardmeans.pdf>) annually or more frequently if circumstances change. 9 CSR 10-31.011 (15)(A).

Failure to provide requested documentation or to comply with the SMT procedures can result in charging the full cost. 9 CSR 10-31.011 (11), (12), (13).

SMT rules are significantly different for those SCL consumers who do not live in a “community placement facility” but instead reside in supported housing or housing voucher arrangements. In these cases the consumers are charged in accordance with the HUD Housing Choice Voucher Program and are expected to pay 30% of gross monthly income. 9 CSR 10-31.011 (1)(G). In addition the consumer is responsible for paying rental costs which exceed the established DMH rent ceiling.

Contact the regional office for technical assistance.