

# Readiness Assessment Background and Rubric

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**Milestone 3 of the Medicaid  
Transformation Project (MTP  
2.0) Reentry Initiative**

## Introduction

Starting in July 2025, participating carceral facilities in Washington State will begin implementing the Medicaid Transformation Project (MTP 2.0) Reentry Demonstration Initiative (the Initiative), a new Apple Health initiative. The Initiative will help Washington address the unique health care needs of justice-involved individuals, improve health outcomes, support individuals in health stabilization and recovery during their transition to the community, deliver care more efficiently, and advance health equity across the state.

Under the Initiative, incarcerated individuals who are Apple Health-eligible will receive a set of services 90 days before their release. The Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA) is the lead agency in this work, collaborating with other state agencies, carceral facilities (CFs), Accountable Communities of Health (ACHs), managed care organizations (MCOs), health care providers, community-based organizations (CBOs), Tribes, and other partners to support this coordinated community reentry process.

## Milestone 3: Readiness Assessment background

The Readiness Assessment is the third milestone that CFs must complete to participate in the Initiative. Carceral facilities must receive HCA’s approval for go live or conditional approval for go live of their Readiness Assessment submission prior to going live with reentry services.

The key elements of the Readiness Assessment include:

- **Attestations:** Attestations indicate the policies, processes, and infrastructure in place to support the mandatory requirements for the Initiative.
- **Narratives:** Narrative response questions are for CFs to provide detail on their implementation approach and will be used to evaluate readiness.
- **Supporting documentation:** Some sections of the Readiness Assessment have required or optional document submissions. For example, a list of providers who will support the CF’s requirement to provide access to mandatory services and any additional optional services is a mandatory requirement.
- **Program certification, go-live date request, and authorized signature:** CFs will need to attest that all submitted information is complete and accurate.

The Readiness Assessment builds on the information CFs provided in Milestone 2: Capacity Building Application, which required CFs to provide preliminary information on meeting the Initiative requirements and any technical assistance needed from HCA.

HCA will review each CF’s Readiness Assessment submission to determine their current and planned readiness to support reentry services for Apple Health (Medicaid)-eligible incarcerated individuals, referred to in this document as clients.

## HCA’s review rubric for Milestone 3: Readiness Assessment

Correctional facilities must be approved by HCA to go live with reentry services. In order to receive approval from HCA for go-live, the CF must be deemed “Approved” or “Conditionally Approved.”

The following table provides details on how CFs will be determined for go live:

Determination	Definition	Outcome
<b>Approved for go live</b>	CF has received approval across all sections, indicating readiness for at least all critical and non-critical factors.	CF may go live on the proposed start date.

**Conditionally approved for go live**

CF has received conditional approval in one or more section (and full approval for any remaining sections), indicating that the CF demonstrated readiness for all critical factors but not for all non-critical factors.

CF may go live on proposed go-live date but must resubmit required information to demonstrate readiness for non-critical factors at a later date.

**Not yet ready for go live**

CF response is incomplete, or the submission does not indicate readiness across all critical factors.

CF does not go live on the intended date and develops an action plan to achieve readiness and go live at a future date.

### Critical factors

A subset of requirements are considered critical factors and are clearly indicated as such below. CFs must demonstrate readiness in the narratives (either currently or by their requested to live date) marked as Critical Factors in order to go live.

### Technical assistance

CFs are encouraged to reference information on HCA’s [Reentry from a carceral setting webpage](#) and any additional guidance provided by HCA when completing the Readiness Assessment. For additional support prior to submission, CFs should submit questions and requests for assistance to the [HCA Reentry Inbox](#).

CFs may indicate a need for assistance relating to reentry services in their narrative responses and in Section 2.

### Funding for Milestone 3: Readiness Assessment

Once HCA has approved a CF’s Milestone 3: Readiness Assessment, the CF will be eligible to receive up to 40% of their capacity building funding allocation. The total funding amount is dependent on CF tier (or number of average occupants):

Tier	Funding amount
<b>Tier 1 (1-49 inmates)</b>	Up to \$400,000
<b>Tier 2 (50-249 inmates)</b>	Up to \$500,000
<b>Tier 3 (250-1,000 inmates)</b>	Up to \$600,000
<b>Tier 4 (more than 1,000 inmates)</b>	Up to \$700,000

### Information Technology Funding

The total Information Technology Funding amount for the Initiative is up to \$1,000,000 for a CF. As a reminder, CFs are eligible for up to \$500,000 upon approval of their Milestone 2: Capacity Building Application. As part of Milestone 3, a CF may also receive up to \$500,000 in funding for eligible IT infrastructure expenses upon approval of Milestone 3: Readiness Assessment, regardless of the their tier.

CFs are required to submit a final IT infrastructure budget to HCA with the Milestone 3: Readiness Assessment.

### Background on services for CAA-eligible clients (Section 1.7 of Readiness Assessment)

Providing the benefits described in sections 5121 and 5122 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act (CAA) to eligible clients is a requirement to participate in the Reentry Initiative, when medically necessary and appropriate.

The below clients are eligible through the CAA:

- A Medicaid/CHIP client ages 20 and younger
- A Medicaid client between the ages of 18 and up to age 26 who aged out of foster care on or after the 18<sup>th</sup> birthday

**Section 5121** of the CAA directs a carceral facility to provide the following mandatory services post-adjudication consistent with the 90-day pre-release period of the Initiative and no later than seven days post-release, or as soon as practicable after release.

- Clinical assessment and evaluation services include Assessment, Evaluation, and Diagnosis services, which includes age-appropriate screenings such as well-child checkups, vaccinations, and physical, behavioral, and dental screenings.
  - Note: For clients ages 20 and younger, the post-adjudication services in Section 5121 must be delivered in accordance with the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) requirements.
- Delivering the clinical assessment and evaluation benefit and delivering the Reentry Targeted Case Management (rTCM) satisfies section 5121 of the CAA. rTCM must be provided pre- and post-release.

**Section 5122** of the CAA covers Apple Health Benefits for CAA eligible clients who are pre-adjudication. This includes appropriate and medically necessary Apple Health benefits consistent with a client's benefit package, not otherwise covered by the Reentry Initiative benefits, while the individual remains in pre-adjudication status. Apple Health benefits are defined by a client's program benefit package according to the client's Apple Health eligibility (see [WAC 182-501-0060](#)).