



Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED) Guidance

Version 4: June 2023

Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED) is defined as the following for Health Home Serving Children purposes:

- 1) a child or adolescent (under the age of 21) that has a designated mental illness diagnosis in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM) categories below as defined by DOH:

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| -Anxiety Disorders | -Obsessive-Compulsive and Related Disorders |
| -Depressive Disorders | -Gender Dysphoria |
| -Dissociative Disorders | -Personality Disorders |
| -Feeding and Eating Disorders | -Somatic Symptom and Related Disorders |
| -Paraphilic Disorders | -Disruptive, Impulse-Control, and Conduct Disorders |
| -Schizophrenia Spectrum and Other
Psychotic Disorders | -ADHD |
| -Trauma- and Stressor-Related
Disorders | -Tic Disorders |
| -Bipolar and Related Disorders | -Elimination Disorders |
| | -Sleep Wake Disorders |
| | -Sexual Dysfunctions |
| | -Medication Induced Movement Disorders |

- 2) **AND** has experienced functional limitation(s) due to emotional disturbance **over the past 12 months** on a continuous or intermittent basis. The functional limitation(s) below must be moderate in at least two areas or severe in at least one of the areas:

- Ability to care for self (e.g. personal hygiene; obtaining and eating food; dressing; avoiding injuries)
- Family life (e.g. capacity to live in a family or family like environment; relationships with parents or substitute parents, siblings, and other relatives; behavior in family setting)
- Social relationships (e.g. establishing and maintaining friendships; interpersonal interactions with peers, neighbors, and other adults; social skills; compliance with social norms; play and appropriate use of leisure time)
- Self-direction/self-control (e.g. ability to sustain focused attention for a long enough period of time to permit completion of age-appropriate tasks; behavioral self-control; appropriate judgment and value systems; decision-making ability)
- Ability to learn (e.g. school achievement and attendance; receptive and expressive language; relationships with teachers; behavior in school)

Proof of Eligibility Requirements

In order to enroll the youth/child into the Health Home program under the single qualifying condition of SED,

- Proof of **both** diagnosis and functional limitation(s) must be obtained from a qualified licensed professional which explicitly states SED determination on the documentation.
 - If you are unable to obtain proof of functional limitation(s) from a qualified licensed professional, **you can use the mental illness diagnosis as one of two chronic conditions** instead.
 - It is not the role of the Health Home Care Manager to interpret SED criteria.
- The functional limitation(s) need to be reviewed at least annually and should be identifiable through the Health Home Plan of Care or services notes.
- Notes and/or documentation regarding linkages (or status of) mental health services and support should be included in the members' record.

At least one of the following required documents is needed to enroll a youth/child into the Health Home program under SED single qualifying condition:

****PLEASE NOTE, THE DOCUMENTATION LISTED BELOW MUST EXPLICITLY STATE "SED" IN ORDER TO QUALIFY FOR PROOF OF ELIGIBILITY AND MUST BE UPLOADED TO CHART EFFECTIVE 6/1/2023**:**

- Comprehensive Mental Health Assessment
 - Evaluation must be completed within the past twelve (12) months. Completed by a licensed Medical or Mental Health professional to include valid diagnosis **OR**
- Psychosocial
 - Evaluation must be completed within the past (12) months. Completed by a licensed Medical or Mental Health professional to include valid diagnosis **OR**
- Psychiatric Assessment
 - Evaluation must be completed within the past (12) months. Completed by a licensed Psychiatrist (MD) or a Licensed Nurse Practitioner to include valid diagnosis **OR**
- SED Verification Form
 - Form indicating diagnosis and functional limitations resulting in SED determination signed by a licensed professional.
 - Supporting Documentation for SED Verification, including a psychological evaluation, psycho/social evaluation and other supporting assessment documentation must be uploaded into the members chart effective 6/1/2023.

Other considerations:

- The SED determination must be made by a treating and/or assessing Licensed Practitioner of the Healing Arts (LPHA). SED Verification cannot be signed off by someone who is not serving the child, even if they are licensed.
- Please refer to the CHHUNY Health Home Eligibility Policy for additional guidance related to overall eligibility and enrollment processes that still apply but are not addressed in this document.