

# COMPLIANCE BULLETIN

## Fresno County Behavioral Health

Publication Date: 02/20/2025

### POLICY NOTICE

- ❖ Policy Being Summarized  
Revised Guidelines for  
Collecting and Reporting  
Discharge Data in CalOMS Tx
- ❖ CB-039

- ❖ Effective date:  
04/10/2025

- ❖ Policy created by:  
Bulletins and News,  
Compliance Bulletins

- ❖ This notice is intended for:

- ☐ DBH Operated MH Programs
- ☒ DBH Operated SUD Programs
- ☒ DBH Administration
- ☐ Contract MH Providers
- ☒ Contract SUD Providers
- ☐ Prescribers

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) has released [BHIN No: 25-001](#) to notify Fresno Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) of updates to the business rules and guidelines for collecting and reporting data for discharging persons served receiving Substance Use Disorder (SUD) services.

SUD providers must collect and submit treatment outcomes data electronically to DHCS via CalOMS Tx. Accurate discharge data is essential for measuring person served outcomes and demonstrating treatment effectiveness to public funding agencies. Data must be collected on all persons served, by all SUD providers that receive funding from DHCS, regardless of the source of funds used for the service provided.

This BHIN updates protocols and definitions for discharging persons served for the following standard discharge values:

- Completed Treatment Plan & Goals – Referred/Standard (status 1)
- Completed Treatment Plan & Goals – Not Referred/Standard (status 2)
- Left Before Completion with Satisfactory Progress – Referred/Standard (status 3)

### New Discharge Process

If a person served cannot attend their discharge interview due to a life circumstance (e.g., moving, family illness/emergency, securing employment, etc.), providers can still complete the discharge process if:

- The person served made satisfactory progress in treatment.
- Discharge planning has begun.
- The person served left the program due to a life circumstance and notified the program about leaving.
- The program has enough documentation to accurately complete the discharge questions without guessing the responses.

Providers must document attempts to conduct the interview and why the person served couldn't attend the discharge interview.

# COMPLIANCE BULLETIN

## Fresno County Behavioral Health

Publication Date: 02/20/2025

The new discharge categories reflect that persons served can be discharged without an interview if they meet the criteria above. Programs do not need to obtain DHCS approval of the person served's life circumstance to proceed with a standard discharge. It is the responsibility of the treatment programs to maintain sufficient documentation, including the method used to obtain the responses to the standard discharge questions.

### **Administrative Discharges for Non-Residential Outpatient Programs:**

- The timeframe for discharging persons served from non-residential outpatient programs (if they haven't had at least one face-to-face or telehealth session) has changed from "30 consecutive days" to "within 30 but no later than 60 consecutive days."
- Providers will decide when to discharge a person served due to lack of participation based on their knowledge of the person served, program capacity and other clinical, treatment, or financial factors.

For a complete list of discharge protocols, providers can refer to the CalOMS Tx Data Collection Guide "Section 8 – Discharge Data Collection" by logging in to the [Behavioral Health Information Systems](#).

If you have questions about this new requirement, please contact your contract analyst.

### **Attachment:**

- [CalOMS Tx Data Collection Guide Section 8 Discharge Data Collection Excerpt](#)