

**TOC required****217.000 Acute Psychiatric Inpatient 3-1-26**

Adult Acute Psychiatric Inpatient Hospitalization services are designed to address severe, rapidly emerging psychiatric conditions that require immediate intervention and intensive treatment. These services are delivered in a highly secure and structured inpatient setting and exceed the level of care typically available in a general inpatient psychiatric unit. The primary goal is to stabilize acute psychiatric symptoms, manage dangerous behavior, and facilitate transition to a less intensive level of care.

Services provide a higher level of clinical intensity and supervision, including:

- A. 24-hour skilled nursing care and clinical oversight;
- B. Daily medical and psychiatric evaluation;
- C. Continuous risk assessment and crisis management;
- D. A structured treatment environment (milieu) with individualized treatment planning;
- E. Multidisciplinary team involvement, including psychiatrists, psychiatric nurses, social workers, and mental health professionals;
- F. Specialized staff trained to manage aggressive, assaultive, or otherwise dangerous behaviors;
- G. Enhanced staffing ratios to allow for increased observation and rapid intervention; and
- H. Coordination of care planning with family, community providers, and support systems in preparation for step-down care.

**217.100 Criteria 3-1-26**

A person is eligible for admission based on the following criteria, all of which must be met.

**A. Psychiatric Evaluation**

- 1. A physician has conducted a comprehensive evaluation and determined that:
  - a. The individual has a psychiatric diagnosis or a provisional psychiatric diagnosis, excluding:
    - i. Intellectual disability,
    - ii. Substance use disorders,unless these conditions coexist with another qualifying psychiatric diagnosis or provisional diagnosis.

**B. Level of Care Necessity**

The individual cannot be appropriately treated at a less intensive level of care due to the need for:

- 1. **24-hour availability** of services for diagnosis, monitoring, and assessment of response to treatment;
- 2. **Continuous access to a physician** 24 hours a day for timely and appropriate modifications to the treatment plan;
- 3. **Active involvement of a psychiatrist** in the development and ongoing management of the treatment program;

4. **Professional nursing care available 24/7** to implement the treatment plan, monitor the patient's condition, and assess treatment response;
5. **Round-the-clock clinical management and supervision.**

C. **Severity of Illness**

The individual presents with one or more of the following conditions:

1. A **significant risk of harm** to self, others, or property;
2. A **medical condition or illness** that cannot be safely managed at a lower level of care due to compounding psychiatric and medical issues, resulting in a high risk of crisis or instability;
3. **Severely impaired judgment or functional capacity**, such that the person's ability to maintain self-care, occupational, or social functioning is critically threatened;
4. A need for **treatment that would be medically unsafe** if provided in a less intensive setting;
5. A **worsening of psychiatric symptoms** where continuation at a lower level of care cannot be expected to result in improvement or prevent deterioration, thereby posing danger to self, others, or property.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**PLEASE ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS COMPLETELY.**

**DEPARTMENT** \_\_\_\_\_  
**BOARD/COMMISSION** \_\_\_\_\_  
**PERSON COMPLETING THIS STATEMENT** \_\_\_\_\_  
**TELEPHONE NO.** \_\_\_\_\_ **EMAIL** \_\_\_\_\_

To comply with Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-204(e), please complete the Financial Impact Statement and email it with the questionnaire, summary, markup and clean copy of the rule, and other documents. Please attach additional pages, if necessary.

**TITLE OF THIS RULE** \_\_\_\_\_

1. Does this proposed, amended, or repealed rule have a financial impact?  
Yes                      No
  
2. Is the rule based on the best reasonably obtainable scientific, technical, economic, or other evidence and information available concerning the need for, consequences of, and alternatives to the rule?  
Yes                      No
  
3. In consideration of the alternatives to this rule, was this rule determined by the agency to be the least costly rule considered? Yes                      No

If no, please explain:

(a) how the additional benefits of the more costly rule justify its additional cost;

(b) the reason for adoption of the more costly rule;

(c) whether the reason for adoption of the more costly rule is based on the interests of public health, safety, or welfare, and if so, how; and

(d) whether the reason for adoption of the more costly rule is within the scope of the agency's statutory authority, and if so, how.

4. If the purpose of this rule is to implement a *federal* rule or regulation, please state the following:
  - (a) What is the cost to implement the federal rule or regulation?

**Current Fiscal Year**

General Revenue \_\_\_\_\_  
Federal Funds \_\_\_\_\_  
Cash Funds \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Revenue \_\_\_\_\_  
Other (Identify) \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

**Next Fiscal Year**

General Revenue \_\_\_\_\_  
Federal Funds \_\_\_\_\_  
Cash Funds \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Revenue \_\_\_\_\_  
Other (Identify) \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

(b) What is the additional cost of the state rule?

**Current Fiscal Year**

General Revenue \_\_\_\_\_  
Federal Funds \_\_\_\_\_  
Cash Funds \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Revenue \_\_\_\_\_  
Other (Identify) \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

**Next Fiscal Year**

General Revenue \_\_\_\_\_  
Federal Funds \_\_\_\_\_  
Cash Funds \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Revenue \_\_\_\_\_  
Other (Identify) \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

5. What is the total estimated cost by fiscal year to any private individual, private entity, or private business subject to the proposed, amended, or repealed rule? Please identify those subject to the rule, and explain how they are affected.

**Current Fiscal Year**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Next Fiscal Year**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

6. What is the total estimated cost by fiscal year to a state, county, or municipal government to implement this rule? Is this the cost of the program or grant? Please explain how the government is affected.

**Current Fiscal Year**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Next Fiscal Year**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

7. With respect to the agency's answers to Questions #5 and #6 above, is there a new or increased cost or obligation of at least one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) per year to a private individual, private entity, private business, state government, county government, municipal government, or to two (2) or more of those entities combined?

Yes      No

If yes, the agency is required by Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-204(e)(4) to file written findings at the time of filing the financial impact statement. The written findings shall be filed simultaneously with the financial impact statement and shall include, without limitation, the following:

- (1) a statement of the rule's basis and purpose;
- (2) the problem the agency seeks to address with the proposed rule, including a statement of whether a rule is required by statute;
- (3) a description of the factual evidence that:
  - (a) justifies the agency's need for the proposed rule; and
  - (b) describes how the benefits of the rule meet the relevant statutory objectives and justify the rule's costs;
- (4) a list of less costly alternatives to the proposed rule and the reasons why the alternatives do not adequately address the problem to be solved by the proposed rule;
- (5) a list of alternatives to the proposed rule that were suggested as a result of public comment and the reasons why the alternatives do not adequately address the problem to be solved by the proposed rule;
- (6) a statement of whether existing rules have created or contributed to the problem the agency seeks to address with the proposed rule and, if existing rules have created or contributed to the problem, an explanation of why amendment or repeal of the rule creating or contributing to the problem is not a sufficient response; and
- (7) an agency plan for review of the rule no less than every ten (10) years to determine whether, based upon the evidence, there remains a need for the rule including, without limitation, whether:
  - (a) the rule is achieving the statutory objectives;
  - (b) the benefits of the rule continue to justify its costs; and
  - (c) the rule can be amended or repealed to reduce costs while continuing to achieve the statutory objectives.