Ryan White Funding 101:

Allowable Costs



2026 Data Summit
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LOS ANGELES COUNTY
COMMISSION ON HIV

The Structure

Ryan White Part A funding is structured around a partnership between local government and the community:

Recipient (DHSP)	Administers funds, issues contracts, selects subrecipients, monitors spending, and ensures compliance
Planning Council (COH)	Reviews data, sets service priorities, and allocates funding percentages to those services to help support a system of care for people with HIV

While their responsibilities differ, their work is closely connected, and both are essential to an effective system of care.

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Core Services & Support Services

The Ryan White Program separates its allowed funded services into two main categories: Core Medical Services and Support Services.

By statutory requirement, a minimum of 75% of grant funds must be spent on Core Medical Services, while up to 25% can be allocated to Support Services, unless a HRSA waiver is approved.

Core Medical Services

Represent direct clinical treatment, medication, and essential medical care coordination.

Support Services

Services that directly help clients achieve positive health outcomes, remove barriers to care, or keep them retain in routine HIV care.

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Core Medical Services

- AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP)
- Local AIDS Pharmaceutical Assistance Program (LPAP)
- Early Intervention Services (EIS)
- Health Insurance Premium and Cost Sharing Assistance for Low-Income Individuals
- Home and Community-Based Health Services
- Home Health Care
- Hospice Services
- Medical Case Management including Treatment Adherence Services
- Medical Nutrition Therapy
- Oral Health Care
- Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services
- Substance Abuse Outpatient Care

Support Services

- Childcare Services
- Emergency Financial Assistance
- Food Bank/Home Delivered Meals
- Health Education/Risk Reduction
- Housing
- Linguistic Services
- Medical Transportation
- Non-Medical Case Management Services
- Other Professional Services
  - Legal Services
  - Permanency Planning
- Outreach Services
- Psychosocial Support
- Referral for Healthcare and Support Services
- Rehabilitation
- Respite Care
- Substance Abuse (Residential)

Other Allowable Costs

Beyond direct client services, other allowable costs include Administrative Costs, Planning & Evaluation (P&E), and Clinical Quality Management (CQM).

Administrative Costs

The recipient is limited to spending a maximum of 10% of the total award on administrative expenses.

Clinical Quality Management

All Ryan White programs must establish a CQM program to monitor and improve patient health outcomes. Capped at 5%.

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Unallowable Costs

According to HRSA Policy Clarification Notice (PCN) 16-02, Ryan White funds can **never** be used for:

- Direct cash payments or general-use prepaid gift cards to clients.
- Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) or Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (nPEP) medicine
- Purchase of clothing, property taxes, or funeral/burial expenses
- Purchase of land or permanent buildings

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Activity: Allowable vs. Unallowable

Which of the following are allowable expenses under Ryan White?

1. Giving a $50 grocery store gift card directly to a client to buy food.
2. Buying HIV antiviral medications for an uninsured client.
3. Metro TAP cards to help clients get to their medical appointments.
4. Buying PrEP medications for a client's HIV negative partner.
5. Paying a software subscription feed to track clinical performance data for the CQM program.
6. Buying winter coats for clients.
7. Providing rental support for transitional housing for a client coming out of the hospital.
8. Hiring a consultant to assist with needs assessment activities.

Activity: Allowable vs. Unallowable

Which of the following are allowable expenses under Ryan White?

1. Allowable
2. Allowable
3. Allowable
4. Unallowable
5. Allowable – CQM Activities
6. Unallowable
7. Allowable
8. Allowable – Administrative Activities