



Client Rights and Responsibilities

Each individual receiving services shall be protected by a client's Bill of Rights which include but are not limited to the following:

- Expect that the provider meet the minimum qualifications of training and experience required by state law.
- Examine public records maintained by the Board of Behavioral Health and Therapy that contain the credentials of the provider.
- Report complaints to the Board of Behavioral Health and Therapy.
- Be informed of the cost of professional services before receiving the services.
- Privacy as defined and limited by law and rule.
- Be free from being the object of unlawful discrimination while receiving counseling services.
- Have access to your records as provided in sections 144.92 and 148F.135 subdivision 1, except otherwise provided by law.
- Be free from exploitation for the benefit or advantage of the provider.
- Terminate services at any time, except as otherwise provided by law or court order.
- Know the intended recipients of assessment results.
- Withdraw consent to release assessment results, unless the right is prohibited by law or court order or was waived by prior written agreement.
- A non-technical description of assessment procedures.
- A non-technical explanation and interpretation of assessment results, unless this right is prohibited by law or court order or was waived by prior written agreement.
- A client has the right to have, and a counselor has the responsibility to provide a nontechnical explanation of the nature and purpose of the counseling procedures to be used and the results of tests administered to the client.
- The provider shall treat the client as an individual and not impose on the client any stereotypes of behavior, values or roles related to human diversity.
- The provider shall not misuse the relationship with a client due to a relationship with another individual or entity.
- The provider shall not exploit the professional relationship with a client for the provider's emotional, financial, sexual, or personal advantage or benefit. This prohibition extends to former clients who are vulnerable or dependent on the provider.
- The provider shall not engage in any sexual behavior with a client including: sexual contact, as defined in section 604.20, subdivision 7; or any physical, verbal, written, interactive, or electronic communication, conduct, or act that may be reasonably interpreted to be sexually seductive, demeaning, or harassing to the client.
- The provider shall not engage in any sexual behavior as described in subdivision 6 within the two-year period following the date of the last counseling service to a former client. This applies whether or not the provider has formally terminated the professional relationship. This extends indefinitely for a former client who is vulnerable or dependent on the provider.
- The provider shall disclose to the client the provider's preferences for choice of treatment or outcome and shall present other options for the consideration of choice of the client.
- The provider shall make a prompt and appropriate referral of the client to another professional when requested to make a referral by the client.
- Receive courteous treatment.
- Receive appropriate care.

- Rights in case of an emergency admission under section 253B.05, including the right to documentation in support of an emergency hold and the right to a summary hearing before a judge if the patient believes an emergency hold is improper;
 - The right to request expedited review under section 62M.05 if additional days of inpatient stay are denied;
 - The right to continuing benefits pending appeal and to an expedited administrative hearing under section 256.045 if the patient is a recipient of medical assistance or MinnesotaCare; and
 - The right to an external appeal process under section 62Q.73, including the right to a second opinion.
- The right to a proxy; a legally authorized health care proxy, agent, or guardian who can exercise the client's rights on the client's behalf.