

Recovery GPRA FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)

GPRA

Q: What is the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) of 1993?

A: GPRA is a public law that was passed by Congress in 1993. GPRA was enacted to improve stewardship in the Federal government and to link resources and management decisions with program performance.

Q: Do we have to comply with GPRA?

A: Yes, all Center Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) discretionary programs and both Best Practices and Discretionary Services—must comply with GPRA. Recovery services funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) State Opioid Response (SOR) grants are required to comply with GPRA.

Q: Do I need to submit the GPRA form to DSU if the person declines to consent?

A: Yes, and you must indicate in Administrative Section of the Recovery Services form whether consent has been given and create a GPRA ID.

Q: Can programs change the GPRA tool?

A: No, the GPRA tool cannot be changed.

Q: Do we have to collect information on every person our program serves?

A: Program staff must collect data on all clients as defined by the CSAT grant.

Q: Do we collect follow-up data on dropouts?

A: Yes

Q: Does GPRA need to be submitted in real time?

A: Yes, this means that your program must input all GPRA data into Alchemer within 1 day of conducting the interview (or completing the administrative follow-up or discharge).

Q: If participant is discharged and returns for services, does the participant count toward my GPRA targets as another client?

A: No, each participant counts once towards the GPRA targets.

Consent

Q: What is the purpose of the consent form?

A: To gain consent from every person that electing to participate in the GPRA study.

Q: Who signs the consent form?

A: The consent form needs to be signed by the individual consenting to be a GPRA participant and the “person obtaining consent” i.e. the Recovery Coach.

Q: Do I need to submit the GPRA Informed Consent form?

A: No, the form does not need to be submitted to DSU. You keep it for your center's records.

Q: How long do I need to keep the consent forms on record?

A: You are required to keep the Consent form in your records for 3 years.

Q: What is the procedure to follow if I do NOT obtain consent for GPRA from an individual?

A: Even though the individual has not consented to be a part of a research project, they are still counted, and you must still count it as a Person Served

1. Generate a GPRA ID and enter it on GPRA Recovery Services Form
2. Fill out the Administrative Section of the form answering, "No" to the question, "Was informed consent given for GPRA collection?"
3. Submit the form using this link.

Q: If a person declines consent for the GPRA study, can they still receive services from a program?

A: Yes

Form Questions:

Q: Is it mandatory to use the online GPRA data entry tool?

A: Yes

Q: Do we have to ask and report the questions as written in the GPRA tool?

A: Yes, questions must be asked as written to those who consent to participant.

Q: GPRA is supposed to be de-identified data, why do I need to give a date of birth?

A: The month and year of the date of birth are required for GPRA and submitted to SAMHSA.

Date of birth is not required for ADMIN Only submissions.

Q: What date should I use for the Intake, 6 Month Follow Up or Discharge date?

A: No matter which type of interview you are conducting, it should always be the day you spoke with the participant.

Q: Why does the form include information in [brackets]?

A: The information in [brackets] is for your information and is not to be read to the participant.

Q: How do I answer the required question, “In the last 30 days, were you diagnosed with either of the following...”?

A: The guidance given by SAMHSA is as follows: The intent of this question is to determine if the client has been diagnosed with an Opioid Use Disorder (OUD), Alcohol Use Disorder (AUD), Stimulant Use Disorder or Tobacco Use Disorder in the past 30 days.

Q: What if one of the questions on the form is not applicable to the participant?

A: Some of the questions are multi-part questions where the answer is not applicable. See circumstances below about questions that are okay to skip vs. those that must be answered.

1: (Okay to skip) For the question “How many children do you have?” you can skip if the answer to the above question “Do you have children?” is “No.” Same thing for “When was your last release date?” if the answers to the questions above it, “How many times have you been arrested?” are zero.

2: (Required to answer) However, if you answer, “In the past 30 days, where have you been living most of the time” as “Housed” you must answer the follow-up question about type of housing.

3: (When required to answer) and participant doesn’t know the answer to a question, all questions have an “Unknown” option.

Q. In Section B regarding the questions pertaining to being diagnosed with a Alcohol Use Disorder (AUD), Opioid Use Disorder (OUD), or Tobacco Use Disorder (TUD) - if the participant reports being prescribed a medication that is not listed on the form how do I answer the questions?

A. The medications listed on this form are the only FDA approved medications for AUD, OUD, or TUD treatment recognized by SAMHSA. This means that you would choose "DID NOT RECEIVE AN FDA-APPROVED MEDICATION FOR A DIAGNOSED...."

GPRA ID

Q: Do I need to create a new GPRA ID each time an individual visits my hospital?

A: No. If a person consents to GPRA once, even if they come back to the ED, they should not be re-asked GPRPA intake questions.

Q: What do I do if a person already has a GPRA ID in RDP from another center?

A: GPRA ID’s are unique to each center. If the person is seeking services from your center, you need to create a GPRA ID using your center abbreviations.

Intake

Q: How much time do I have to submit the intake?

A: 1-4 Days after the participant consents to GPRA.

Q: Can a participant have multiple intakes in multiple programs at the same time?

A: Yes. This means one person can have multiple GPRA IDs for multiple programs. E.g.: Ebony is in the Parents in Recovery Program and went to the ED for a visit. Ebony would now have 2 GPRA ID's: RCEDTPCCC202 and PIRTPCCC12. Each program would need to follow the GPRA guidelines for intake, discharge, and follow-up.

Q: If someone comes into the program and refuses to participate in GPRA, but returns later and changes their mind, what is the process?

A: At the 1st visit, you will assign a GPRA ID and submit as an ADMIN Only, No Consent. At the 2nd visit, you will use the same GPRA ID from the 1st visit and complete the interview intake.

6 Month Follow-Up

Q: When am I required to submit a follow-up for GPRA?

A: Must be completed within the window of 5 months from the date of intake to 7 months from the date of intake.

Q: Do I have to ask every question?

A: Yes, questions must be asked and answered again in the 6-Month Follow-Up interview when contact is made as well as the 6-Month Follow-Up questions. If the client is not reachable, then you will complete an ADMIN Only submission. You will complete the Administrative Section and Section I.

Q: Do we have to follow-up on each participant? What is the targeted follow-up rate?

A: Yes, each center must attempt to conduct a GPRA follow-up on every participant regardless of the status, unless the intake was ADMIN ONLY. Minimum targeted follow-up rate is 80%.

Q: Do we need to conduct a 6-month GPRA follow-up interview if the client cannot be contacted to conduct the discharge interview?

A: If a participant can't be reached for the discharge interview and receives an Administrative discharge, a separate 6-month GPRA follow-up interview must be conducted, completed, and submitted for the follow-up to count toward the program's target rate.

Q: What if we locate clients before or after their scheduled 6-month GPRA follow-up interview date?

A: The GPRA follow-up interview window is 1 month before and 2 months after the scheduled 6-month GPRA follow-up interview.

Q: How do I answer the 6-month follow-up question, “Is the participant still receiving services from your program...”?

A: Only answer yes if the person is currently utilizing your services (in the program in which you are conducting the survey) at that time. Remember to base all follow-ups on the most recent intake. Example: If you submit a GPRA Intake on 1/3/24 and then again, for the same participant on 1/24/24, the follow-up would be based on the 1/24/24 date.

Discharge

Q: If a person leaves the program prior to the 7th day, do I need to do a discharge?

A: No

Q: If participant is discharged and returned for services, does the participant count toward my GPRA targets as another client?

A: No, each client counts once towards the GPRA targets.

Q: Do I need to fill out the question “Identify the number of days each of these services were provided to the participant:” question in the Discharge Section?

A: Yes, this is a required and very important question, and you must fill out all 6 parts even if the answer is zero. If the answer is zero, please put a (0) in the fields provided (do not leave it blank). 'Peer Coaching' must be at least one (1) because that is the service you are providing.

Q: If a participant is discharged from your program within 7 calendar days of their GPRA intake interview, do I need to do a face-to-face interview?

A: A face-to-face interview is not required, and program staff will need to complete Section A, Section J, and Section K.

Q: My clients are generally in my program for a short period of time resulting in intake and discharge dates close together. Do we still have to collect both records?

A: Yes, data needs to be collected regardless of how close the collection points are. However, if the participant is discharged less than or equal to 7 days from the date of intake, a face-to-face discharge interview is not required. You would complete an ADMIN Only discharge.

Q: If a discharge is due at the same time as the 6-month follow-up, do I have to do both interviews?

A: Yes, you will still need to collect data for each interview as well as the respective follow-up and discharge sections, and they must be two (2) separate submissions.