



# The Common Eligibility Initiative

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# The Common Eligibility Initiative

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## Members of the team included Integrated Care Collaboration (ICC) members:

- \* CommUnityCare
- \* El Buen Samaritano
- \* LoneStar Circle of Care
- \* People's Community Clinic
- \* Project Access
- \* Seton Community Health Centers
- \* Travis County Healthcare District
- \* Volunteer Health Clinic



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**Project Vision:** To facilitate access to health care services for the self-funded population in Central Texas.

**Project Description:** Develop a health care access policy for the Central Texas self-funded population with no current access to a full-range of health care benefits that clarifies eligibility levels for services, documentation, requirements, service providers, etc.

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## Project Objectives:

- “No wrong door” – Ensure safety net providers in the Central Texas region use a standard eligibility tool so that there is uniformity in the eligibility determination process.
- Educate referring entities that work with self-pay clients on range of safety net services available within Central Texas and the eligibility requirements to access care.
- Develop regional approach to access for primary care safety net providers that can be transferable to other safety net providers.
- Create a standard medical identification card for self-pay clients seeking care that includes SMART information such as demographics, medical information and means testing.

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- Our initial focus has been on development of a common set of definitions and consensus around eligibility documentation requirements.



# The Common Eligibility Initiative – Shared Standards

## Household Size

- The following categories will be considered part of the applicant's household and any income derived on behalf of these individuals may (based on specific program) be included in determining financial eligibility for programs.
  - Applicant;
  - Any child, under the age of 19, for whom the applicant has a legal responsibility (i.e., biological child, adopted child, stepchild, partner's child, etc.) and who lives with the applicant;
  - Applicant's spouse (legal or common-law);
  - Any other adult partner (boyfriend/girlfriend) of applicant if the adults have a shared financial relationship;
  - Unborn child of applicant or applicant's partner (if in a legal or shared financial relationship).

# The Common Eligibility Initiative – Shared Standards

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- The documents identified in the following tables have been agreed-upon by the safety net medical providers as sufficient to confirm financial program eligibility.

# The Common Eligibility Initiative – Shared Standards

Type of Income	Required Documentation
Earned Income (job) Employer	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Check stubs (30 days) or</li> <li>2. Statement from employer</li> </ol>
Earned Income (job) – Self-Employed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Self-Employment Form or</li> <li>2. Business ledger or</li> <li>3. Tax Return</li> </ol>
Earned Income (job) – Day Laborer or other informal arrangement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Check stubs (30 days) or</li> <li>2. Statement from employer or</li> <li>3. Income Verification Form</li> </ol>
Child Support	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Award letter/court documents or</li> <li>2. Check stub or</li> <li>3. Letter from individual providing support</li> </ol>

# The Common Eligibility Initiative – Shared Standards

Type of Income	Required Documentation
TANF	Documentation of TANF Benefits, if any
Veteran's Benefits	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Award letter/court documents or</li> <li>2. Bank statement</li> </ol>
Retirement Benefits	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Award letter/court documents or</li> <li>2. Bank statement</li> </ol>
Social Security Benefits	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Award letter/court documents</li> </ol>
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Award letter/court documents or</li> <li>2. Bank statement</li> </ol>
Worker's Compensation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Award letter/court documents or</li> <li>2. Bank statement</li> </ol>
Unemployment Benefits	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Award letter showing activation of benefits or</li> <li>2. Claims Payment &amp; Status Report</li> </ol>
Any other income (interest from bank accounts, etc.)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. As appropriate</li> </ol>



# The Common Eligibility Initiative – Shared Standards

Type of Deductions	Required Documentation
Deductions Allowed for Self-Employed Individuals	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Receipts for items purchased for business or</li><li>2. Tax forms or</li><li>3. Business ledger</li></ol>



# The Common Eligibility Initiative – Next Steps

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## Next steps needed:

- Virtual portfolio development
  - Who and how to access
    - Shared database
      - If authorization signed by identified individuals in the “record” all providers will be able to access.
    - “Smart Card”
      - Authorization given by individual to view their record. Authorization at the time of service.