



**Maine Department of Health and Human Services**  
**Office of Behavioral Health**  
**Permanent Supportive Housing Program (PSHP)**

## **Guide to PSHP Disability Verification**

**Instructions:** Please use this information as a guide when documenting disability for PSHP.

As defined by HUD, a person shall be considered to have a disabling condition if such person has a diagnosable:

- Mental Health Disorder
- Chronic Alcohol Abuse
- Chronic Substance Abuse
- Physical Disability
- HIV/AIDS
- Developmental Disability (as defined in Section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance Bill of Rights Act of 2000)

And, that condition meets the following criteria:

- Is expected to be long-continuing or of indefinite duration;
- Substantially impeded the individual's ability to live independently; and
- Could be improved by the provision of more suitable housing conditions

A qualified professional with one of the following credentials (MD, DO, LCPC, LCSW, APRN-BC, NP, PA, Psychologist; or any other person Licensed by the State of Maine to diagnose and treat persons with the conditions that they are confirming) should complete the Disability Verification Form included the PSHP application.

If a qualified professional cannot complete the Disability Verification Form, then disability can also be verified by providing one of the alternative methods listed below. However, it is **strongly recommended** that the Disability Verification Form be completed if possible.

### **Alternative Methods of Disability Verification**

- Written verification from the Social Security Administration (SSA) of a qualifying disability; OR
- Copy of a statement or disability benefit letter showing that the applicant is the recipient of a disability check such as Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) or Veteran's Disability Compensation, OR
- Written observation(s) from intake staff of a qualifying disability.

*If disability is verified via written observation from intake staff, disability must be documented within forty-five (45) days of submission of the application by providing a completed Disability Verification Form or one of the alternative methods listed above.*