

Transitional Rent



What is Transitional Rent?

Transitional rent is a *Medi-Cal Community Support* that helps members experiencing or at risk of homelessness cover short-term housing costs while they transition to stable, long-term housing.

What does Transitional Rent offer?

- Up to **6 months of rental assistance** in interim or permanent settings
- Storage fees, amenity fees, and landlord-paid utilities (if part of rent payment)

Who is eligible?

Beginning January 1, 2026, all Managed Care Plans must offer Transitional Rent for the Behavioral Health Population of Focus. The table below outlines the eligibility criteria for members and the documentation requirements that providers must complete:

Member Eligibility Criteria	Provider Requirements
☐ Meet clinical eligibility for Severe Mental Illness (SMI)/Substance Use Disorder (SUD) or Full-Service Partnership (FSP) Eligible AND ☐ Experiencing or at risk of homelessness AND ☐ Transitioning from institution	☐ Submission of Housing Support Plan (HSP) ☐ Sustainability Funding after Transitional Rent ends (<i>interim housing must have a plan to transition to BHSA or another long-term subsidy such as HUD vouchers or PSH</i>) ☐ Submission of Attestation of Habitability for identified unit ☐ Submission of lease if required by health plan

Examples of institutions include: institutional congregate or residential setting, a carceral setting, interim housing, recuperative care or short-term post-hospitalization housing, or foster care

What housing types are eligible?

The following are examples of eligible housing types:

Interim Housing	Permanent Housing
• Single room occupancy units • Tiny homes • Hotels/motels (primary residency) • Shared rooms • Transitional and recovering housing	• Single-family and multi-family homes • Apartments • Mobile homes • Accessory dwelling units (ADUs) • Shared housing

How can I make a referral to Transitional Rent?

Starting January 1, 2026, health plans will start covering Transitional Rent. Medi-Cal members can be referred to Transitional Rent and other Community Supports through their health plan. **Referrals may come from:**

- Members
- Families, guardians, or caregivers
- Healthcare providers
- Community Support providers
- Community-based organizations (CBOs)
- Other service providers

To learn how to make a referral, please contact your local Managed Care Plan.

Reference: [DHCS Community Supports Policy Guide Volume 2](#); [HUD Definition of Experiencing or At Risk of Homelessness](#)