Housing Stabilization Services Learning Session #2: Client Eligibility and Enrollment

Modified and updated February 2024

HOSTED BY THE HSS TA TEAM

North Star Policy Consulting

Ei-Consultants

Housing Stabilization Services TA Team

Our goal is to support agencies and communities in implementing the new Housing Stabilization Services so that people experiencing homelessness get the help they need to achieve housing stability.

Purpose of Learning Sessions

DHS provides the WHAT

Housing Stabilization Services TA Team helps with HOW

Each session will include:

- Helpful tips and tools provided by the TA team
- Open Q&A on topic
- Opportunities for sharing experiences across agencies

Today: Client Eligibility and Enrollment

Goals

- Develop a system to identify agency clients who are potentially eligible
- Prepare documentation for eligibility review correctly

This session is NOT a substitute for official guidance from DHS.

Eligibility process: Let’s discuss

Resources: Where to start

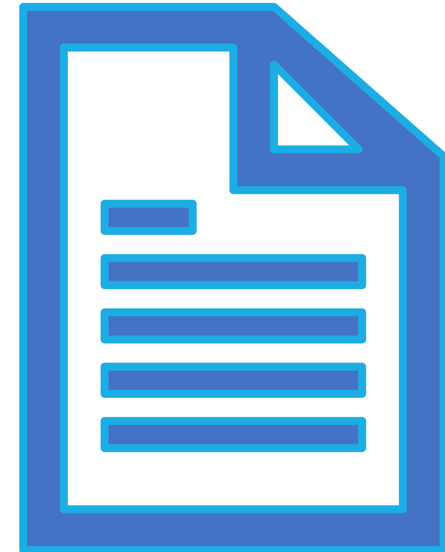
MN DHS Housing Stabilization Services Policy page

MN DHS Housing Stabilization Services Provider Manual

Allowable Documentation for Eligibility Requests (PDF)

Housing Stabilization Services Provider Training

Information for Targeted Case Managers (PDF)



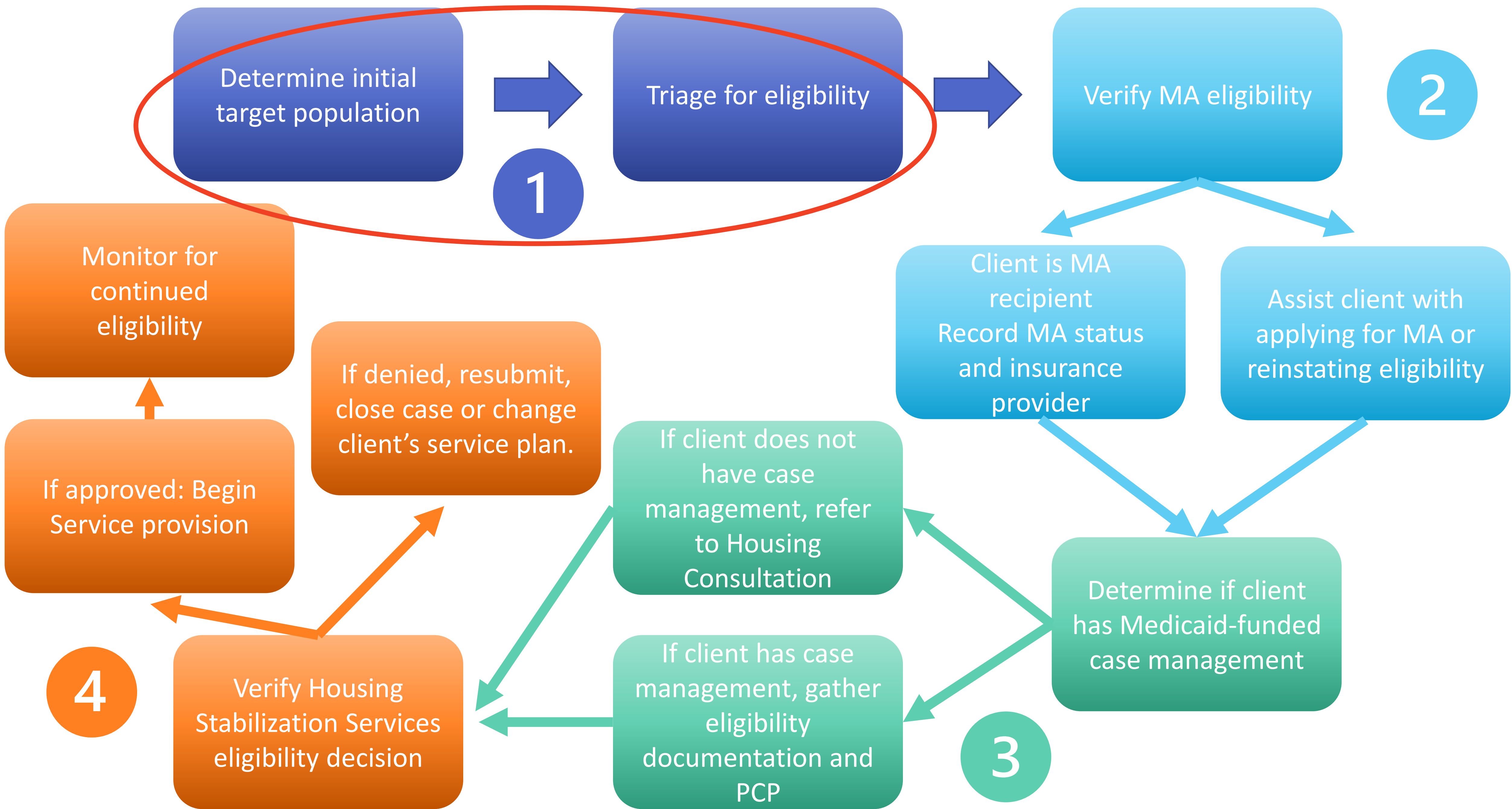
Forms:

Housing Stabilization Services Eligibility Request (DHS-7948)

Housing-Focused Person-Centered Plan

Roadmap for this session

EXAMPLE AGENCY FLOWCHART FOR CLIENT ELIGIBILITY


Determine initial target population
Triage for eligibility
1
Verify MA eligibility
2
Client is MA recipient
Record MA status and insurance provider
Assist client with applying for MA or reinstating eligibility
Determine if client has Medicaid-funded case management
If client does not have case management, refer to Housing Consultation
If client has case management, gather eligibility documentation and PCP
3
Verify Housing Stabilization Services eligibility decision
4
If approved: Begin Service provision
If denied, resubmit, close case or change client's service plan.
Monitor for continued eligibility

Determine target population

You may want to focus on a subgroup of the people you serve

Examples:

- Participants in a particular supportive housing program or building
- Clients with the highest level of housing-related service needs
- New clients only

Considerations for target population

What is your caseload capacity? How many staff will be trained to provide Housing Stabilization Services and how many people can they serve at a time?

What is your agency's capacity for documentation and billing?

Where are the biggest service funding gaps within your agency?

Agencies that enroll for Housing Stabilization Services may receive referrals from counties or other agencies. What is your capacity for accepting outside referrals?

Triage for eligibility

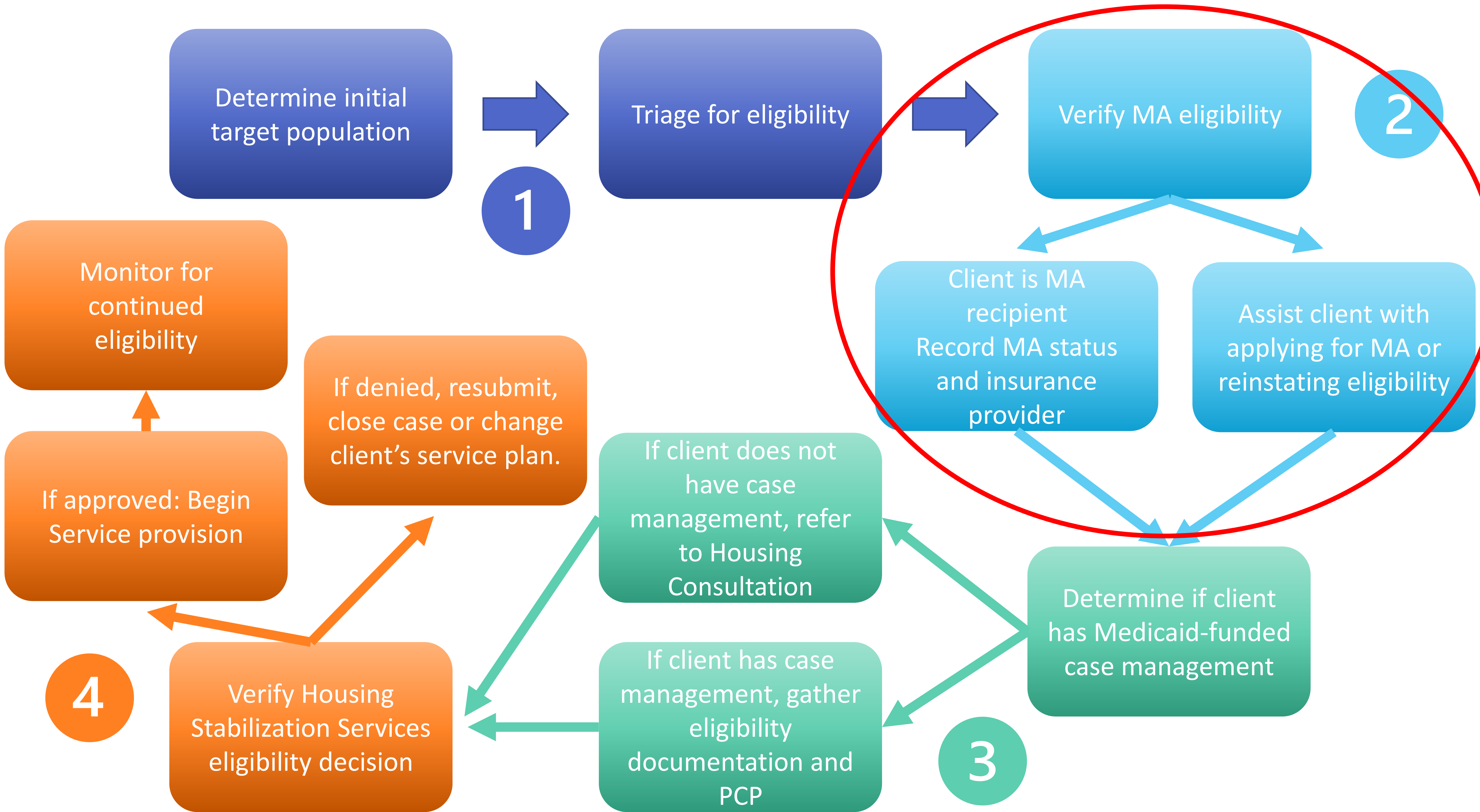
Use the Housing Stabilization Services Potential Eligibility Tracker to:

- Determine how many clients within a potential client pool are likely eligible
- Identify next steps for gathering eligibility documentation.

Establish a process for identifying potential participants and steps to move forward to establish eligibility, e.g.:

- Assign a point person to triage eligibility and notify direct service staff that one of their clients may be eligible
- Have all direct service staff review their caseloads for potential eligibility
- Have intake staff begin tracking potential eligibility

Determine how you will handle referrals. Who will respond to requests? How will you determine if you can accept a new referral?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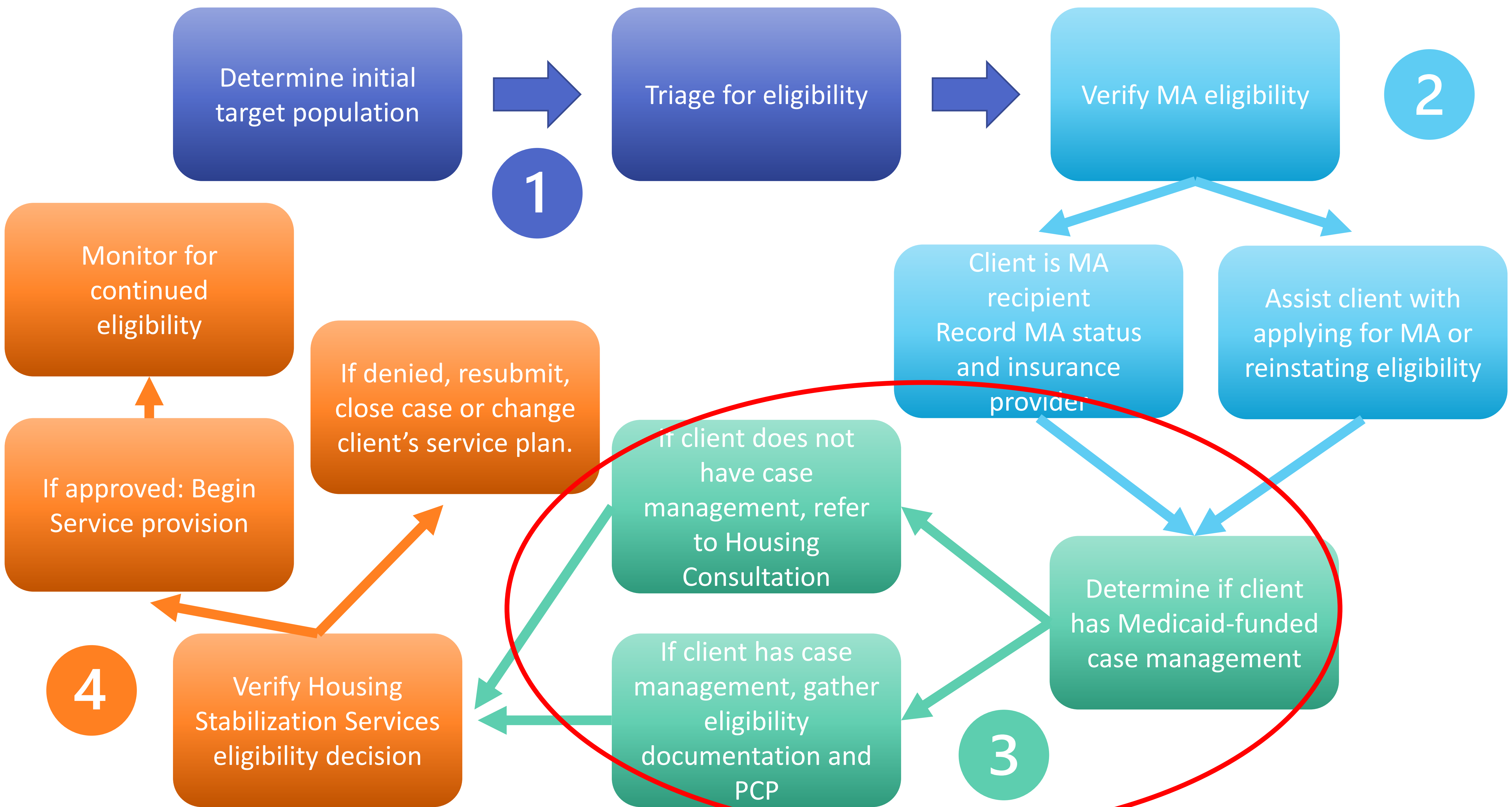
Verifying MA eligibility

Look up eligibility in MN-ITS.

If client is an MA recipient, record benefit start date and insurance provider (health plan enrollment or fee-for-service).

If client is not on MA, assist with application or reinstatement. DB101 can help.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Determine if client has Medicaid-funded case management

Look for:

- Targeted case management (Mental Health, Vulnerable Adult or Child Welfare)
- Waiver case management
- Senior care coordinator (may be with MCO)

Get TCM info from the client or contact the county (with permission from the client) if they are unsure.

Waiver services information is available in MN-ITS.

You may also try to contact the person's MCO (with permission from the client) for information about these services.

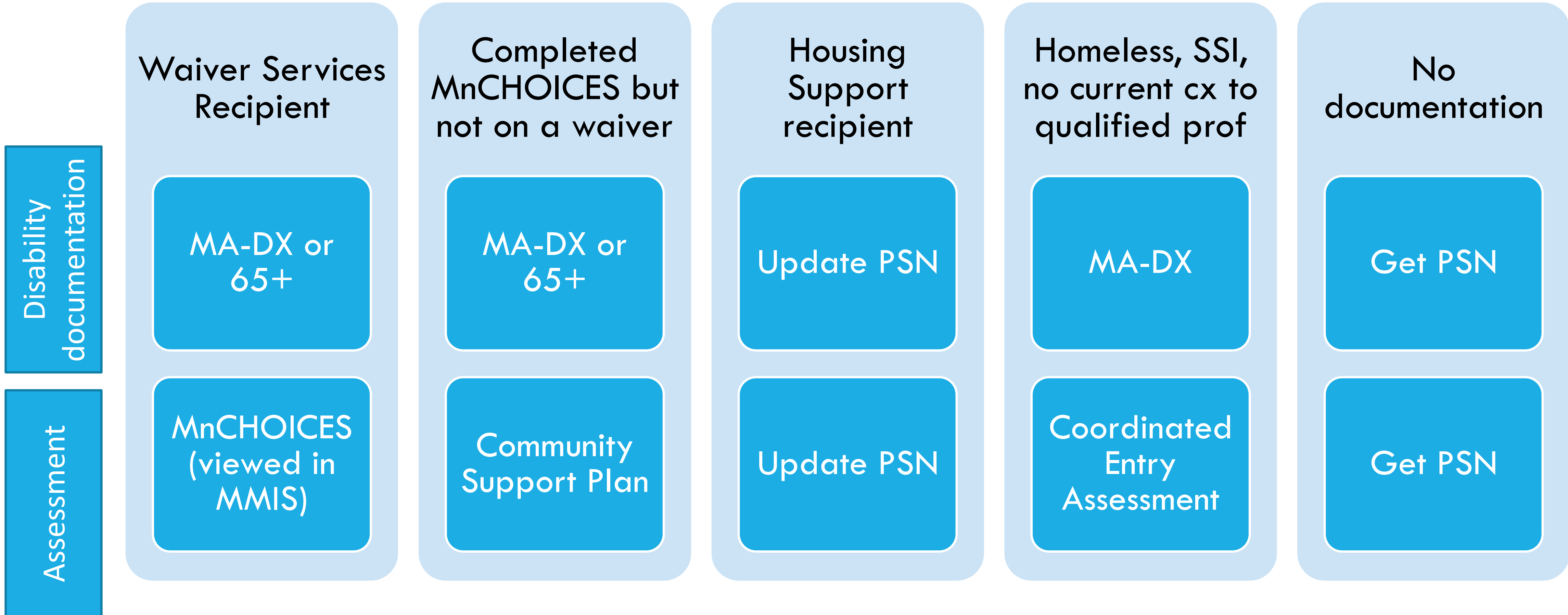
If the client has Medicaid-funded case management…

1. Connect with their case manager to ensure person-centered plan is completed.
2. Gather the eligibility documentation (proof of disability and assessment).
3. Get the completed person-centered plan from the case manager or care coordinator.
4. Housing Transition/Sustaining provider submits documentation to DHS eligibility review.

If client does NOT have Medicaid-funded case management…

1. Refer them to Housing Consultation. This can be with another provider or within your agency IF you have an exception to the Conflict of Interest protections.
2. You may want to help the Housing Consultation provider with gathering the eligibility documentation (proof of disability and assessment).
3. Housing Consultant submits documentation to DHS eligibility review.

Eligibility documentation: Common scenarios with OPTIONS for documentation



Completing the Professional Statement of Need

PROFESSIONAL STATEMENT OF NEED: GUIDANCE FOR QUALIFIED PROFESSIONALS (DHS-7122)

Which plan? Who does it?

Services received	Disability Waiver AND TCM	Elderly Waiver AND TCM	TCM only	No waiver services or TCM
Person responsible	Waiver case manager	Senior Care Coordinator	Targeted Case Manager	Housing Consultant
Plan type	Coordinated Services and Supports Plan (CSSP)	Coordinated Care Plan (CCP)	Housing focused PCP	Housing focused PCP

New housing focused person-centered plan format

*IMPORTANT: If you are not able to complete this form online, click Print Blank Form to print the form and complete it by hand.

Print Blank Form

COMMUNITY SUPPORTS ADMINISTRATION – HOUSING AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Housing Focused Person-Centered Plan

eDoc #7307

Example: Housing focused Person-Centered Plan

About You (this section is related to the person for whom the plan is being developed)

What's important to you?

I have two children and my family is very important to me. I liked my job at the grocery store and would like to get back to work soon.

What do you want people to know about you?

I am a hard worker and will do anything for my children, but I struggle with my mental health.

Are there any cultural, religious and/or personal identities you want to share about yourself?

No

Housing Goals

Where are you currently living?

I rent a two-bedroom apartment in St. Cloud.

If currently housed, do you like where you are currently living? (●) Yes ( ) No

What do you like about it?

It is safe and has enough room for my family.

What don't you like about it?

I have ongoing issues with the landlord and have a hard time paying my rent every month

Which county and/or tribal area would you like to live in?

Stearns County

What is important to you about your housing and community?

It's important that I have a safe place to live and that we stay in our current school district.

Are there any cultural, religious and/or identity specific needs or preferences related to your housing?

I have a large family that I like to host often so my housing needs to be big enough and allow visitors.

What concerns you about your housing now and in the future?

I recently received an eviction notice and am worried that I will need to move.

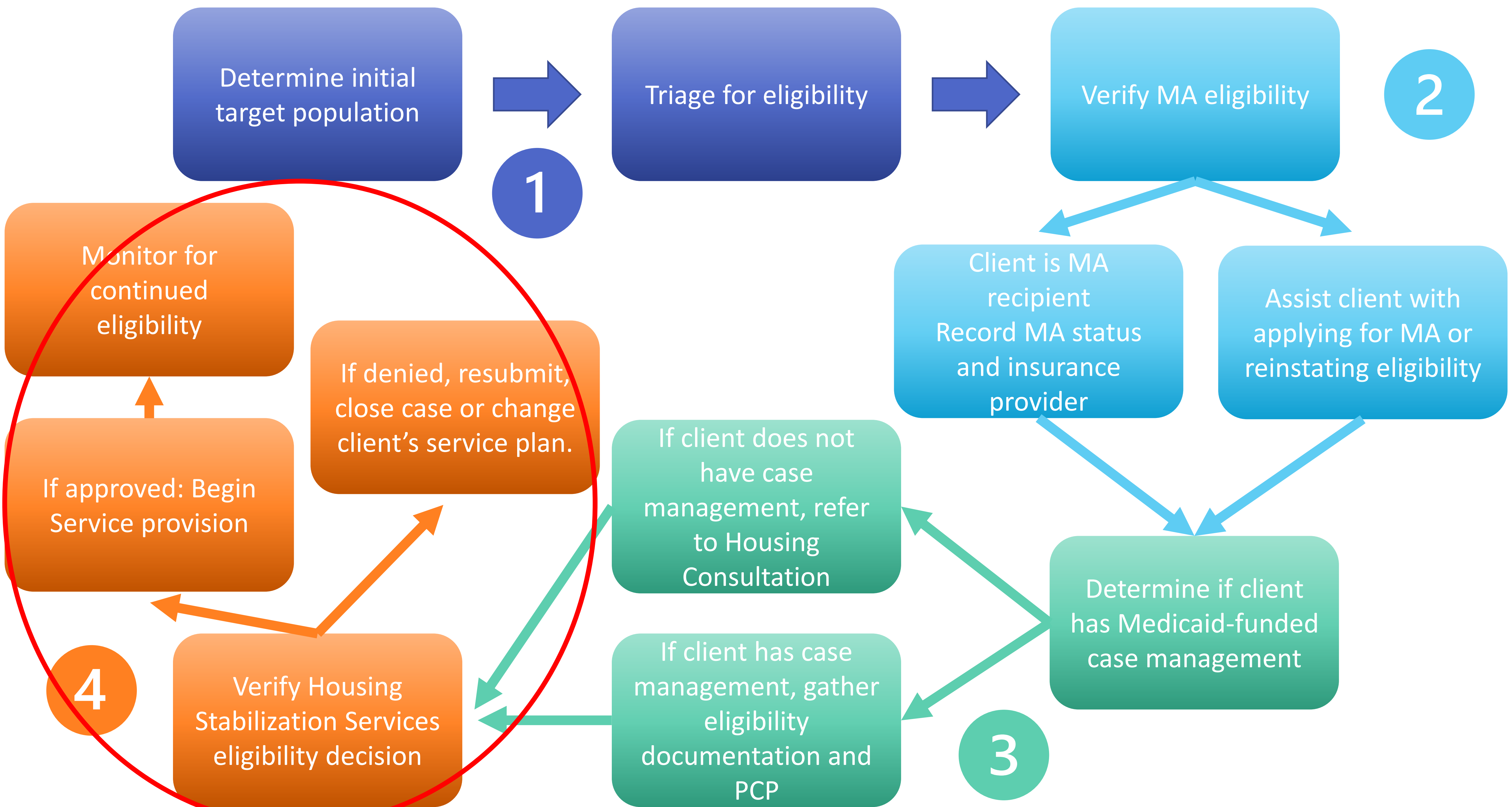
Prior to submitting, double check…

You have the correct PMI

Identifying information matches between MN-ITS, PSN and PCP

Diagnosis is checked on PCP and matches the PSN

Transition/Sustaining provider is indicated on the plan (includes CSSP and CCP)



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Approval notifications sent through the MN-ITS mailbox

If a recipient has been denied eligibility, the Housing Consultant and Transition/Sustaining provider will receive a notification that shows the reasons they were denied and corrective action they can take when submitting the eligibility form.

If approved, you may begin services. Develop a system to monitor continued eligibility:

- Check monthly that MA stays up to date and if insurance provider has changed
- Eligibility and plans will need to be renewed after one year

Thank you!

https://mesh-mn.org/hssta/

HSS-TATEAM@mesh-mn.org