

Do I Need to Complete a Level I Screen?

Instructions: Click on the question or use the scrollbar to "see all questions."

1. **Do I need to complete a preadmission Level I screen for an applicant?**
 2. **Do I need to complete a Level I screen for a resident?**
 3. **Do transferring or readmitted residents require an updated Level I screen?**
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1. Do I need to complete a preadmission Level I screen for an applicant?

Preadmission Level I screens are required for anyone who:

- Is applying for first time admission to a Nebraska Medicaid certified NF bed.
- Is transferring to a Nebraska Medicaid certified NF from an out-of-state facility.
- Is a Nebraska resident transferring to an out-of-state Medicaid certified NF.
- Was previously formally discharged from a NF and is applying for admission to the same or another Medicaid certified NF.
- Was screened as a Negative Level I but NF placement has taken more than a year, and the previous Level I has expired.
- Was evaluated as a Level II but NF placement has taken more than 90 days, and the previous Level II has expired.
- Was screened as a Negative Level I but whose behaviors and/or symptoms now suggest the presence of mental illness and/or mental retardation/related conditions.

Screens *are not required* for anyone who is admitting to a Swingbed or to a non-Medicaid funded facility.

2. Do I need to complete a Level I screen for a resident?

Status Change (Resident) Level I Screens are required for any individual who:

- Is being admitted or readmitted to a NF following an inpatient psychiatric stay or equally intensive treatment (e.g., crisis unit). A Level II status change is required prior to the individual's readmission to the facility.
- Has never been evaluated through the Level II process but exhibits signs, symptoms, and/or behaviors suggesting the presence of a diagnosis of mental illness and/or mental retardation/related conditions.
- Has demonstrated an increase in symptoms and/or behaviors to the extent that there is a change in mental health and/or mental retardation treatment needs.
- Has demonstrated a significant physical status improvement such that s/he is more likely to respond to special treatment for that condition or s/he might be considered appropriate for a less restrictive placement alternative.
- Has been approved for NF stay for a short term period and the individual's stay is expected to exceed the approved time frame.

3. Do transferring or readmitted residents require an updated Level I screen?

Level I screens *are not* required for the following circumstances:

- *NF to NF Transfer.* Transferring residents do not require an updated Level I/II screen. Instead, the discharging facility is responsible for transferring a copy of screening and, if applicable, evaluation information. The discharging facility must also report the transfer to DDM in order for tracking information to be maintained. **Note: If the prior Level II indicated a facility specific placement requirement, a new Level II is required to permit transfer to another placement.**
- *Bedhold.* Readmissions falling within the bedhold policy are subject to the Resident Review/Status Change process rather than the Preadmission Screening process. An updated Level I/II is not required

unless the individual experienced a significant change in status. An individual returning to the same or another facility **after an absence greater than the State's bedhold policy** are subject to Level I and Level II Preadmission Screening requirements, if applicable. Some Nebraska facilities may continue to hold a resident's bed without pay until the resident returns. If a facility indicates on the MDS discharge tracking form that a resident is discharged for medical care but his/her *return is anticipated*, that individual *does not* require a new screen prior to returning to the nursing facility. If the facility indicates the resident's *return is not anticipated*, the individual is considered formally discharged from the nursing facility, and a new screen *is required* before s/he can re-admit to a Medicaid certified nursing facility.

Level I screens are required for:

- *Psychiatric hospitalization*. Readmissions following psychiatric hospitalizations, regardless of whether the hospitalization occurs in a medical hospital psychiatric unit or a regional psychiatric hospital *and* regardless of whether the absence falls within the State's bedhold policy, are subject to preadmission Level I/II screening requirements.