






Chronic Homelessness Questions in HMIS

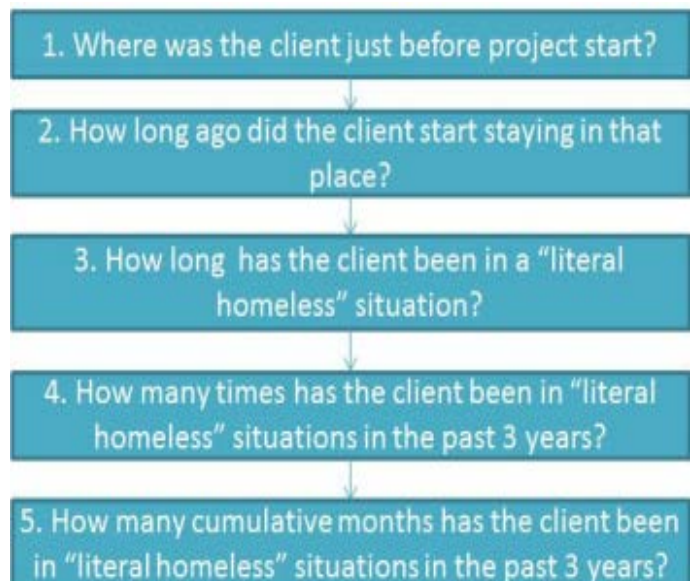
Does your project's Entry Assessment include conditional logic?

Entry Assessment Name	Conditional Logic
HUD CoC & ESG Entry SO ES SH (2016 Chicago)	NO
HHS RHY Entry for SO and ES (2016 Chicago)	NO
HHS PATH Entry for Street Outreach (2016 Chicago)	NO
HUD CoC & ESG Entry All Other Projects (2016 Chicago)	YES
HHS RHY Entry for TH and HP (2016 Chicago)	YES
HHS PATH Entry for Services Only (2016 Chicago)	YES
VA SSVF Entry for HP and RRH (2016 Chicago)	YES

Acronyms
CoC – Continuum of Care
ES – Emergency Shelter
ESG – Emergency Solutions Grant
HP – Homeless Prevention
HUD – Housing and Urban Development
PATH Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness
RHY – Runaway and Homeless Youth
RRH – Rapid Re-Housing
SSVF – Supportive Services for Veteran Families
SH – Safe Haven

If NO for conditional logic, you will always see the following questions (definitions for each question on page 6):

Current Residence/Living Situation	-Select-
Length of Stay in Previous Place	-Select-
Approximate date homelessness started:	<input type="text"/> / <input type="text"/> / <input type="text"/>   
Regardless of where they stayed last night - Number of times the client has been on the streets, in ES, or SH in the past three years including today	-Select-  
Total number of months homeless on the street, in ES or SH in the past three years	-Select-



If **YES** for conditional logic, you will begin with the following two questions. These questions are the beginning of a sequence of questions that will appear, dependent upon the selections made.

Current Residence/Living Situation	<input type="text" value="-Select-"/>
Length of Stay in Previous Place	<input type="text" value="-Select-"/> G

How Does Conditional Logic Work?

Depending on what category your selection falls into for **Current Residence/Living Situation**, the following questions will be answered:

- **If Type of Residence = Homeless Situation** then the user will answer...
 - Approximate Date Homelessness Started (Date Field)
 - Number of Times Homeless on streets, in ES, or SH in the past 3 years, including today
 - Total Number of Months homeless on streets, in ES or SH in the past 3 years
- **If Type of Residence = Institutional Situation** then the user will answer...
 - Did Client stay less than 90 days? Yes or No
 - If No, no other responses needed. Data Entry Stops.
 - If Yes, then...
 - On the night before did client stay on the streets, in ES or SH
 - If No, no other responses needed. Data Entry Stops.
 - If Yes, then the user will answer...
 - Approximate Date Homelessness Started (Date Field)
 - Number of Times Homeless on streets, in ES, or SH in the past 3 years, including today
 - Total Number of Months homeless on streets, in ES or SH in the past 3 years
- **If Type of Residence = Transitional Housing/Permanent Housing** then user will answer..
 - Did Client stay less than 7 nights? Yes or No
 - If No, no other responses needed. Data Entry Stops.
 - If Yes, then the user will answer...
 - Length of time in the prior living situation

Options available for Current Residence/Living Situation, note the three types of SITUATIONS your answers could fall under.

-Select- ▼

-Select- ▲

----- HOMELESS SITUATION ←...-

Place not meant for habitation (HUD)

Emergency shelter, including hotel or motel paid for with emergency shelter voucher (HUD)

Safe Haven (HUD)

Interim Housing

----- INSTITUTIONAL SITUATION ←...-

Foster care home or foster care group home (HUD)

Hospital or other residential non-psychiatric medical facility (HUD)

Jail, prison or juvenile detention facility (HUD)

Long-term care facility or nursing home (HUD)

Psychiatric hospital or other psychiatric facility (HUD)

Substance abuse treatment facility or detox center (HUD)

----- TRANSITIONAL AND PERMANENT HOUSING SITUATION ←...-

Hotel or motel paid for without emergency shelter voucher (HUD)

Owned by client, no ongoing housing subsidy (HUD)

Owned by client, with ongoing housing subsidy (HUD)

Permanent housing for formerly homeless persons (HUD)

Rental by client, no ongoing housing subsidy (HUD)

Rental by client, with VASH subsidy (HUD)

Options available for Length of Stay in Previous Place

-Select- ▼

-Select- ▲

One night or less

Two to six nights

One week or more, but less than one month

One month or more, but less than 90 days

90 days or more, but less than one year

One year or longer (HUD)




Client doesn't know (HUD)

Client refused (HUD)

Data not collected (HUD)

Example Images

Client Entering from **Homeless Situation**:

Current Residence/Living Situation	Emergency shelter, including hotel or motel paid for with emergency shelter voucher (HUD) ▼
Length of Stay in Previous Place	One year or longer (HUD) ▼ G
Approximate date homelessness started:	06 / 01 / 2015    G
Regardless of where they stayed last night - Number of times the client has been on the streets, in ES, or SH in the past three years including today	One time (HUD) ▼ G
Total number of months homeless on the street, in ES or SH in the past three years	12 ▼ G

Client Entering from **Institutional Situation**, with a stay of **MORE THAN** 90 days:

Current Residence/Living Situation	Jail, prison or juvenile detention facility (HUD)
Length of Stay in Previous Place	One year or longer (HUD) ▼ G
Did you stay less than 90 days?	No G

Client Entering from **Institutional Situation**, with a stay of **LESS THAN** 90 days:

Current Residence/Living Situation	Jail, prison or juvenile detention facility (HUD)
Length of Stay in Previous Place	One week or more, but less than one month ▼ G
Did you stay less than 90 days?	Yes G
On the night before did you stay on the streets, ES or SH?	-Select- ▼ G




Client Entering from **Transitional and Permanent Housing Situation**, with length of stay **MORE THAN 7** nights:

Current Residence/Living Situation	<input type="text" value="Hotel or motel paid for without emergency shelter voucher (HUD)"/>
Length of Stay in Previous Place	<input type="text" value="One week or more, but less than one month"/> G
Did you stay less than 7 nights?	<input type="text" value="No"/> G

Client Entering from **Transitional and Permanent Housing Situation**, with length of stay **LESS THAN 7** nights:

Current Residence/Living Situation	<input type="text" value="Staying or living in a family member's room, apartment or house (HUD)"/>
Length of Stay in Previous Place	<input type="text" value="One night or less"/> G
Did you stay less than 7 nights?	<input type="text" value="Yes"/> G
On the night before did you stay on the streets, ES or SH?	<input type="text" value="-Select-"/> G

Answering Yes to the question 'On the night before did you stay on the streets, ES or SH?' will populate three additional questions:

On the night before did you stay on the streets, ES or SH?	<input type="text" value="Yes"/> G
Approximate date homelessness started:	<input type="text" value=""/> / <input type="text" value=""/> / <input type="text" value=""/>   
Regardless of where they stayed last night - Number of times the client has been on the streets, in ES, or SH in the past three years including today	<input type="text" value="-Select-"/> G
Total number of months homeless on the street, in ES or SH in the past three years	<input type="text" value="-Select-"/>

Data Collection Instructions, from the [HMIS Data Standards Manual](#)

Intake staff should ask clients about their homeless history, including specific instances the client spent on the street, in an emergency shelter, or in a Safe Haven project. This may require defining or explaining each field to the client.

Although documentation is required by some funders for programs targeting chronic homeless persons, completing the data fields in HMIS does not require documentation -- a client's responses are all that is required.

How do you determine the Approximate Date Started?

Approximate date homelessness started:

 / /   

Have the client look back to the date of the last time the client had a place to sleep that was not on the streets, ES, or SH.⁴

Including the situation the client was in right before entering, plus any continuous time moving around between the streets, an emergency shelter, or a safe haven, determine the date this period of the client's "literal" homelessness began.

The look back time would not be broken by a stay of less than 7 consecutive nights in any permanent or temporary housing situation nor would it be broken by an institutional stay of less than 90 days (i.e. jail, substance abuse or mental health treatment facility, hospital, or other similar facility).

Approximations are permitted.

Number of Times homeless in the past three years?

Including today, count all the different times the client was on the streets, in an emergency shelter, or in a safe haven in the last 3 years where there are *full* breaks in between (i.e. breaks that are 90 days or more in an institution or 7 nights or more in permanent or transitional housing)

Regardless of where they stayed last night - Number of times the client has been on the streets, in ES, or SH in the past three years including today

Total number of months homeless in the past three years?

Total number of months homeless on the street, in ES or SH in the past three years

Count the cumulative number of months in which a person was on the streets, in an ES, or SH in the last 3 years, *including* stays in an institution <90 days or in permanent or transitional housing <7 days. Round the number of months up to the next highest number of full months. The current month, even if a partial month, can be counted as a full month.