

# GAIN-SS

---

Dr. Christie Olejemeh, Public Health Analyst, Care and  
Treatment Division  
February 14, 2023

# GAIN-SS POLICY

The purpose of this policy document is to articulate DC Health – HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, STD, and Tuberculosis Administration (HAHSTA) guidance and expectations for use of GAIN-SS for screening of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services for Ryan White HIV/AIDS Programs

- GAIN-SS is a collaborative effort between clinicians, researchers, and policymakers to create a comprehensive and standardized biopsychosocial assessment tool.
- The GAIN-SS cannot be used for diagnosis or level-of-care placement

# SCREENING TOOL

- Screen in general populations to identify customers who would be flagged as having one or more behavioral health disorders and refer to treatment
- Screens out those without behavioral health disorders
- Serves as an easy-to-use quality assurance tool across diverse field-assessment systems for staff with minimal training or direct supervision
- Serves as a periodic measure of change over time in behavioral health
- Available for self- or staff-administration with paper and pen, on an electronic system, or on the web

## ACQUISITION OF GAIN-SS

---

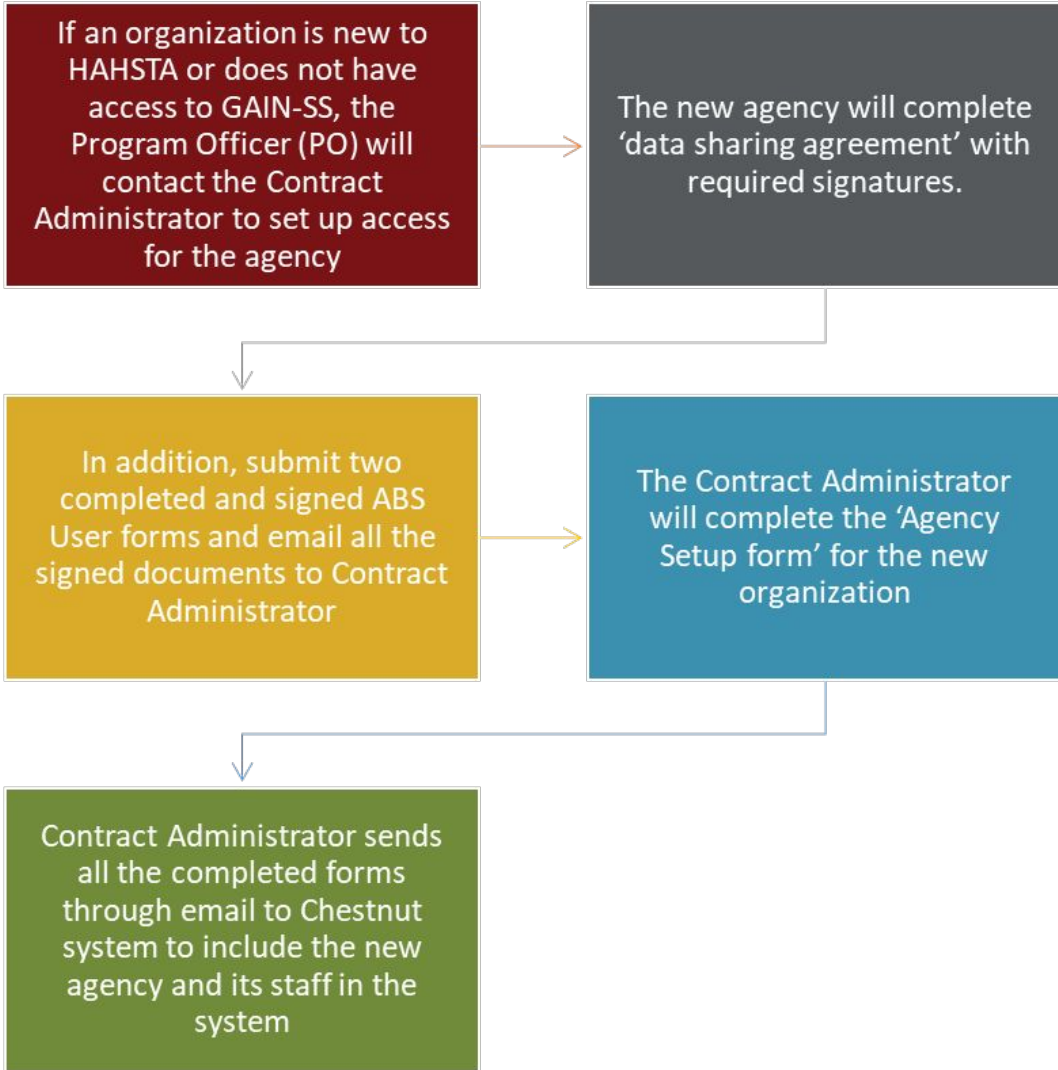
HAHSTA purchased a web-based assessment tool known as Global Appraisal of Individual Needs, a screening tool (GAIN-SS short screener) for Mental Health and Substance Abuse

# Child-Agency Set-Up

---

All agencies linked to DC Health/HAHSTA  
GAIN-SS are referred to as ‘Child agency’

# PROCESSES



# Access To GAIN-SS ABS Web-Based Program

- HAHSTA bought 70 access of the online Assessment Building System (ABS) web-based system
- Every provider of Medical Case Management must have at least two accesses:
- An interviewer and Supervisory access
- On case-by-case basis, access to child agency could be increased due to customer load.
- Providers complete the ABS User form and forward to GAIN-SS Contract Administrator at HAHSTA who coordinates with Chestnut system to ensure access and deactivations occur on timely-bases.
- When a staff with GAIN-SS access leaves an organization or move to a different position,
- Expectation: PO should report to Contract Administrator who will deactivate the access or a new replacement within the organization may be added



# IMPLEMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

- All Sub-recipient's complete data sharing agreements to participate
- Organization also completes Assessment Building System (ABS) Agency set up
- HAHSTA assigns 'Access' to individual sites
- Individual Staff of agencies completes ABS User information form
- Supervisory access and/or Interviewer access provided

## COMPLIANCE MONITORING

- Subrecipients will ensure that assigned staff use the GAIN-SS and report usage challenges to their assigned Program Officer (PO).
- Quarterly reports on use of GAIN-SS should be submitted with the progress report in EGMS.
- GAIN-SS Contract Administrator will run quarterly report and provide usage information to the PO.

## NON- USE OF GAIN-SS SYSTEM

The Program Officer (PO) will ensure that all assigned sub-recipients utilize the system.

However, if an organization has another evidenced-based tool that they prefer to use, they can apply for a waiver.

The alternate tool must be sent to PO and Contract Administrator for review and approval.

Once the tool is approved, sub-recipient accesses to GAIN-SS will be deactivated including the agency setup.

## NON- USE OF GAIN-SS SYSTEM CONTD.

- If the sub-recipient did not receive a waiver to use a different tool and does not utilize GAIN-SS, the sub-recipient is out of compliance with provision of quality services.
- **Within 60 days**, the PO must initiate a serious deficiency remediation against the organization and if still non-compliant will institute a corrective action plan.

## Activating and Deactivating Accounts Access

- HAHSTA Contract Administrator manages the GAIN-SS access activations and deactivations.
- Sub-recipient access to GAIN-SS when not used for **two consecutive quarters** without reasonable excuse may be deactivated.
- The Program Officer will remind the sub-recipient of non-use, and provide technical assistance
- The sub-recipient could request to activate/deactivate an account if staff have left the organization or there is a need to replace a staff. These should be done by submitting a completed and signed ABS User form.

## **HAHSTA Service Delivery Requirements**

- **HAHSTA Requires Initial Screening At Onset Of Services**
- **And Reassessment To Follow The Medical Case Management Acuity Levels.**

# GAIN-SS TRAININGS

- The GAIN-SS training module is recorded and will be provided on demand to new users, then **annually and periodically every 6 months** for refresher courses.
- The initial training for first-time users will include the recorded webinar and test demonstration of GAIN-SS web-based system
- HAHSTA has available a training module that supervisors of organizations can use to train staff when needed.
- Program Officers will ensure that all provider staff identified to use GAIN-SS tool are trained.
- Training link: **<https://recordings.join.me/tU2lvnrKp0KuV228GES-ew>**

# QUESTIONS?



# DC | HEALTH

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

899 North Capitol Street NE, 5th Fl, Washington, DC 20002

 [dchealth.dc.gov](https://dchealth.dc.gov)

 @\_DCHealth  dchealth  DC Health

For more information on the District's COVID-19 response, visit [coronavirus.dc.gov](https://coronavirus.dc.gov)