

**Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA)
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) – 2019.09.10**

All questions must be emailed to the RA-DATREATMENT@pa.gov resource account.

ID	GPRA
1	<p>What is the Government Performance and Results (GPRA) Act of 1993? GPRA is a public law that was passed by Congress in 1993. GPRA was enacted to improve stewardship in the Federal government and to link resources and management decisions with program performance. GPRA requires that all Federal departments do the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a strategic plan specifying what they will accomplish over a 3 to 5 year period. • Set performance targets related to their strategic plan on an annual basis. • Report annually the degree to which the targets set in the previous year were met. • Conduct regular evaluations of their programs and use the results to explain their successes and failures based on the performance monitoring data. <p><i>The GPRA Modernization Act of 2010 updated some aspects of the GPRA Act of 1993 by establishing changes and building on lessons agencies have learned in setting goals and reporting performance. Additionally, it placed emphasis on setting priorities, cross-organizational collaboration to achieve shared goals, and the use and analysis of goals and measures to improve outcomes of federally funded programs. As part of this federal mandate, all Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) grantees and providers are required to collect and report performance data using approved measurement tools.</i></p>
2	<p>What is CSAT? The Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) is a division of SAMHSA. The mission of CSAT is to promote community based-substance abuse treatment and recovery services for individuals and family in every community. CSAT provides national leadership to improve access, reduce barriers, and promote high quality, effective treatment and recovery services.</p>
3	<p>Is the State Opioid Response (SOR) a Discretionary Services grant? Yes. CSAT discretionary services grant programs respond to the official need to address gaps (unmet and emerging needs) in treatment capacity. Responding to treatment capacity problems includes addressing the needs of communities with serious emerging drug problems and developing innovative solutions to unmet needs.</p>
4	<p>Do we have to comply with GPRA? All CSAT discretionary programs—both Best Practices and Discretionary Services—must comply with GPRA. All clients receiving State Opioid Response funds shall comply with GPRA and the collection of CSAT’s GPRA Core Client Outcome Measures data elements at intake (baseline), 6-month post intake interviews and discharge.</p>
5	<p>What are the Core Client Outcome Measures in the CSAT-GPRA data collection tool? The CSAT-GPRA Core Client Outcome Measures in the CSAT-GPRA data collection tool (the GPRA tool) are client-level data items that have been selected from widely used data collection instruments (e.g., the Addiction Severity Index and the McKinney Homeless Program reporting system). Outcome measures include substance use, criminal activity, mental and physical health, family and living conditions, education/employment status and social connectedness.</p>
6	<p>How do I submit a GPRA? GPRA interviews must be entered in Web Infrastructure for Treatment Services (WITS) and are transmitted to SAMHSA’s Performance Accountability and Reporting System (SPARS) nightly.</p>
7	<p>What is SPARS? SPARS is an online data entry, reporting, technical assistance request, and training system to support grantees in reporting timely and accurate data to SAMHSA.</p>

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8	<p>How will these data be used? These data will help CSAT do the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate tangible CSAT contributions to meeting GPRA objectives. • Report to Congress via the GPRA Plan/Report, aggregated by program, along with a narrative developed by your Government Project Officer (GPO) on the status of grant activities, services provided, and client outcomes. • Report to SAMHSA on the National Outcome Measures (NOMs). For more information, go to SAMHSA’s GPRA Measurement Tools web page. • Make the case to Congress that the money awarded to grantees is being spent effectively.
9	<p>Can projects change the GPRA? No, the GPRA tool cannot be changed.</p> <p>CSAT encourages projects to use other data collection instruments to enhance their data collection efforts. However, data from additional questions should not be forwarded to CSAT as part of GPRA reporting.</p>
10	<p>Do GPRA initial interviews need to be completed face-to-face? Yes. Initial interviews must be conducted face-to-face. In addition, the GPRA interview must not be completed over the course of several different days but rather completed in one day.</p>
11	<p>Should the client fill out the GPRA tool? No. The client should never be allowed to fill out the GPRA tool. The client must be asked the questions on the GPRA tool by the service provider.</p>
12	<p>Do we have to ask and report the questions as written in the GPRA tool? Yes, questions must be asked as written. However, providers may use their existing instruments (in lieu of the GPRA tool) to collect data for GPRA reporting as long as their questions have the exact same wording as those in the CSAT-GPRA tool and the response categories are exactly the same or can be rolled up to the exact categories in the tool.</p>
13	<p>What if the client refuses or doesn’t know the know the answer to a question? If the client refuses to answer a question, mark “REFUSED” on the tool. If the client does not know the answer to a question, mark “DON’T KNOW” on the tool. For items where response options are read to the client, do not offer “DON’T KNOW” and “REFUSED” to answer as response options—these options should be client-generated only. There are “DON’T KNOW” and “REFUSED” response options for all items that are asked of the client. These response options are not available for items that are supplied by program staff.</p>
14	<p>Are service providers and SCAs responsible for submitting data for the first few months of their grant? Yes. Service providers and Single County Authorities are expected to begin submitting data into WITS. In addition, case management providers and support services such as recovery housing will be expected to begin submitting data into WITS. Any delays in data submission should be discussed with the SCAs.</p>
15	<p>Do we have to collect information on every person our program serves? The designation of an individual as a client is left up to the program, not the individual grantee. Program staff must collect data on all clients as defined by the CSAT grant. If services are being funded in part or whole by SOR funds, then GPRA data must be collected at intake (baseline), 6-month post-intake and discharge.</p> <p>CSAT-GPRA Core Client Outcome Measures data items must be collected at intake (baseline), 6-month post-intake and discharge. Sites should collect follow-up data on all clients, regardless of whether a client drops out of the program. When a program cannot follow-up on a client, the program must use the GPRA tool to report that information to CSAT and explain why.</p>

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16	<p>Should we use the CSAT-GPRA Core Client Outcome Measures elements to collect data on adolescents and juveniles, even though the core elements are designed for use with adults? Will there be a separate set of GPRA core elements for use with adolescents? Should we just not collect data on adolescents?</p> <p>CSAT recognizes the difficult issues involving collecting data on adolescents and juveniles. Currently, Discretionary Services grantees and their providers are to use the GPRA tool to collect GPRA data on all juveniles and adolescents in their programs.</p>
17	<p>Is Case Management and recovery housing a recovery support service?</p> <p>Yes.</p>
18	<p>When would the GPRA need to be administer for Case Management Services?</p> <p>The GPRA would only need to be completed if the individual is engaged in ongoing SOR funded case management services beyond the level of care assessment.</p>
19	<p>Does OUD need to be the <u>primary</u> diagnosis in order to utilize SOR funds?</p> <p>No. SOR funds for treatment and recovery support services shall be utilized to provide services to individuals with a diagnosis of an OUD or to individuals with a demonstrated history or opioid overdose problems.</p>
20	<p>Is the GPRA considered a case management or treatment function?</p> <p>As you are all determining how best to implement the SOR GPRA within your service delivery system, DDAP has heard your concerns related to duplication between the level of care assessment (the TAP) and the SOR GPRA. Effective immediately, DDAP is temporarily removing the requirement for the TAP and the Recovery Plan to be entered into PA WITS. With regard to a level of care assessment, SCAs and their contracted level of care assessment (LOCA) providers must use a tool that includes all of the components in the attached document. Generally, these components are what was required prior to the implementation of the TAP. The TAP is still available for use in PA WITS and is considered in compliance with DDAP’s LOCA requirements. The attached document also delineates what SCAs and contracted case management providers, including those who do LOC assessments, must enter into PA WITS. For treatment providers, the elements required to be entered into PA WITS for the TEDS collection remain unchanged.</p> <p>As discussed during DDAP’s 8/5/19 call with PACDAA’s Treatment Committee, DDAP considers the administration of the SOR GPRA to be a case management function and therefore SCAs should not be passing this requirement to a treatment provider. There might be a specific circumstance from time to time where a treatment provider might need to complete a GPRA but it should be the exception.</p>

ID	GPRA COLLECTION POINTS
1	<p>What are the required data collection points for the GPRA information?</p> <p>GPRA data are to be collected face-to-face for each individual client at these specific points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intake/baseline • Six months after the initial collection of CSAT-GPRA Core Client Outcome Measures data • Discharge <p>It is imperative providers begin to collect GPRA data on each client as soon as possible after the client’s intake into the program.</p> <p>To comply with the requirement to collect GPRA data at intake/admission, residential services must collect GPRA data on each client as soon as possible after intake but no later than 3 days after the client officially enters residential services. All types of non-residential services shall be completed no later than 4 days after</p>

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	the client officially enters the non-residential service.
2	<p>Should all potential planned services for the client be noted in the Record Management, Planned Services section of the GPRA tool? Identify the services you plan to provide to the client during the client’s course of treatment/recovery.</p> <p>(Note: Record only the planned services which are funded by this CSAT grant.)</p>

ID	GPRA INTAKE / BASELINE
1	<p>How should we handle clients who are readmitted for treatment services? Providers have two options for readmitting clients. Providers are only required to administer the GPRA baseline one time per client. However, providers may choose to administer a second (or third, fourth, etc.) baseline GPRA. In this case, the subsequent 6-month follow-up will be required from the latest baseline only. Each client will only count once toward reaching the target number of clients to be seen, regardless of the number of GPRA intakes. The same client ID number should be used, regardless of the number of times the client presents for services.</p>
2	<p>If a client is discharged and returns for services, does the client count toward my GPRA targets as another client? No. Only one GPRA intake for each client counts toward your target numbers.</p>
3	<p>Does Section A questions four (4) and five (5) need to be completed if SBIRT is not an initiative being paid for by SOR funds? No.</p>
4	<p>Does Section H (Program Specific Questions) of the GPRA tool need to be completed? Section H of the GPRA tool does not need to be completed for SOR funded clients.</p>
5	<p>When completing the GPRA, do you include the day the GPRA is being completed as part of the “past 30 days”? Yes</p>

ID	GPRA DISCHARGE
1	<p>Does CSAT require a GPRA discharge on every client? Yes, CSAT requires you to submit a GPRA discharge record for every client. The only exception to this rule is when the client is still in the program after the grant ends. You will not be responsible for submitting GPRA discharge interviews for clients who are still in treatment when the grant ends. At the time of a client’s discharge (as defined by the grantee), you should complete a face-to-face GPRA discharge interview (see ID 2 and 3 below for more information on discharge).</p>
2	<p>How does CSAT define discharge? CSAT defines discharge in the following ways: If your program has an existing discharge definition or policy, you should follow it and conduct the discharge interview on the day of discharge. If you do not have a discharge definition or policy, you must complete a discharge interview for all clients for whom 30 days have elapsed from the time of last service. In other words, if the client does not present between May 16 and June 15, a GPRA discharge interview would have to be conducted.</p> <p>For an administrative discharge when the interview is not conducted, interviewers must complete the first four</p>

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	<p>items in Section A (Client ID, Client Type, Contract/Grant ID, Interview Type), marking that the GPR discharge interview was not completed; Section J (Discharge); and Section K (Services Received). Follow the skip pattern instructions on the tool.</p> <p>If a client is discharged from your program within 7 calendar days of his/her GPR intake interview, a face-to-face interview is not required. You will be required to complete the first four GPR items in Section A (Client ID, Client Type, Contract/Grant ID, Interview Type), marking that the interview was not completed; Section J (Discharge); and Section K (Services Received). Follow the skip pattern instructions on the tool.</p>
3	<p>Is there a window period for conducting and submitting a GPR discharge interview record? <i>For programs with a discharge policy or definition:</i> If the client is present on the day of discharge, the GPR discharge interview should be conducted on the day of discharge. If a client has not finished treatment, drops out, and is not present the day of discharge, the project shall attempt to find the client to conduct the GPR discharge interview. The provider will have 14 days after discharge to contact the client and conduct the GPR discharge interview. If the GPR interview has not been conducted by day 15, conduct an administrative discharge (see ID 2 above). <i>For programs without a discharge policy or definition:</i> If you are using the CSAT policy of discharging a client for whom 30 days has elapsed from the time of last service, the grant will have 14 days after discharge to contact the client and conduct the GPR discharge interview. If the interview has not been conducted by day 15, complete an administrative discharge (see ID 2 above).</p>
4	<p>The typical episode of care for my clients is very short, so many clients may end up with GPR intake and discharge interview dates very close to one another. Do we still have to collect both records? Yes. Providers should collect all GPR data for each data collection point, regardless of how close they are to one another; but for those clients who are discharged less than or equal to 7 calendar days from the GPR intake/baseline interview, a face-to-face GPR discharge interview is not required. In this case, you will be required to complete an administrative discharge, which means that you must complete the first four items in Section A (Client ID, Client Type, Contract/Grant ID, Interview Type), marking that the interview was not completed; Section J (Discharge); and Section K (Services Received). Follow the skip pattern instructions on the tool. If the client receives services 8 or more days from the GPR intake interview, then a full face-to-face GPR discharge interview is required.</p>
5	<p>Is there a target discharge rate? At this time, CSAT has not specified a discharge target rate. However, providers may want to encourage the administration of the discharge interview because it contains detailed information on the services the client received because of the grant.</p>

ID	GPR SIX-MONTH POST INTAKE FOLLOW-UP
1	<p>Do we have to follow-up on each client? What is the targeted follow-up rate? Yes, each site should attempt to conduct a GPR follow-up on every client, regardless of discharge status (i.e. complete, dropout). The minimum targeted follow-up rate is 80 percent.</p>
2	<p>What if the objective of our program is such that 6-month GPR follow-ups are not anticipated or feasible? The CSAT-GPR Core Client Outcome Measures data items must be collected from all programs funded in the Discretionary Services line item in the budget at each required data collection point. If provider is not</p>

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	longer seeing the client, a phone interview can also be conducted.
3	<p>Can the six-month post intake follow up be conducted over the phone? Yes. The interviewer needs to ensure the individual on the phone is the client.</p> <p>On August 2, 2019, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has received a waiver from the grant’s Government Project Officer (GPO) to collect GPRA data over the phone.</p>
4	<p>What if we locate clients before or after their scheduled 6-month GPRA follow-up interview date? The GPRA follow-up interview window is one month before and two months after the scheduled 6-month GPRA follow-up interview. For example, if you locate a client 5 to 8 months after the initial GPRA intake/baseline data collection, you may conduct a 6-month GPRA follow-up, and the client will be included in CSAT’s report to Congress. If you locate a client for the 6-month GPRA follow-up 9 or 10 months after the initial GPRA data collection, you may conduct a GPRA follow-up interview and report the data, but the data from the GPRA follow-up interview may not be included in any analyses reported to Congress.</p>
5	<p>Do we collect follow-up data on dropouts? Yes.</p>
6	<p>What if the follow-up period for the last client served is past the funding period of the project? Providers are expected to conduct 6-month follow-up GPRA data for all clients who receive grant-funded services. The sole exception to this rule is for follow-ups due after the grant ends. Grantees who receive no-cost extensions may be required to continue 6-month data collection past the normal ending date of the grant.</p>

ID	GPRA FOLLOW-UP AND DISCHARGE TIMING
1	<p>What if the discharge GPRA interview is due during the 6-month GPRA follow-up interview window? Do we still have to collect both records? Yes. There may be cases when the client’s GPRA discharge is due during the window of time that the 6-month GPRA follow-up interview is due. In other words, if a discharge is done anywhere between 5 and 8 months after GPRA intake/baseline (or 4 to 8 months after GPRA intake/baseline for those programs in the Co-Occurring and Homeless Activities Branch at CSAT), this interview could double as a GPRA follow-up interview. In these cases, you must still enter data for both the GPRA discharge and the 6-month GPRA follow-up interviews. Conduct the interviews using these guidelines: conduct an interview by completing the appropriate items in Section A, indicating that an interview was conducted; otherwise, you will not be able to enter the responses into the system for each section. You may conduct the face-to-face GPRA interviews simultaneously, completing all sections, including Sections I, J, and K. You will then enter the data into the system as two records: one for discharge with Sections J and K, so that the service provided is documented in the GPRA system; and the other for follow-up with Section I, so that the follow-up status is documented in the GPRA system.</p> <p>If the client’s GPRA discharge interview from the program occurs during the 6-month follow-up window, and you have already conducted the GPRA follow-up interview, you will need to do a separate GPRA discharge interview.</p> <p>CSAT Discretionary Services Grantees who do not upload their GPRA data will have the option of having the SPARS system complete GPRA Sections A through G for the Discharge submission when both the Follow-Up interview and the Discharge interview occur on the same day and the Follow-Up interview occurs first.</p> <p>(Note: If the Discharge interview occurs first, Sections A through G will be completed for the Follow-Up</p>

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	<p>interview.) To use this data, the following requirements must be met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both the Follow-Up and the Discharge must be completed on the same day; • The date must be on or after the follow-up window opens and before it closes; and • Neither the follow-up nor discharge GPRA has been conducted previously.
2	<p>Do we collect 6-month follow-up information if the GPRA discharge interview is before or after the 6-month GPRA follow-up interview?</p> <p>Yes, providers must locate clients and complete the 6-month GPRA follow-up record, regardless of when the client is discharged.</p>
3	<p>Do we need to conduct an in-person 6-month GPRA follow-up interview if the client could not be contacted to conduct the discharge interview?</p> <p>If the client cannot be reached for the discharge GPRA interview and receives an administrative discharge, a separate 6-month GPRA follow-up interview must be conducted, completed, and entered into the system for the follow-up to count toward the program’s target rate.</p>

ID	DATA COLLECTION
1	<p>Do all programs use “the past 30 days” as the basis for client reported data?</p> <p>All programs, except for the Offender Re-entry Program (ORP), for questions B1 thru B4, will use “the past 30 days” for questions that capture the number days.</p> <p>ORP grants should ask about drug use in “the past 90 days prior to incarceration” for questions B1 thru B4 at intake/baseline and “the past 90 days” at follow-up and discharge.</p>
2	<p>Do we count a client’s reported use of illegal drugs in Question B1c as having committed a crime for Question E4 (“In the past 30 days, how many times have you committed a crime?”)?</p> <p>Yes. If a client reports the use of illegal drugs in response to Question B1c but his/her answer to Question E4 is not consistent with Question B1c, the interviewer should probe the client for clarification. The interviewer must be certain that the number in Question E4 is equal to or greater than the number in Question B1c.</p>
3	<p>Does CSAT allow offering incentives for completed interviews?</p> <p>For certain types of interviews, CSAT funding can be used for incentives, with a maximum non-cash value of \$30 per interview. Incentives are permitted for a GPRA follow-up interview. For GPRA discharge interviews, the incentive cannot be used for routine discharge interviews; they can only be used when program staff must search for a client who has left the program, or a client has dropped out of a program.</p> <p>(NOTE: SCAs will need to report these expenditures for incentives under activity 930D.)</p> <p>If incentives are going to be utilized, the service provider shall follow the State Opioid Response Gift Card Procedural Statement which is posted on the DDAP website under “For Professional” then “For Single County Authorities (SCA).”</p>
4	<p>Is a service provider required to offer incentives for completed interviews?</p> <p>No. A service provider may provide up to a \$30 non-cash incentive to individuals to participate in data collection interviews. Incentives are permitted for a GPRA follow-up interview. For GPRA discharge interviews, the incentive cannot be used for routine discharge interviews; they can only be used when program staff must search for a client who has left the program, or a client has dropped out of a program.</p>
5	<p>How often should we enter our GPRA data?</p>

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	Providers are required to have all their GPRA data entered in as close to real time as possible. Thus, providers should aim to enter their data within 1 day—but no later than 7 days—after the GPRA interview is conducted.
6	What happens to the GPRA data once they are submitted via the Web site? The data are stored in a central repository known as SPARS. Grantees, GPOs, and contractors associated with grantees can access reports that are generated from submitted GPRA data. It should be noted that there may be a 24-hour delay before uploaded data is integrated into the system because the data is being validated.
7	Can a client be switch between two different SAMHSA funding sources? Individuals enrolled or who will be enrolled in the MAT-PDOA grant cannot also be enrolled in the SOR grant. Each individual can only be enrolled in one grant in order to maximize the impact of the SAMHSA funding. A service provider cannot start data collection on a client in MAT-PDOA and transition them to SOR and vice-versa. For example, you can't conduct the baseline MAT-PDOA GPRA on a client but then use the SOR GPRA for their 6-month post intake or discharge. A service provider cannot enroll a SOR client through the MAT-PDOA portal and vice-versa. You must use the GPRA instrument that is designated for each project.
8	Should the GPRA tool be administer to new clients as of August 1, 2019? Yes.

ID	MILITARY INFORMATION
1	Should we collect data on a client's veteran status? Effective March 5, 2012, CSAT no longer simply collects data on the number of clients who are veterans of the military. You should now collect data on a client's military service status, which includes active duty, separation, and retirement from the military. In addition, this section also collects information on persons close to the client who are or were deployed to a combat zone.
2	What branches of the military are included in the U.S. Armed Forces? The U.S. Armed Forces consists of the Army, the Navy, the Marine Corps, the Air Force, and the Coast Guard.
3	How does CSAT differentiate between separation and retirement from the U.S. Armed Forces, Reserves, or the National Guard? When a client becomes separated from the U.S. Armed Forces, Reserves, or National Guard, he or she has left active duty but might still have an obligation to serve. Separation from the military typically occurs when the client reaches his or her Expiration of Term of Service (ETS) and is released from active duty but still must complete military reserve obligations. When a client completes his or her full military obligation, he or she is then discharged. When a client retires from the U.S. Armed Forces, Reserves, or National Guard, he or she has left active service and is entitled to a pension, a percentage of his or her base pay, or 100 percent of his or her base pay from the previously mentioned organizations.
4	Are the military questions only confined to U.S. military service? Yes, these questions only pertain to U.S. military service. Clients who have served in the military in another country are not counted.
5	If a client states that he or she was discharged from the U.S. Armed Forces, the Reserves, or the National Guard, should we ascertain the client's discharge status? No. A client's discharge status is not considered in the GPRA tool and therefore will not be asked by

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	grantees. CSAT is not asking for data regarding a client's discharge status.
6	<p>Regarding question A6a, if a client states that a service member had not been deployed in support of combat operations, should we continue to ask the client questions A6b through A6d?</p> <p>Yes. At this time, there is not a skip pattern for question A6a; therefore, you must read these questions to your client.</p>
7	<p>Are the Military questions asked when conducting a Follow-up and/or Discharge?</p> <p>No, the Military questions are asked at the Intake/Baseline only.</p>