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## **HOMELESS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (HMIS) UPDATE**

### **FULL SERVICE PRIORITIZATION DECISION ASSISTANCE TOOL (Full SPDAT) & RECOVERY REHOUSING ASSESSMENTS**

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#### **Update**

Effective April 7, 2026, the Full Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (Full SPDAT) will be deactivated from all programs, across all populations, in HMIS. This measure is part of the broader strategy to replace the VI-SPDAT with the Los Angeles Housing Assessment Tool (LA HAT) for adults. As the System moves away from the VI-SPDAT, case conferencing will become available for households whose case managers have observed vulnerabilities that were not captured in the household's CES Acuity Score for permanent supportive housing (PSH) consideration.

In addition, the Recovery Rehousing Assessment is also being deactivated from all programs in HMIS effective April 7, 2026. Recovery Rehousing was a COVID-response resource that has been sunset. Participants who were formerly enrolled in Recovery Rehousing Programs have been transitioned to Time Limited Subsidy programs.

#### **Background**

In alignment with the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)'s 2012 mandate, the Los Angeles (LA) Coordinated Entry System (CES) utilizes CES Assessments to standardize assessment practices and prioritization of the most vulnerable people experiencing homelessness. In Los Angeles, CES Acuity Scores derived from CES Assessments are utilized to assist with permanent housing resources considerations.

The Los Angeles CES currently operates five (5) CES Assessments: the Vulnerability Index – Family Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-FSPDAT), Next Step Tool for Youth (NST), Los Angeles Housing Assessment Tool (LA HAT), and Vulnerability Index – Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT), and the Housing Acuity Index (HAI).

The VI-FSPDAT, NST, LA HAT, and VI-SPDAT assess *unsheltered household's* vulnerability to possible adverse events while experiencing homelessness and are designed to capture the unique vulnerabilities experienced by Families, Youth, and individual Adults respectively. These assessments should be conducted by unsheltered (ex. outreach or access centers), interim housing, and housing navigation -type program staff after building rapport with participants.

Additionally, the Los Angeles CES utilizes the HAI to assess the level of support that *housed households* may require to self-sustain permanent housing long-term. Time limited subsidy and rapid rehousing program staff must conduct the HAI with households every 90 days.

#### **Next Steps for System Staff**

Staff can review the assessments currently available in their programs by following the steps below:

1. Ensure the correct agency is displayed at the top of the home screen, under the username
2. Open a participant's profile in HMIS
3. Click the program tab
4. Open any active program
5. Click the assessments sub-tab
6. Review the list of assessments available in that program

Staff seeking access to additional CES Assessments should review the table below and follow the training and access steps for the assessment corresponding to the main population served by their programs:

| CES ASSESSMENT                                                                              | POPULATION                                                                                                                                                                                | TRAINING & ACCESS STEPS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>VI-FSPDAT</b><br>(Vulnerability Index – Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool) | Unsheltered Families<br>(households with minor children)                                                                                                                                  | <a href="#">VI-FSPDAT Training</a> is available on the Centralized Training Academy.<br><br>To obtain access to the VI-FSPDAT, submit a ticket to HMIS Support via <a href="#">the Enterprise Ticketing System, Freshservice</a> .                                                   |
| <b>NST</b><br>(Next Step Tool)                                                              | Unsheltered Transitional Aged Youth<br>(18-25 years old)                                                                                                                                  | An NST training is in development.<br><br>To obtain access to the VI-FSPDAT, submit a ticket to HMIS Support via <a href="#">the Enterprise Ticketing System, Freshservice</a> .                                                                                                     |
| <b>LA HAT</b><br>(Los Angeles Housing Assessment Tool)                                      | Unsheltered Single Adults (18+ years old)<br><br>Unsheltered Transitional Aged Youth (18-25 years old) can also be assessed with the LA HAT, but the preferred tool for Youth is the NST. | LA HAT Training is available on the Centralized Training Academy. Review <a href="#">LA HAT Training Flyer</a> before enrolling.<br><br>To obtain access, complete the LA HAT training.                                                                                              |
| <b>VI-SPDAT</b><br>(Vulnerability Index – Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool)  | Unsheltered Single Adults (18+ years old)<br><br>Unsheltered Transitional Aged Youth (18-25 years old) can also be assessed with the LA HAT, but the preferred tool for Youth is the NST. | The VI-SPDAT is currently being phased out and replaced by the LA HAT. Therefore, training and access to the VI-SPDAT are no longer available for new programs.<br><br>To obtain access to the CES Assessment for unsheltered adults, complete the <a href="#">LA HAT Training</a> . |
| <b>HAI</b><br>(Housing Acuity Index)                                                        | Households from all populations that are housed in time limited subsidy programs                                                                                                          | An HAI training is in development<br><br>No action is required to obtain access. All time limited subsidy programs are set up to include the assessment by default.                                                                                                                  |

### Need additional support?

- Submit a ticket to HMIS Support via [the Enterprise Ticketing System, Freshservice](#)
- Learn how to submit a ticket at <https://www.lahsa.org/documents?id=7364-lahsa-enterprise-ticketing-system-job-aid.pdf>