Pennsylvania
Department of Health

Brain Injury Programs

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Bureau of Family Health

What are the Programs?

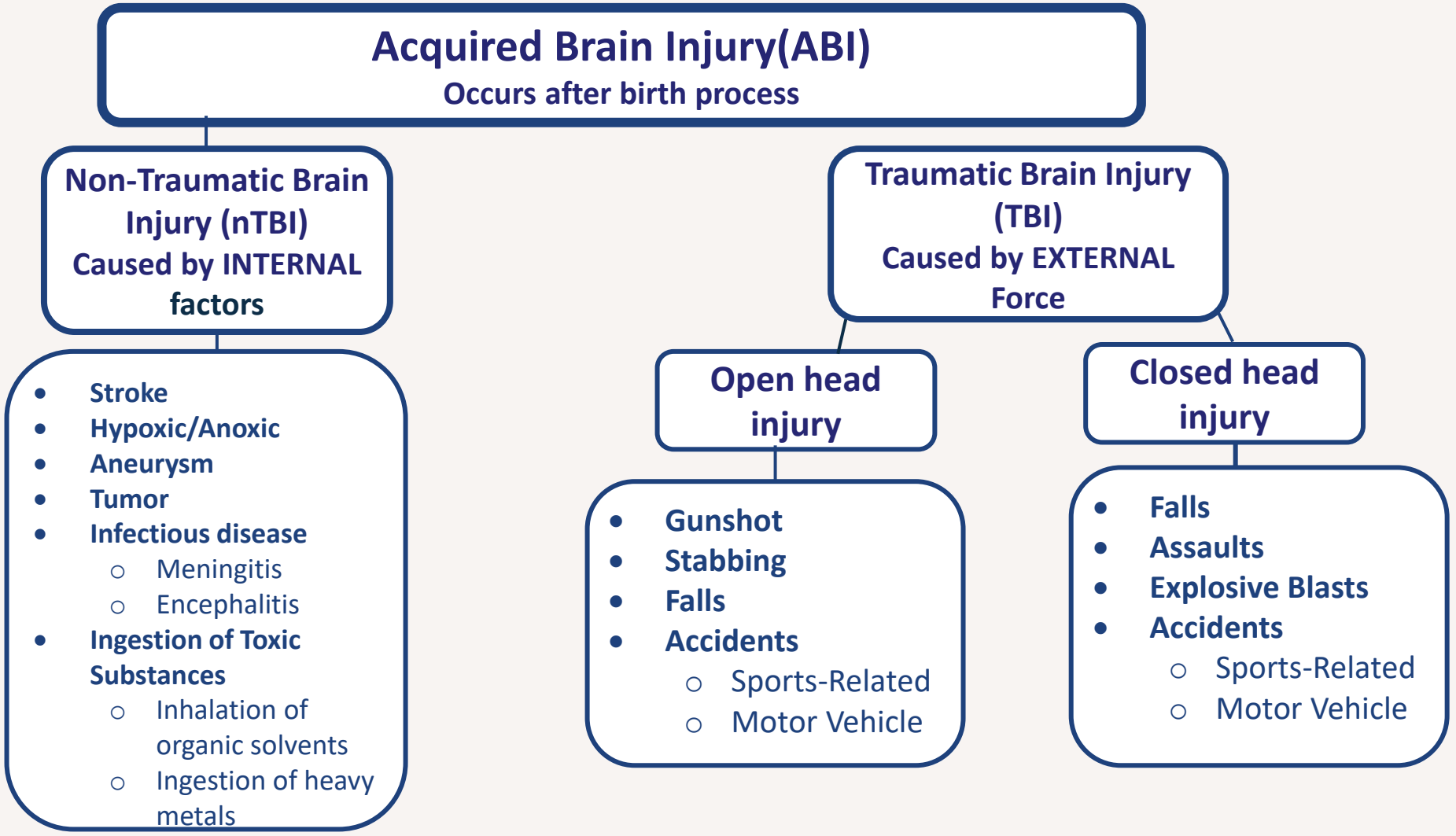
BrainSTEPS
Strategies Teaching Educators, Parents, & Students
A BRAIN INJURY SCHOOL RE-ENTRY CONSULTING PROGRAM

Pennsylvania Department of Health
Head Injury Program (HIP)

Pennsylvania Department of Health
NeuroResource Facilitation Program for Brain Injury Services

Pennsylvania Department of Health
Pre-enrollment Assistance for Brain Injury Services

Types of Brain Injury Served





BrainSTEPS

Strategies **T**eaching **E**ducators, **P**arents, & **S**tudents

A BRAIN INJURY SCHOOL RE-ENTRY CONSULTING PROGRAM

A National Model for Concussion and Traumatic Brain Injury School Re-Entry Programs

BrainSTEPS

BrainSTEPS is a Brain Injury School Re-entry Consulting Program that was created in 2007 to build a bridge connecting medical professionals, school staff, students, and their families or caregivers on the development and delivery of educational services, following a student's TBI or nTBI.

BrainSTEPS Teams

- **BrainSTEPS is comprised of over 230 brain injury educational consultants serving on regional teams and are based out of the 29 educational Intermediate Units and two school districts.**

- **Teams serve all Pennsylvania public schools.**

BrainSTEPS Support

BrainSTEPS supports students with an ABI, their families or caregivers, and school districts in the following ways:

- Facilitating communication between healthcare providers, school staff, the student, and their family or caregivers
- Identification and management of ABI symptoms within the school setting
- Teacher, peer, and family training
- Family support and resource sharing
- School re-entry planning
- Educational plan development, including:
  - Academic adjustments
  - Academic accommodations
  - 504 Plan support
  - Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) support
- Annual monitoring of student until graduation

When to Refer a Student

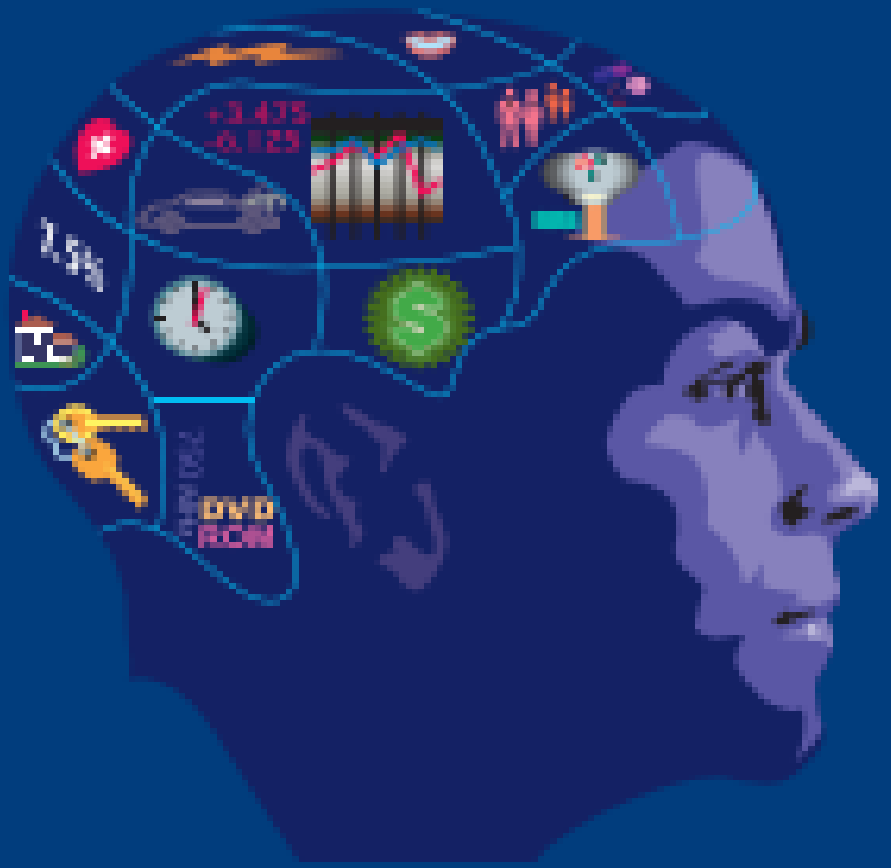
- **Concussion (Mild Traumatic Brain Injury):** Referrals should be made at four to six weeks post-concussion, if the student has not recovered.
- **Moderate and Severe Traumatic Brain Injury:** Referrals should be made immediately.
- **Non-Traumatic Brain Injury:** Referrals should be made immediately.

How to Refer a Student

Students can be referred to the BrainSTEPS Program at any point, if the injury is causing educational impacts. Anyone can refer a student by following these steps:

1. Go to the BrainSTEPS website: www.brainsteps.net
2. Click on "Make a Student Referral" link on the top right side of the page.
3. Input the required information.
4. Click SUBMIT.
5. The BrainSTEPS team will be in contact with the parent or guardian, typically within 48 hours.

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Head Injury Program (HIP)

What is the Head Injury Program?

The Head Injury Program (HIP) was created in 1988 by the Emergency Medical Services Act of 1985 and pays for head injury rehabilitation services for individuals who are eligible. The goal of the program is to help individuals with a traumatic brain injury (TBI) live independently in their homes and communities.



What is the Funding Limit?

Enrolled individuals may receive 12 consecutive months or $100,000 for rehabilitation services, followed by a maximum of six consecutive months or $1,000 for case management to assist in transitioning out of the HIP.

What services are provided by the HIP?

Services include:

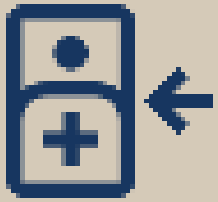
- Pre-enrollment Assistance
- Pre-admission Assessment
- Service Plan Development
- Case Management
- Rehabilitation Services

What services are provided by the HIP?

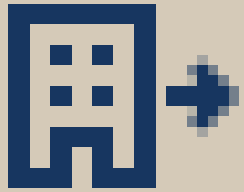
Rehabilitation services provided through the HIP could include services such as:

- Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapies
- Cognitive Rehabilitation Therapy (in-person or virtual)
- Psychological Services
- Assistive Community Integration
- Work Skills Services
- Music, Art and Vision Therapy

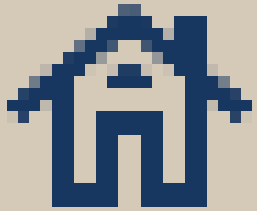
Where are services provided?



Residential



Day Facilities (Outpatient)



Home and Community

What are the eligibility criteria?

To be eligible for the HIP, individuals must meet the following criteria:

- U.S. Citizenship
- Pennsylvania resident at the time of injury and application
- Sustained a TBI after July 2, 1985
- 18 years of age or older
- Meet income guidelines
- Complete application
- Have needs that can be addressed by the HIP through rehabilitation

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Pre-enrollment Assistance for Brain Injury Services

What is Pre-enrollment Assistance?

Pre-enrollment Assistance is a service that helps individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and their family members apply for brain injury services through the Department of Health's (DOH) Head Injury Program (HIP) and provide information regarding other brain injury services offered in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

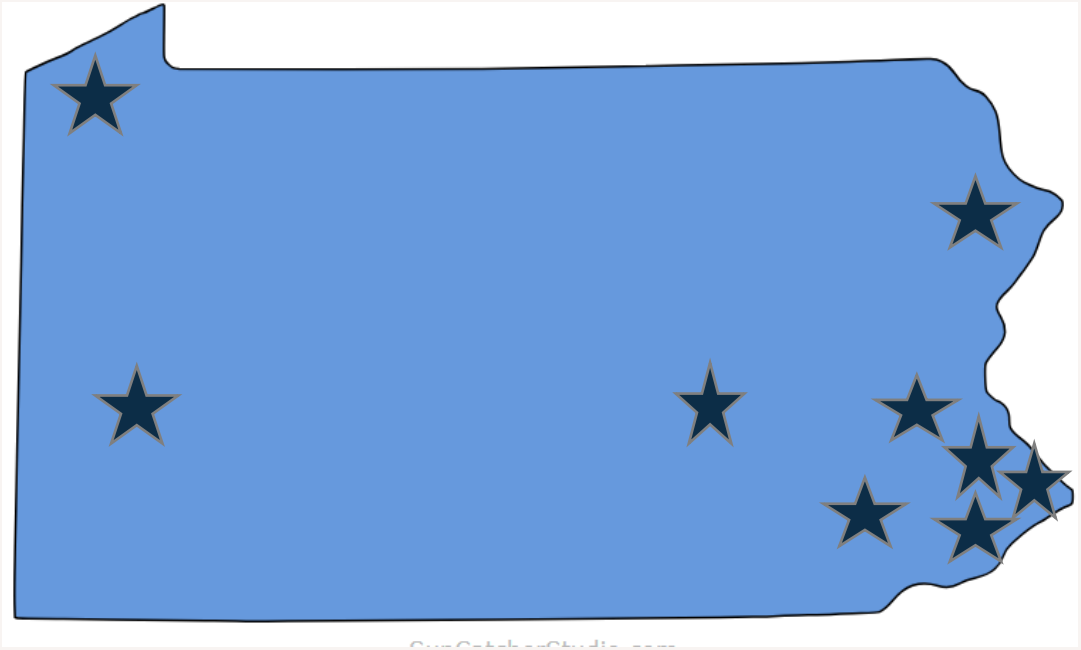


How else can a Pre-enrollment Assistance Coordinator help?

Provide information about the HIP.	Meet with applicants and family members to assess all available financial help.	Assist applicants and family members in identifying the best resources and programs to meet rehabilitation needs.
Provide information, referral, and contact information on other resources available in Pennsylvania.	Assist with obtaining medical records.	Assist in choosing a HIP rehabilitation provider for an assessment.

HIP Providers

- **The HIP currently has nine participating providers located across the Commonwealth.**
- **As part of the application process, applicants are provided information about each HIP provider**
- **We encourage all applicants to contact providers to gather information about their services**



What is a Participating Provider Agreement (PPA)?

The PPA is a contract between the DOH and the provider

What is included in the PPA?

- **Definitions for rehab services provided**
- **Qualifications for staff providing rehab services**
- **Fee schedule for rehab services**

The current PPA can be accessed on the Department of Health's Head Injury Program webpage.

How to become a HIP provider?

If you are interested in becoming a HIP provider, you can call 1-866-412-4755 or email RA-DHBFHHIP@pa.gov.

All HIP providers must be:

- **Accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF)**
- **Department of Health or Department of Human Services licensures as applicable**
- **Provide comprehensive brain injury rehabilitation**
- **Certified Brain Injury Specialist (CBIS)**

Additional information for providers can be found on the Head Injury Program webpage.

Who Do I Contact?

Call:

Anyone can make a referral by calling the toll-free DOH Brain Injury Help Line at 1-866-412-4755

Or Email

RA-DHBFHHIP@pa.gov

Website

HIP

Pennsylvania Head Injury Team

- **Jason McCrea, Division Director**
- **Nicole Adams, Program Manager**
- **Amy Deiderick, Head Injury Program Administrator**
- **Nicole Johnson, Administrative Assistant**

Pennsylvania Department of Health



NeuroResource Facilitation Program for Brain Injury Services

NeuroResource Facilitation Program

The NeuroResource Facilitation Program (NRFP) was created in 2018 with the goal of assisting individuals with a TBI and nTBI to locate, navigate, and obtain the needed resources, services, and supports to maximize independence and improve their quality of life.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for the NRFP, individuals must meet the following criteria:

- 18 years of age or older
- Have a TBI or nTBI
- Pennsylvania resident at the time of enrollment

There are no income or U.S. citizenship requirements for eligibility.

NRFP Services

Enrolled individuals are assigned a NeuroResource Facilitator (NRF) that is in their region to receive one-on-one care coordination services for up to 20 hours or 6 months, which ever comes first. Services can be provided in the participants home, community, or virtually.

NRFs conduct the following activities:

- Collaborate with the participant and their support team to identify any brain injury related needs that are not being met and create a person-centered plan that prioritizes these needs and the possible resources to address them.
- Locate and provide each participant with information on resources, services, and supports based on their unique needs.
- Assist participants and their caregivers to navigate and obtain appropriate services and supports

NRFP Referral Process

Step 1

Anyone can make a referral by calling the toll-free DOH Brain Injury Help Line at

1-866-412-4755

or emailing

RA-DHBFHNRFP@pa.gov

Step 2

The referrer will be connected to an enrollment specialist to assist with completing a referral form.

Step 3

DOH then submits the referral form to BIAPA to assign the participant a NRF in their region. The NRF will contact the participant within 10 days to schedule an in-person or virtual intake meeting.

Initial Intake Meeting

At the initial intake meeting, the NRFs will:

- Gather background information about the participant
- Collaborate with the individual and/or their family to develop a person-centered plan
- Sign Releases of Information forms

DOH Program Webpages

TBI

HIP

NRFP

Additional Resources

BIAPA Website

Brain Injury Resource Line (BIRL)

Brain Injury Support Groups

Brain Injury Association of America

Train PA

Trainings developed by the Department are available on Train PA

Currently offering trainings on:

- Brain Injury 101
- PA Department of Health's Brain Injury Programs
- Intimate Partner Violence, Traumatic Brain Injury and Strangulation
- Pennsylvania Head Injury Program
- Brain Injury and Opioid Misuse

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Questions?

Please contact Amy Deiderick
adeiderick@pa.gov with questions.