

INFORMATION GUIDE

Application for Psychiatric Assessment (Form 1)

What is an Application for a Psychiatric Assessment (Form 1)?

A doctor completes a Form 1 if certain criteria are met, such as the doctor having reasonable cause to believe you are suffering from a mental illness that will likely result in serious harm to yourself or others.

What happens once a Form 1 is issued?

The doctor who signs the Form 1 doesn't have to be a psychiatrist. Once the form is signed it is valid for seven days.

If the Form 1 is signed by a doctor in the community, it provides authorization for anyone to take that person to the hospital.

If the person is currently at a non-Schedule 1 Hospital and placed on a Form 1, the form is effective for seven days. That person will then be moved to a Schedule 1 Hospital for the psychiatric assessment.

A Form 1 allows a person to be held in a Schedule 1 Hospital for up to 72 hours to undergo a psychiatric assessment.

A psychiatric assessment is to determine whether that person will need to stay in the Schedule 1 Hospital to be treated for a mental illness.

Once a person is at the Schedule 1 Hospital, they must promptly be given a Notice to Person (Form 42) which sets out the reasons for the detention and the right to retain a lawyer without delay.

What happens after the psychiatric assessment?

After the completion of the psychiatric assessment, the doctor can do one of the following:

- If it is determined that the person is not in need of treatment, the doctor can release them from the hospital.
- Admit the person as a voluntary patient. See Information Guide for "Voluntary Patient"
- Admit the person as an involuntary patient, on a Certificate of Involuntary Admission (Form 3). If a person is admitted as an involuntary patient following the assessment, they will receive rights advice. See Information Guide "Involuntary Patients."

Can a person apply to the Consent and Capacity Board (CCB) to challenge the Form 1?

A person cannot appeal or challenge a Form 1, but they do have the right to speak to a lawyer.

Does a person receive rights advice on a Form 1?

A person placed on a Form 1 does not receive rights advice.

Questions?

For questions and information about the Consent and Capacity Board hearings, visit their [website](#).

If you have a question about your specific legal situation, contact a lawyer.

For questions about this Information guide, visit [Ontario.ca/PPAO](https://ontario.ca/ppao) or contact Psychiatric Patient Advocate Office at 1-800-578-2343.

This information guide provides information only and does not contain legal advice. If at any time requirements in legislation conflict with information in this sheet, the legislative requirements prevail.