

Sec. 17b-800-7. Appeal panels

(a) Any decision of a grievance review may be appealed to:

(1) A panel of three people, consisting of a shelter client or former client, a shelter staff person or a member of the board of directors, and another person not employed by the shelter or receiving shelter services. The panel chairperson shall be the person not employed by the shelter or receiving shelter services; or

(2) An appeal panel consisting of one impartial person who is mutually agreeable to both parties.

(b) The shelter shall maintain a list of people in each of the above categories, to be updated as necessary, and shall select a person from each list for each grievance review. All panel members shall be impartial.

(c) The shelter shall ensure that panel members receive training about the grievance procedure, as appropriate.

(d) An appeal shall take place within five business days of the request for a hearing. Other than cases falling under subsection (e) or (f) of section 17b-800-5 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, as applicable, a decision to suspend or expel shall be stayed pending the appeal.

(e) The chairperson shall have overall administrative responsibility for conducting the appeal hearing. The chairperson shall:

(1) Instruct the other panel members on procedures prior to the hearing;

(2) Ensure that the hearing is conducted in an orderly manner;

(3) Afford all parties the opportunity to present information fully; and

(4) Permit parties to question each other when it is appropriate to do so.

(f) A simple majority vote of the panel shall be sufficient to render a decision.

(g) The decision of the panel to reverse, modify or affirm the decision of the shelter shall be sent in writing to all parties involved within ten days of the hearing and shall be binding.

(Effective February 1, 1993; Transferred from § 17-590-7, June 28, 2013; Amended June 28, 2013)