



SAMHSA SOAR TA Center

SOAR Online Application Tracking (OAT) User Guide

Entering SOAR Outcomes and Running Reports





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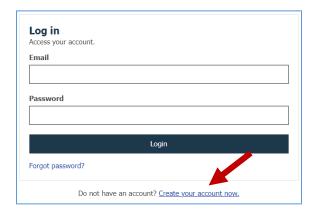




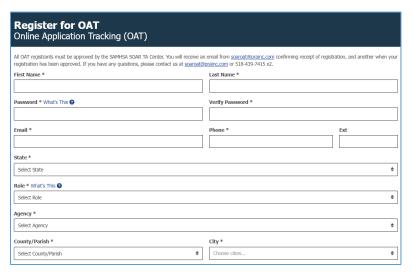
User Registration and Login

Register for OAT

Go to the SOAR OAT website and click on "Create your account now" in the User Log-In box.



Complete the Registration Form



Demographics: First Name, Last Name, Email, Phone, State, County, and City.

- Please use your agency contact information and location.
- You must use a valid email address.

Create a password: Your password must be at least 8 characters and contain *at least 3* of the following: Uppercase Letter, Lowercase Letter, Number, and/or Special Character.

User Roles: There are **four roles** in OAT, each outlined below. Please note you can only choose one. All roles include the capability to enter your own cases *if you have passed the SOAR Online Course*.

- State Lead: Directs the SOAR initiative at the state level; has access to state-wide data
- Local Lead: Has attended a 3-day SOAR Leadership Academy; has access to data from all agencies within specified cities/counties
- Agency Lead: Oversees case workers; has access to data from all case workers at their agency
- Case Worker: Has access only to own data entered





Are you a Supervisor Only (Will not be entering application outcomes)? If you chose Agency/Local/State Lead as your role, this follow-up question will be asked. Answer "Yes" if you will *not* be entering your own outcomes but need access to OAT for supervisory or data-collection purposes. This will bypass the SOAR training requirement; however, you are strongly encouraged to enroll in and review the *SOAR Online Course*.

Agency: Choose your Agency from the drop-down list.

• If your agency is not listed, choose "Other – Agency not listed below" and enter your Agency Name in the box provided.

Funding: Select how your position is funded.

- If you choose "State/County/Local," a "State Options" box may appear, depending on your state.
- If you choose "VA (VAMC, HUD-VASH, etc.)," you will be asked for your VISN.

Training: To enter outcomes of SOAR-assisted applications into OAT, you **must have passed** the *SOAR Online Course*. Exceptions may be made for those who attended a 2-day *Stepping Stones to Recovery* training or a 4-day *Train-the-Trainer* prior to July 2020, depending on your SOAR involvement since training completion.

- SOAR Online Course: Adult or Child Curriculum
- 2-day Stepping Stones to Recovery training
- 4-day *Train-the-Trainer*
- 3-day SOAR Leadership Academy

Registration Approval

When you submit your registration, you will receive an email from soaroat@prainc.com letting you know that it is pending. If any information needs to be clarified, the SOAR OAT administrator will contact you. When your registration is approved, you will receive another email welcoming you to OAT! You cannot log in until you have received this approval email.

Log in to OAT

Multifactor Authentication: Upon log-in you will be emailed a One-Time Security Code that you must enter on the site to complete your login. You must do this every time you log in.

60-day Password Reset: Your OAT password must be reset every 60 days. Upon login, you will be asked to create and verify a new password.

If you forget your Password: Click "Forgot password?" on the Login page and enter your email address. You will receive an email with a temporary password. Click the link provided, enter the temporary password, and follow the prompts to create a new password and log in.

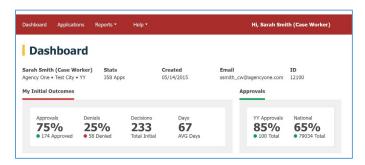




OAT Dashboard

Dashboard Sections

User Details and Stats



User Information

- Name (OAT Role), Agency, City, State; Email; User ID
- Stats: Total number of applications you have entered into OAT regardless of type or decision status
- Created: Date OAT account was created

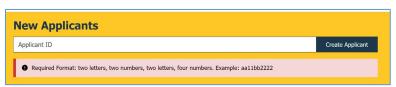
My Initial Outcomes

Outcomes of your initial applications that have a decision entered into OAT.

Approvals

• State/National Approval Rate: Based on outcomes reported in the previous fiscal year, including those reported by the state that were not entered into OAT.

New Applicants



- This gold-colored box is where you can create a new Applicant ID. Please see the Entering Applications section below.
- If you are an Agency/Local/State Lead in a "Supervisor-Only" role, you will not see this box.

Snapshots and Summaries



Monthly Snapshot

 Displays your OAT activity for the current month: New Applications created and Approvals for each application type.



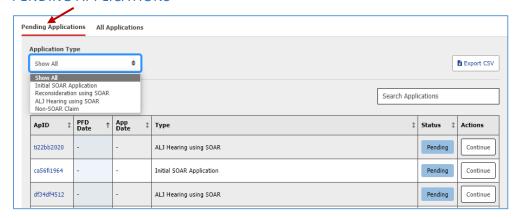


~ THE REMAINDER OF THE DASHBOARD DIFFERS BASED ON OAT ROLE ~

Case Worker

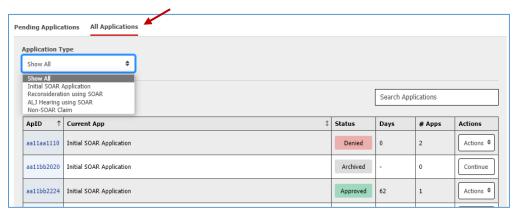
Applications Grid

PENDING APPLICATIONS



- Application Type: You can filter by Application Type (Initial, Reconsideration, ALJ Hearing, or Non-SOAR).
- Columns: ApID; PFD (Protective Filing Date); Application Submission Date, Type, and Status; Actions.
- View/Edit Application: Click on the ApID or "Actions: Continue" to add/edit case details.

ALL APPLICATIONS



- Application Type: You can filter by Application Type (Initial, Reconsideration, ALJ Hearing, or Non-SOAR).
- **Columns**: ApID; Current Application Type and Status; Days to Decision; # of application types this ApID has progressed through (e.g., Initial → Reconsideration = 2); Actions
- View/Edit Application:
 - Pending cases: Click on the ApID or "Actions: Continue" to add/edit case details.
 - Approved or Denied cases:
 - Click on "Actions: Edit Application" to add/edit Tab 5-Post Decision information.
 - Click on the ApID **or** "Actions: Overview" to see the Application Overview.





Agency Lead

Snapshots and Summaries

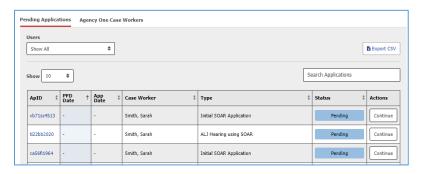


APPLICATIONS SUMMARY (CUMULATIVE)

- Approval Rates and Average Days to Decision for all your Agency's completed applications.
- Top Case Workers within your agency based on approval rates for Initial applications and Appeals.

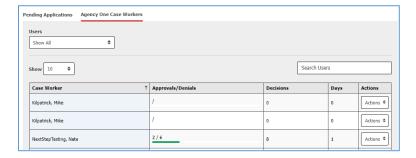
Applications Grid

PENDING APPLICATIONS



- Users: You can filter by Case Worker name.
- Columns: ApID; PFD; Application Submission Date; Case Worker; Application Type and Status; Actions
- View/Edit Applications: Click on the ApID or "Actions: Continue" to add/edit case details.

[YOUR AGENCY] CASE WORKERS



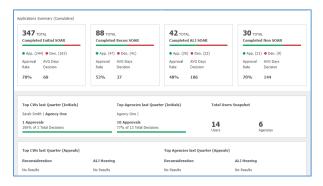
- Users: You can filter by Case Worker name.
- Columns: Case Worker; Approvals/Denials; Total Decisions; Average Days to Decision; Actions
- View Applications: Click "Actions: View Cases" to go to that Case Worker's "Applications" page.





Local Lead

Snapshots and Summaries

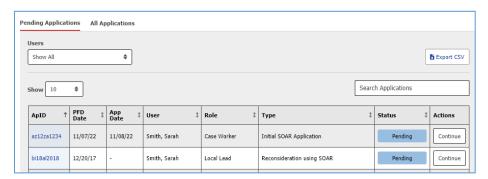


APPLICATIONS SUMMARY (CUMULATIVE)

- Approval Rates and Average Days to Decision for completed applications in your assigned cities/counties
- Top Case Workers and Agencies in your assigned cities/counties based on approval rates for Initial applications and Appeals
- Total Users Snapshot: Total number of users and agencies in your assigned cities/counties

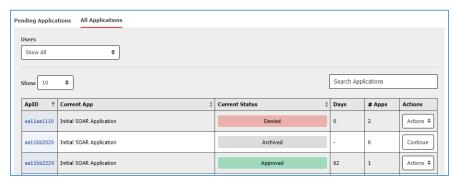
Applications Grid

PENDING APPLICATIONS



- Users: You can filter by Case Worker name.
- Columns: ApID; PFD; Application Submission Date; Name and Role; Application Type and Status; Actions
- View/Edit Applications: Click on the ApID link or "Actions: Continue" to add/edit case details.

All Applications



Users: You can filter by Case Worker name.

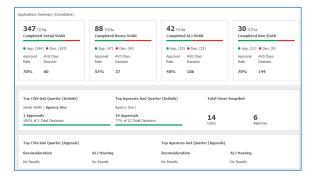




- **Columns:** ApID; Current Application Type and Status; Average Days to Decision, # of application types this ApID has progressed through; Actions.
- View/Edit Applications
 - Pending cases: Click on the ApID or "Actions: Continue" to add/edit case details.
 - Approved or Denied cases:
 - Click on "Actions: Edit Application" to enter *Tab 5-Post Decision* information.
 - Click on the ApID link **or** "Actions: Overview" to see the Application Overview.

State Team Lead

Snapshots & Summaries

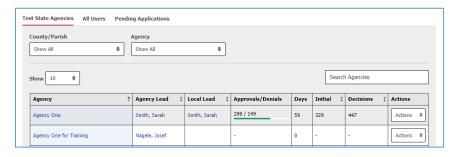


APPLICATIONS SUMMARY (CUMULATIVE)

- Approval Rates and Average Days to Decision for all completed applications in your State
- Top Case Workers/Agencies in your State based on approval rates for Initial applications and Appeals
- Total Users Snapshot: Total number of users and agencies in your State

Applications Grid

[YOUR STATE] AGENCIES

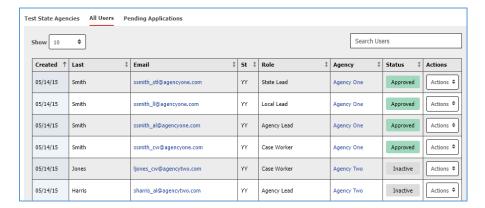


- County/Agency: You can filter by County and/or Agency.
- **Columns:** Agency; Agency Lead; Local Lead, Approvals/Denials; Average Days to Decision; Initial Applications Entered; Decisions (for all application types), Actions.
- View Users/Applications
 - Click on Agency Name to view all users from that agency.
 - Click on Agency Lead or Local Lead name to go to that user's "Applications Page."
 - Actions:
 - View Applications: View all applications from that agency
 - View Users: View all users from that Agency.



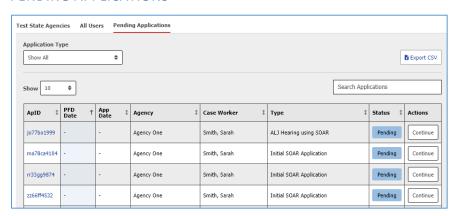


ALL USERS



- Columns: Date OAT Account Created; User Last Name, Email, State, Role, Agency, and Status; Actions
- View Agencies/Users/Applications
 - O Click on the user's Email or "Actions: View Cases" to go to the user's "Applications" page.
 - Click on Agency Name to view all Users registered in OAT from that Agency.

PENDING APPLICATIONS



- Application Type: You can filter by Application Type (Initial, Reconsideration, ALJ Hearing, or Non-SOAR).
- **Columns:** ApID; PFD; Application Submission Date; Agency; Case Worker; Application Type and Status; Actions. Sort by any column by clicking on the heading.
- **View/Edit Applications:** Click on the ApID or "Actions: Continue" to enter additional information about a case.





Entering Application Outcomes

Create an Applicant Identification Number (ApID#)

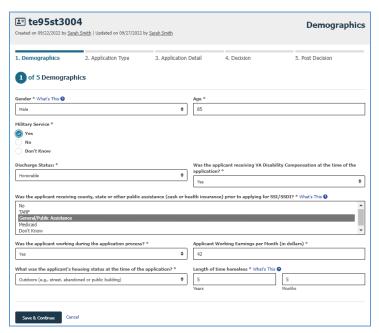
The use of an ID number avoids the need to enter personally identifiable information (PII).

- BE SURE TO RECORD THE ID# IN THE APPLICANT'S CASE FILE.
- The required sequence for the ID is as follows: [Two Letters] [Two Numbers] [Two Letters] [Four Numbers] Example: aa11bb2222
- ApIDs can only be used once across all OAT users.



Enter Application Information

Tab 1: Demographics



Sex: Choose from available options.

Age: Enter the applicant's age at the time of application.

- If 18 or over, the application will be tracked as an adult application for both SSI and SSDI.
- If 17 or under, the application will be tracked as a child application for SSI.
- If you are completing an adult SSI/SSDI application for a 17-year-old who is soon turning 18, enter 18 to track it as an adult claim.

Race: Choose from multiple options, including Other/Please Specify.

Hispanic, Latino/a, or Spanish Origin: If "Yes," a follow-up question will allow you to choose an ethnicity. Hold down the Control (Ctrl) key to select more than one response while selecting.





Legal System Involvement: If "Yes," a follow-up question will ask about the type of involvement. Hold down the Control (Ctrl) key to select more than one response while selecting.

Military Service: If "Yes," two follow-up questions will ask about military discharge status and VA Disability Compensation at the time of the application.

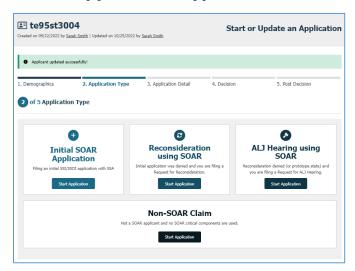
County, State, or other public assistance: Hold down the Control (Ctrl) key to select more than one response while selecting.

Employment Status: If the applicant was working during the application process, a follow-up question will ask about Working Earnings per Month (in dollars).

Housing Status

- The first three options are for individuals who are experiencing "literal" homelessness. The remaining options are considered at-risk of homelessness.
- Length of time homeless (in years and months): Enter the length of time the applicant was experiencing "literal" homelessness prior to working on the SOAR application OR prior to entering the current (at-risk) housing situation.

Tab 2: Application Type



Application Types

SOAR Claims: SOAR-trained case worker is assisting an individual who is experiencing OR at risk of homelessness AND has a mental illness, medical impairment, and/or co-occurring substance use disorder to apply for SSI/SSDI utilizing the *SOAR Critical Components*.

- **Initial SOAR Application:** Case worker is assisting with an initial application.
- Reconsideration: Case worker is assisting an applicant who has received an initial application denial.
- ALJ Hearing: Case worker is assisting an applicant who has received a reconsideration denial.

Non-SOAR Claim: Applicant is not currently experiencing or at-risk of homelessness OR does not have a mental illness, medical impairment, and/or co-occurring substance use disorder OR the *SOAR Critical Components* were not used in the application process. This application type should be rarely or never selected by SOAR providers.





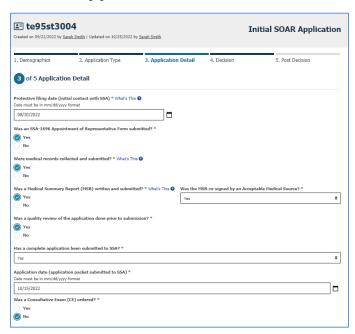
Changing Application Type

If you make an error, you can change the application type without losing demographic information – however, all other information entered will be deleted. Click the "Change Type" button on the bottom right-hand side of Tab 3 or 4. This option is no longer available once a decision has been entered and saved on Tab 4.



THE INFORMATION COLLECTED ON TABS 3-5 WILL VARY DEPENDING ON APPLICATION TYPE

Tab 3: Application Detail



All Application Types

SOAR Critical Components: These steps are critical to the success of applications for eligible individuals. Indicate whether you completed the following *SOAR Critical Components*:

- Submitted the SSA-1696: Appointment of Representative form
- Collected and submitted (or will be submitting to DDS) medical records
- Submitted (or will be submitting to DDS) a Medical Summary Report (MSR); a follow-up question will ask about obtaining a signature from an Acceptable Medical Source (AMS).
- Completed a quality review of the application packet prior to submission.
 - o This may be performed by a supervisor, SOAR-trained colleague, or SOAR Local Lead.
 - o This may also include a review of the Medical Summary Report by the SAMHSA SOAR TA Center.

Was a consultative examination (CE) ordered? Disability Determination Services orders a CE when there is not sufficient medical evidence to make a decision. If a CE was ordered, a follow-up question will ask for the number of CEs ordered.





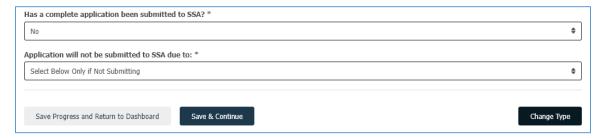
Initial Application Only

Protective Filing Date (PFD): Enter the date on which you or the applicant notified SSA of their intent to file (by calling SSA, going into the local SSA field office, or initiating the online disability application).

Has a complete application been submitted to SSA?

 ${\it If you haven't yet submitted the application but intend to, leave this unanswered.}$

- Choose "Yes" only if you have submitted a complete application packet to your local SSA office.
 - A follow-up question will ask for the Application Date. Enter the date the packet was delivered to the local SSA field office. This date cannot be before the PFD.
- Choose "No" only if you do not intend to submit the application.
 - A follow-up question will ask why the application will not be submitted, (e.g., applicant moved/disappeared, withdrew, etc.)
 - The case will be closed and archived.¹



Reconsideration Only

Date of Request for Reconsideration: Enter the date the Request for Reconsideration was filed.

ALJ Hearing

Date of Request for ALJ Hearing: Enter the date the request for an ALJ hearing was filed.

Was an expedited hearing requested? A request was made to expedite the scheduling of a hearing due to dire need.

Did the applicant have an attorney? Even if the applicant had an attorney, if you collected medical records, wrote and submitted an MSR, and assisted with the application, you should track the outcome in OAT.

Was an On-the-Record review request submitted? This is a written request asking the Office of Hearing Operations (OHO) to make a favorable decision based on the evidence in the case record.

- If "Yes," a follow-up question will ask if the decision was granted (i.e., approved) On-the-Record.
- If the application was approved on the record, you will proceed to Tab 4. If the application was not approved, you will continue to enter information about the ALJ hearing date.

¹ Archived cases can be viewed from the Applications page only and will not appear on the user's Dashboard.

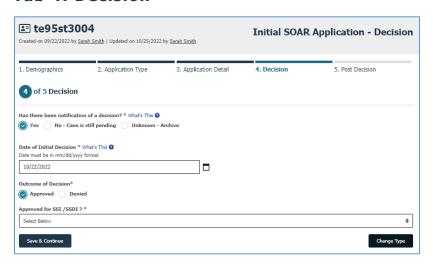




Has a hearing date been scheduled?

- If "Yes," a follow-up question will ask for the Date of the ALJ hearing (this can not be a future date).
- Choose "Unknown" only if the hearing will not be scheduled.
 - o A follow-up question will ask why the hearing will not be scheduled.
 - The case will be closed and archived.

Tab 4: Decision



Has there been notification of a decision? (Initial and Reconsideration Only)

For adult SSI/SSDI applications, if have not received decisions for Both SSI and SSDI applications, leave this question unanswered or choose "No-Case is still pending"

- For adult SSI/SSDI applications, choose "Yes" ONLY if you have received decisions for BOTH the SSI AND SSDI claims.
- Choose "Unknown" only if the outcome will remain unknown, (i.e., applicant withdrew, etc.)
 - o A follow-up question will ask why the outcome will remain unknown.
 - The case will be closed and archived.

Date of Decision: Use the date on the SSA letter that is mailed to the applicant and appointed representative.

Outcome of Decision: DO NOT answer this question until you have received a decision for BOTH SSI AND SSDI.

- If "Approved," a follow-up question will ask what benefits the applicant was approved for.
 - o Options: SSI only; SSDI only; or Both SSI and SSDI.
- If "Denied," a follow-up question will ask the reason for denial (from the SSA letter).

NOTE: ONCE A DECISION HAS BEEN ENTERED, INFORMATION ON TABS 1-4 CAN NOT BE CHANGED. If you made an error, please contact soaroat@prainc.com to request a correction.

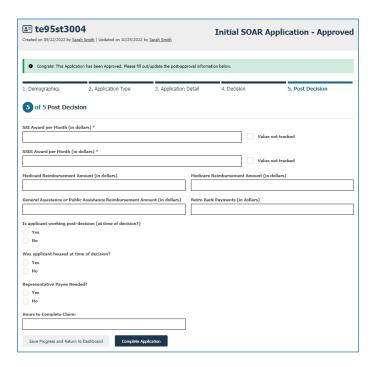




Tab 5: Post Decision

Approvals

When an SSI/SSDI application has been approved at any level of adjudication (initial, reconsideration, or ALJ) the following questions will be asked. This information can be very helpful in sustaining SOAR initiatives both on the local and state levels. Other than Award Amounts, this section is optional.



Award Amounts: If the award amount(s) are unknown, please choose "Value not tracked" - do not enter "0".

Medicaid/Medicare Reimbursement*: Providers can bill Medicaid retroactively up to 90 days prior to the SSI application date. You can often get this information from their billing departments with the proper release.

General or Public Assistance Reimbursement: Contact the state, local, or county agency that provides general or public assistance, if available in your state. You'll need a proper release from the applicant. *Skip if unknown - do not enter "0"*.

Retroactive Back Payments: Enter any SSI and/or SSDI retroactive back payments received. *Skip if unknown - do not enter "0"*.

Employment Information: Answer "Yes" if the applicant was working at the time of decision, even if only for a few hours. A follow-up question will ask about monthly earnings.

Housing Information: Indicate whether the applicant was housed at the time of decision and whether their (pending) access to benefits facilitated the access to housing.

Representative Payee: Indicate whether a Representative Payee was needed and whether one was provided. This can be via referral/connection to services—it does not need to be you or your agency.

Hours to Complete Claim: As part of quality review and potential retraining, it is important to know how many hours it takes case workers to complete each claim. *Skip if unknown - do not enter "0"*.





Denials

When an SSI/SSDI application has been denied, Post Decision questions will vary depending on application type.

Initial Application: Was a Request for Reconsideration filed?

- If "Yes," you will be directed to *Tab 3: Application Detail for Reconsideration* (see Tab 3 instructions above).
- If "No," the case is considered "closed" and you will be taken to the *Application Overview* page (see below).

Reconsideration: Has a request for an ALJ hearing been filed?

- If "Yes," you will be directed to Tab 3: Application Detail for ALJ (see Tab 3 instructions above)
 - O Do not select this option unless YOU are assisting with the ALJ Hearing. If you are referring the applicant to another agency or to an attorney, select "No."
- If "No," the case is considered "closed" and you will be taken to the Application Overview page.

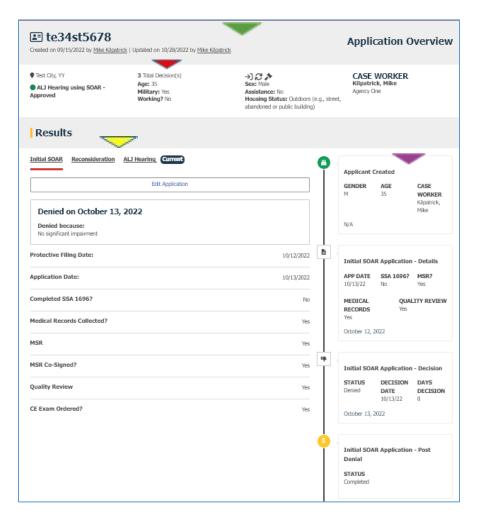
ALJ: There are no Post Decision questions asked. You will be directed to the *Application Overview* page.





Application Overview

This page can be viewed by clicking on any ApID# on your dashboard. It is also the page you are directed to once you have completed *Tab 5: Post Decision*.



- The applicant ID, applicant's demographic information, Case Worker, and Agency is provided at the top of the page.
- The total number of decisions associated with the ApID is also noted at the top of the page.
- Users can toggle between Initial SOAR, Reconsideration and ALJ Hearing details, if applicable. The word "Current" will appear next to the current application type.
- An overview of the activity about the application as it progressed through application types is also provided.





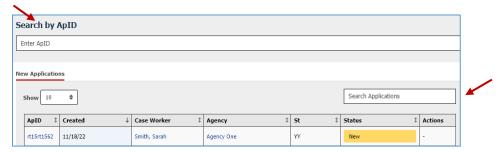
Applications Page



- The Applications page allows all users to view the applications they have entered. SOAR Leads can also view applications entered by Case Workers from their assigned Agency, Cities/Counties, or State.
- Applications are grouped by Application Type: New, Initial SOAR, Reconsideration SOAR, etc.)
- **NOTE:** "New" SOAR cases designated in yellow are those for which an Application Type has not yet been selected. These will **only** appear here on the Applications page, **not** on the Dashboard.

Search

- Enter an ApID into the "Search by ApID" box at the top of the page to search across all Application Types
- You can also enter an ApID into the "Search" box at the top of a particular Application Type



View/Edit Applications

- New or Pending cases:
 - Click on the ApID or "Actions: Continue" to enter additional information about the case.
- Approved or Denied cases:
 - o Click on the ApID link **or** "Actions: Overview" to see the Application Overview.
 - o Click on "Actions: Edit Application" to enter Tab 5-Post Decision information.

Filters

- Filter by Veteran Status, Age, Sex, Living Situation, Date ApID Created, and Application Status
- Additional Filters are available to SOAR Leads:
 - Agency Leads: User
 - Local and State Leads: User, Agency, County.
- Choose filters and click the blue "Filter" button. To clear all Filters, click "Reset."



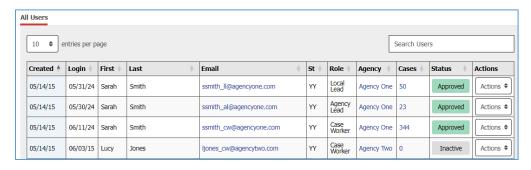




Admin Options



SOAR Agency/Local/State Leads will also see "Admin" on the Menu bar. Drop-down options include Users and Agencies depending on role.





Agency Leads:

- Can see all users in their agency.
- Filter by User Role, User Status (Approved/inactive)

Local Leads:

- Can see all users and agencies within their assigned cities/counties.
- Users: Filter by County, Agency, User Role, User Status (Approved/inactive)
- Agencies: Filter by Status (Active/Inactive)

State Leads:

- Can see all users and agencies within their State.
- **Users**: Filter by County, City, Agency, User Role, User Status (Approved/inactive)
- Agencies: Filter by County and Status (Active/Inactive)





Reports



About Reports

- All Users can run "Individual" or "Summary" Reports. SOAR Leads can also run "User Summary Reports."
- Only applications that have received a decision will appear in Reports.

Report Types

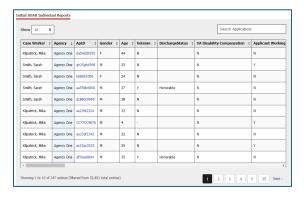
Reports can be used to celebrate the success of individual case workers, agencies, and localities that are promoting SOAR with great outcomes! Reports can also be used to identify additional training or support needs.

Role	Can Access Data From	Reports Most Helpful For
Case Worker	Own application entries*	Tracking successes and considering areas where technical support is needed to improve
Agency Lead	Case workers assigned to your agency	Considering targeted technical assistance or reviewing outcomes at steering committee meetings
Local Lead	Agencies and case workers in your assigned cities/counties	Reviewing outcomes across agencies and counties and considering areas for additional follow-up support
State Lead	All case workers/agencies across the state	Reviewing state plans, considering targeted technical assistance or support for particular agencies or localities

^{*} All Users/Roles can see their own application entries.

Individual Reports

Individual reports display all data entered for cases with decisions.



- Filter by applicant demographics (Veteran, Age, Sex, Race, Ethnic Group, Legal System, Living Situation) and/or Date of Decision. Click "Filter" to display the report.
 - SOAR Leads can also filter by User Name, Training Type, and Funding Type
 - o Local and State Leads can also filter by County and Agency.
- Click on an ApID to see the Application Overview.
- Report can be exported as an Excel file.





Summary Reports

Summary Reports provide easy-to-read overviews of aggregate data based on cases with decisions.



- Choose Report Type
- Filter by applicant demographics (Veteran, Age, Sex, Race, Ethnic Group, Legal System, Living Situation) and/or Date of Decision. Click "Filter" to display the report.
 - o SOAR Leads can also filter by User Name, Training Type, Funding Type.
 - Local and State Leads can also filter by County and Agency.
- Summary Reports can be exported to Excel or displayed as a PDF.

Overview (Default)

This report displays outcomes, applicant demographics, housing status, and SOAR Critical Components.



Optional Information

This report summarizes Post Decision information (e.g., Reimbursements, back payments, reasons for denial)



Non-SOAR

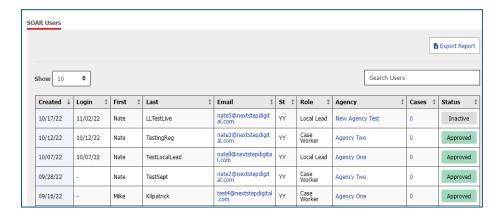
This report provides information about non-SOAR-assisted applications (for individuals who are not experiencing or at-risk of homelessness or for which the *SOAR Critical Components* are not utilized).





User Summary Report

- This report is available only to SOAR Leads. It displays information about all SOAR users that fall within the Leader's Agency, Cities/Counties, or State and is very helpful for exporting a user contact list.
- Once a User Summary Report has been generated, you can export the information to Excel.



SOAR Users Grid

COLUMNS

- Date Account Created, Last Log-in, First/Last Name, Email, State, Role, Agency, Total Cases, Status
- Click on any column heading to sort.

VIEW AGENCY/APPLICATIONS

- Click on a user's Agency name to view all users from that agency (this will take you to the Admin: Users page and automatically apply an Agency filter).
- Click on a user's # of Cases to view all of their applications (this will take you to the Applications Page and automatically apply a User filter).

FILTERS

- Filter by User Role, Training Type, Funding Type, and Status.
- Local and State Leads can also filter by Agency, City, and County and Agency.

If you have any questions about using SOAR OAT, please contact the SAMHSA SOAR TA Center at 518-439-7415 x2 or soarcat@prainc.com.