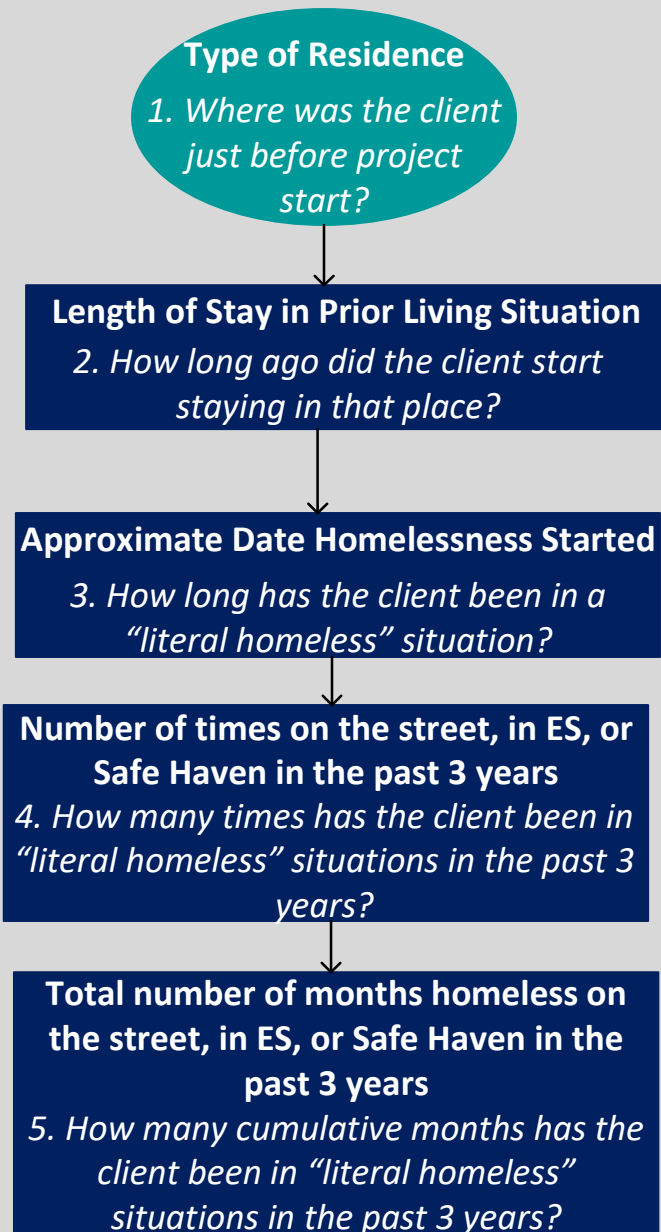# Prior Living Situation Flowchart

This guide will help users with understanding the elements captured in the Prior Living Situation Data Element. Please refer to the **2020 HMIS Data Standards** for a complete list of living situations and their corresponding setting.

For Clients Entering Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter, Safe Haven

Type of Residence

1. Where was the client just before project start?

↓

Length of Stay in Prior Living Situation

2. How long ago did the client start staying in that place?

↓

Approximate Date Homelessness Started

3. How long has the client been in a "literal homeless" situation?

↓

Number of times on the street, in ES, or Safe Haven in the past 3 years

4. How many times has the client been in "literal homeless" situations in the past 3 years?

↓

Total number of months homeless on the street, in ES, or Safe Haven in the past 3 years

5. How many cumulative months has the client been in "literal homeless" situations in the past 3 years?

For Clients Entering all Other Project Types

Type of Residence

1. Where was the client just before project start?

↓

Length of Stay in Prior Living Situation

2. How long ago did the client start staying in that place?

↓

Is the client entering from a homeless situation?

→ **NO** / **YES**

(NO branch:)

If the client is entering from an institution, did they stay there for less than 90 days?

→ **NO** → STOP

→ **YES** → **On the night before that, were they on the street, in shelter, or in safe haven?**

If the client is entering from a permanent or transitional housing, did they stay there for less than 7 days?

→ (to) **On the night before that, were they on the street, in shelter, or in safe haven?**

On the night before that, were they on the street, in shelter, or in safe haven?

→ **NO** → STOP

→ **YES** → (to Approximate Date Homelessness Started)

(YES branch:)

Approximate Date Homelessness Started

3. How long has the client been in a "literal homeless" situation?

↓

Number of times on the street, in ES, or Safe Haven in the past 3 years

4. How many times has the client been in "literal homeless" situations in the past 3 years?

↓

Total number of months homeless on the street, in ES, or Safe Haven in the past 3 years

5. How many cumulative months has the client been in "literal homeless" situations in the past 3 years?