

Upcoming assessments for children receiving Innovations Waiver services

Supports Intensity Scale® (SIS) assessments for children receiving Innovations Waiver services began August 24, 2015. Any child who has not previously received an assessment will be scheduled for one. Currently, Smoky Mountain LME/MCO (Smoky) has more than 100 assessments that will need to be completed.



Who will conduct the assessments?

Assessments will be conducted by American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAID) certified SIS® assessors who will work with Smoky throughout the project.

Who will participate in the interviews?

Each SIS® interview will include the consumer and people who know the consumer well, such as family members, guardians, friends, staff from residential settings or day programs, teachers or personal caregivers. Care coordinators will not participate in SIS® assessment interviews.

What happens after the assessment?

After the assessment is complete, the information from the interview will be shared with the consumer and his or her legal representative, if he or she has one. The care coordinator will give the consumer a copy of the SIS® report and review the results.

How will the information be used?

Information gathered from the SIS® assessment will be used to help develop an Individual Support Plan (ISP). SIS® information will also be used to determine an Individualized Budget Amount.

Following the first SIS® assessment, a new assessment will be conducted every two years for children and every three years for adults. In the event of a major life change, a new assessment may be required prior to the regularly scheduled re-assessment date. Events considered major life changes may include, but are not limited to:

- an emergency/crisis in the beneficiary's living situation, including loss of the current living situation;
- repeated incidents relating to the beneficiary's or other persons' health and safety; or
- a new diagnosis of a serious mental health condition; or development of new co-morbid health conditions.

If you have questions, or need additional information, please contact Allison Farrington, SIS® Assessment Manager, at 828-225-2785, ext. 4419 or allison.farrington@smokymountaincenter.com.