



### What the SIS® Is:

- A person-centered assessment, designed for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities
- A measurement of support needs
- A positive comprehensive interview process that achieves team consensus
- SIS is strength based, not deficit based
- A statistically established, reliable, valid and fair assessment administered by unbiased, certified assessors

### What the SIS Does:

- Creates a detailed picture about the individual
- Examines the support that the individual needs to participate across the various Life Activity Subscales
- Identifies challenging behaviors and exceptional medical conditions that influence support needs
- Identifies protection and advocacy activities requiring support

### What the SIS Does: (Continued)

- Addresses support needs for employment
- Provides data to the national sponsors of the SIS for comparison between states
- Allows for DDS to examine trends in support needs by group (currently Turning 22, Newly Eligible: ASD, PWS and Smith Magenis Syndrome)

### Where the SIS Is Used:

**In North America:**

- Currently used in 23 states
- Under consideration in 3 states for statewide adoption
- Under consideration in 8 states at county, regional or provider level
- Currently used in Alberta and Ontario, under consideration in Quebec

**International:**

- Translated and used by 17 countries

### Reasons DDS Selected the SIS:

- Transparent
- Positive
- Normed, reliable, and valid
- Requires trained, AAIDD certified assessors with background in human services
- Designed to support service planning
- Supports CMS intent to separate assessment decisions from service planning determinations

## What the SIS Is NOT:

- The SIS does *NOT* determine priority.
- The SIS does *NOT* replace any assessments that determine eligibility, such as the Vineland II.
- The SIS does *NOT* identify specific services, rather it identifies specific support needs.

## What the SIS Is NOT: (Continued)

- The SIS does *NOT* determine individual funding.
- A SIS assessment is *NOT* recognized by DDS or AAIDD if it has not been administered by a certified assessor. This is to ensure inter-rater reliability.

## How the SIS Is Administered:

- Must have valid respondents: preferably the individual and two people: one from home and one from day/school/work setting
- Must be in a private and confidential location
- May take up to three (3) hours
- All items must be completed

## Who Will Participate?

### Individuals

- Started assessing volunteers to build competency
- Currently assessing young adults in the future Turning 22 Class and Newly Eligible Individuals (ASD, PWS, SMS)
- Other newly eligible adults
- Eventually will assess other people served by DDS (changing needs and rest of population)

**Respondents** (i.e. family/guardian, teachers, DDS, and others providing support)

## The Role of the SIS Assessor:

- Introduce the SIS
- Administer the assessment
- Educate respondents on rating scale
- Educate respondents on questions/item intent
- Facilitate consensus among all respondents to achieve accurate ratings

## How Does the SIS Measure Success?

- Comparable to the typical adults without disability
- Individual + Supports = Success

## Support Areas That Are Measured:

### Life Activity Subscales:

- Home Living Activities
- Community
- Life Long Learning
- Employment
- Health and Safety
- Social

### Protection and Advocacy

### Exceptional Medical and Exceptional Behavioral

## SIS Rating Scales:

### Rating Sections 1 & 2

- Support is a combination of *type, frequency and daily support time*.
- Each item is phrased: *If the individual were to engage in this activity over the next few months, what type of support would he or she need to be successful?*

## Additional SIS Information

- Neidine Andrade: 617-624-7818 [Neidine.Andrade@state.ma.us](mailto:Neidine.Andrade@state.ma.us)
- Ben Colon: 617-624-7706 [Benjamin.Colon@state.ma.us](mailto:Benjamin.Colon@state.ma.us) (Spanish Speaker)
- Teresa Devlin: 617-624-7819 [Teresa.C.Devlin@state.ma.us](mailto:Teresa.C.Devlin@state.ma.us)
- Mary Kate Haswell: 617-624-7879 [Mary.Haswell@state.ma.us](mailto:Mary.Haswell@state.ma.us)

DDS Website: <http://tinyurl.com/ma-dds-sis>

AAIDD Website: <http://aidd.org/sis>

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