

Policy for Indiana Youth Assessment System

Adopted on January 15, 2010 by the Board of Directors of the Judicial Conference of Indiana

Indiana Youth Assessment System

The Indiana Youth Assessment System (IYAS) is made up of six instruments to be used at specific points in the juvenile justice process to identify a youth's risk to reoffend and criminogenic needs. These instruments are used at distinct points in the juvenile justice system to promote and assist with developing individualized case plans. By appropriately targeting the identified criminogenic needs through individualized case plans, it is anticipated recidivism will be reduced.

The agency with primary case management responsibilities for a youth shall ensure that the appropriate IYAS instruments and reassessments are completed according to the policies in the table below. All completed IYAS assessments and reassessments shall be entered into the INCite Risk Assessment Application within 30 days after completing the assessment or reassessment interview. The assessment/reassessment information is designed to be updated as a youth proceeds through the juvenile justice system. Accordingly, if the assessment/reassessment and case plan information has been completed within the last six months, departments and programs should be able to access and rely on accurate and timely information for a specific youth when beginning supervision.

When appropriate, agencies are encouraged to use complimentary assessment tools in conjunction with the IYAS to assist in developing individualized case plans when specific risk, need, or responsivity factors (i.e., substance abuse, mental health, sex offense, etc.) are identified by an IYAS tool.

This risk assessment instrument shall be used in Indiana court proceedings and for court-ordered supervision in accordance with the policies adopted by the Board of Directors of the Judicial Conference of Indiana.

The Indiana Youth Assessment System shall be used as follows:

Instruments	Purpose of Tool and Best Practices Recommendations	Policy when used in Juvenile Justice System	Case Plan Required	Reassessment Policy
Diversion tool	This tool is designed to assess a youth's risk to reoffend within the next 12 months. It is a best practice to complete this tool at initial contact for the instant offense to assist in making diversion decisions.	The Diversion tool shall be completed upon referral to the intake officer to assist in making decisions for diversion or informal adjustment.	None	None

Detention tool	<p>This tool is designed to assess a youth's risk to reoffend within the next 12 months.</p> <p>It is a best practice to complete this tool prior to detention to assist in making hold/release decisions. This tool can also assist in making decisions regarding releases from detention.</p>	The Detention tool shall be completed if the youth is being considered for detention.	None	None
Disposition Screener	<p>This tool is designed to quickly identify low-risk youth and determine if a full risk assessment should be completed.</p>	<p>The Disposition Screener shall be completed at post-adjudication/pre-disposition.</p> <p><u>*Exception</u> – If local policy requires a full risk assessment be completed, the screener does not have to be completed for that case.</p>	None	None
Disposition tool	<p>This tool is designed to assess a youth's risk to reoffend and identify criminogenic needs to assist in making decisions regarding post-adjudication supervision.</p> <p>It is a best practice to reassess a youth's risk prior to termination of supervision in order to measure change in behavior, but the results of the reassessment should not be the determining factor regarding termination of supervision.</p>	<p>The Disposition tool shall be completed at post-adjudication/pre-disposition if youth scored moderate/high risk on the Disposition Screener.</p> <p><u>*Exception</u> – If youth will be sent to a private placement, then the Residential tool would be completed instead of the Disposition tool.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Based on reassessment results, case plans should be updated as needed.</p>	<p>Reassessments using the Disposition tool shall be completed every six months.</p> <p>More frequent reassessments may be completed based on local policy.</p>

Residential tool	This tool is designed to assess a youth's risk to reoffend and identify criminogenic needs to assist in making decisions regarding level of placement, case planning and length of stay recommendations.	<p>The Residential tool shall be completed if the youth is placed in long-term (3 months or longer) residential care.</p> <p>If the youth is being committed to the Department of Correction (DOC), DOC will complete the Residential tool and required reassessments.</p> <p>If the youth is being sent to a private placement, the sending agency is responsible for completing the Residential tool and required reassessments.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Based on reassessment results, case plans should be updated as needed.</p>	<p>Reassessments shall be completed every six months. The Reentry tool is the proper tool for reassessing a youth placed in a residential setting.</p> <p>More frequent reassessments may be completed based on local policy.</p>
Reentry tool	This tool is designed to reassess a youth's risk to reoffend and identify criminogenic needs to assist in making decisions regarding release, case planning, and length of stay in residential placements.	The Reentry tool shall be completed as the reassessment tool for youth in long term residential placements or for youth who have been released from such placements back to community supervision.	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Based on reassessment results, case plans should be updated as needed.</p>	None

Note: If a youth has been waived to the adult system, then the appropriate Indiana Risk Assessment System (IRAS) instruments should be used for the instant offense.

The information gathered in the course of, and as a result of, the risk assessment using the Indiana Youth Assessment System (IYAS) is confidential. Confidential risk assessment information includes the risk assessment score, the assessment document, the assessment summary and any case plan based on risk assessment results. Confidential risk assessment information may be released to:

- the court,
- the child,
- the child's attorney of record,
- the child's parent, guardian or custodian,
- the child's guardian ad litem,
- the child's court appointed special advocate,
- the attorney representing the child's parent, guardian, or custodian,
- the prosecuting attorney assigned to the case,
- a probation department,
- a Court Alcohol and Drug Program,
- a Problem-Solving Court,
- a community corrections program,
- the Indiana Department of Correction,
- the Department of Child Services,
- an agency or service provider charged with providing court-ordered services to the child, and
- a person or agency authorized in writing by the child's parent, guardian or custodian.

The confidentiality of risk assessment information shall be maintained by the person, agency, program or service provider receiving this information in accordance with this policy.

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