

## Maine SIS Program

### Maine Supports Intensity Scale (SIS) Assessments: Learn How This Tool Can Inform Support Needs for Maine Youth | Review Process Reminders and Updated Program Resources

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#### What is the Supports Intensity Scale for Adults (SIS-A ®) 2nd Edition assessment?

The SIS-A is an assessment tool developed and maintained by the American Association for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD). The SIS-A provides high-quality data that helps inform the Person-Centered Planning process for the individual who takes it. It also provides State of Maine Department of Health and Human Services – Office of Aging and Disability Services (OADS) with support information for the design of innovative service options through the new Lifespan Waiver.

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#### How does the SIS-A measure support needs?

The SIS-A assesses the support needs of people with IDD or autism. It has been in use since 2004. The SIS-A® focuses on what support a person needs to fully participate in community life. This includes taking care of personal needs, work activities or volunteering, housekeeping, maintaining relationships, and being an active part of their community. It also asks about a person's medical and behavioral support needs.

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#### How could the SIS-A assessment be beneficial for you?

Information gathered during this free assessment and the conversations between the youth being assessed and their team will help identify the persons' support needs and allow for planning to achieve goals and desired outcomes. The assessments will also help OADS to create new service innovations that will support Mainers. These innovations are focused on different support needs through the new [Lifespan Waiver](#).

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#### Who should participate in the SIS-A assessment?

It's preferred but not required that the youth being assessed is present for the assessment. Accommodations can be made if the youth can only attend part of the assessment. It should also include two people who have known the person being assessed for at least 3 months and can accurately speak to the person's support needs in a variety of life areas. In addition to the person being assessed, attendees can be family members, friends, teachers, direct support, or staff from residential or day service providers. The youth case manager should also attend.

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#### Who performs the assessment?

In order to have an objective and unbiased entity conducting the SIS-A, the State partners with Maximus Inc. to manage the conducting of SIS-A assessment interviews in Maine. Each assessment is conducted by a trained SIS Assessor who has passed an approved AAIDD certification process. Assessors have experience working with individuals with IDD/autism and are knowledgeable on how to request and verify information from respondents.

## How do I schedule a SIS-A assessment?












Contact the Maximus – SIS-A support team to schedule a SIS-A.

- Call – **833.771.4639**
- Email – [Maine-SIS@maximus.com](mailto:Maine-SIS@maximus.com)

## Updated Resource: Orientation to “A Path For ME” Needs Assessment



Orientation to “A Path for ME” Needs Assessment , a helpful program resource guide, has recently been updated to include a crosswalk guide on IEP Transition Planning.

Domain	IDEA/IEP Documentation	SIS-A
	Independent living Daily Living Skills Post-Secondary Adult Living Objectives  <i>SOP Section II SUMMARY OF FUNCTIONAL PERFORMANCE</i> <i>Section 9: POST-SECONDARY TRANSITION PLAN</i>	Home Living
	Competitive Integrated Employment  <i>Section 4 IEP- ACADEMIC AND FUNCTIONAL/DEVELOPMENTAL EVALUATIONS, STRENGTHS, AND NEEDS (MUSER IX.3.C.(1))</i> <i>Section 9 IEP</i> <i>SOP Section III POST-SECONDARY GOAL RECOMMENDATIONS</i>	Work
	<i>Section 4 IEP</i> <i>SOP Section II</i> <i>Section 9 IEP</i>	Social
	Postsecondary Education Vocational Education Continuing and Adult Education  <i>Section 9 IEP</i> <i>SOP Section III</i>	Lifelong Learning
	MUSER VII.S.L(2)(g)(IV)-educationally relevant medical findings  <i>SOP Section II</i> <i>Section 9 IEP</i>	Health & Safety
	<i>SOP Section II</i> <i>Section 9 IEP</i>	Advocacy
	Community Participation/Experiences  <i>Section 9 IEP</i>	Community Living
	<i>Section 9 IEP</i> <i>SOP Section III</i>	Health & Safety (SAA)
	Adult/Related Services <i>Section 7 IEP Related Services</i> <i>Section 9 IEP</i> <i>SOP Section III</i>	**informs OADS

You can review this updated guide and other resources 24/7 on the [ME SIS-A Tools & Resources site](#).

## Where can I learn more about the SIS-A?



There are many resources available about the SIS-A. Some helpful links include:

- [A Path for ME Transition Planning Site](#)

- [SIS-A Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\) for members, family and other support team members – updated 12/14/23](#)
- [SIS-A Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\) for community case managers \(CCMs\)](#)
- [OADS Website - "A Path for ME" Needs Assessments](#)
- [SIS-A Assessment Report - AAIDD Sample](#)
- [OADS Presentation - Orientation to "A Path for ME" Needs Assessment](#)
- [American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities \(AAIDD\) Website](#)

Other resources are available:

- Maximus – Maine SIS-A Tools and Resources site:  
[https://maximusclinicalservices.com/svcs/maine\\_sis](https://maximusclinicalservices.com/svcs/maine_sis)
  - [OADS – SIS-A implementation site](#)
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