# Overview: Maine Supports Intensity Scale for Adults® (SIS-A®)



Maximus has been contracted to partner with the State of Maine Department of Health and Human Services – Office of Aging and Disability Services (OADS) to administer the Supports Intensity Scale for Adults (SIS-A®) Assessment, 2nd edition.

#### What is the SIS-A?

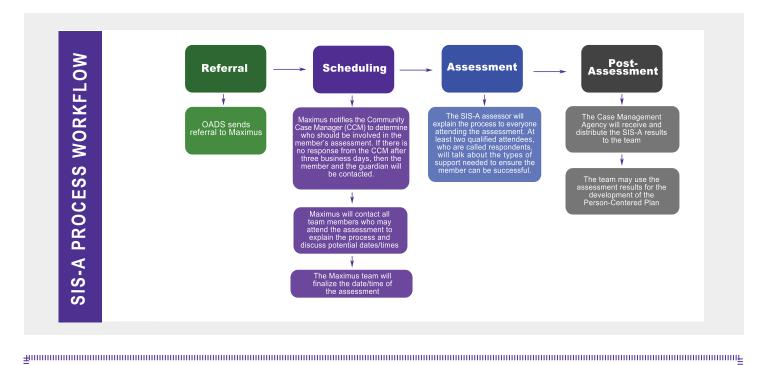
The Supports Intensity Scale for Adults® (SIS-A®) is a valid and reliable tool used as a member needs assessment. Developed and maintained by the Association for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD), the SIS-A® is a comprehensive planning tool that measures support needs in the areas of home living, community living, health and safety, lifelong learning, work, social, and advocacy activities. The SIS-A typically takes 2-3 hours to gather the information needed and complete in full.

# How does the SIS-A measure support needs?

The SIS assesses the support needs of people with IDD or autism. It has been in use since 2004. The "Adult SIS" (SIS-A®) is used for individuals aged 16 and older. The SIS-A® focuses on what support a person needs to successfully live as independently as possible. Things like taking care of personal needs, working or volunteering, housekeeping, or maintaining relationships and connecting with their community. It also asks about a person's exceptional medical and/or behavioral support needs. The assessment is done as an interview. A trained interviewer does the interview with the person with IDD or autism and others who know them well.

# Who should participate in the SIS-A assessment?

AAIDD requires 2 participants be present for each SIS. It is preferred to include the member, guardians, family, friends, direct support staff from residential, day or other providers. Participants should have known the member for at least 3 months. It is also strongly recommended that the case manager participate in the assessment, provided they have known the person for at least 90 days.



### **Explore other SIS-A® Assessment Support Materials:**

https://maximusclinicalservices.com/svcs/maine\_sis

#### **Learn more about the SIS-A® Project in the State of Maine:**

https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/oads/about-us/initiatives/needs-assessment-implementation-project