

Pathways to Success Behavioral Health Decision Support Model Description

In accordance with the [N.B. Consent Decree](#) and Implementation Plan, the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) has developed a systematic process for the identification of N.B. Class Members known as the Behavioral Health Decision Support Model. This Decision Support Model establishes a standardized approach to identifying children and youth who are N.B. Class Members and, thereby, eligible for the Pathways to Success program. To be identified as N.B. Class Members, individuals must: be Illinois Medicaid-eligible; be under the age of 21; have a behavioral health diagnosis; and have a completed Illinois Medicaid Comprehensive Assessment of Needs and Strengths (IM+CANS) that demonstrates a need for intensive home and community-based services based on the Decision Support Model.

The IM+CANS is completed and uploaded to HFS' IM+CANS Provider Portal by a behavioral health professional after conducting a clinical interview that explores the needs and strengths of the youth in areas such as Behavioral/Emotional Needs, Functioning, Risk Behaviors, and Caregiver Needs and Strengths. The areas discussed in the clinical interview are then scored using a '0' to '3' scale to assess the urgency of need in each area, with '0' indicating that there is no evidence of need and no need for action, '1' indicating a significant history of need, or possible need that is not interfering with functioning, '2' indicating the need interferes with functioning and action/intervention is required, and '3' indicating that the need is dangerous or disabling and requires immediate, intensive action or intervention. Additional information on the clinical areas included and the scoring of the IM+CANS can be found at this link: <https://www2.illinois.gov/hfs/MedicalProviders/behavioral/CommunityMentalHealthCenter/Pages/IATP.aspx>.

Working closely with Dr. John Lyons, the creator of the IM+CANS, and his team at the University of Kentucky, HFS developed a process that stratifies youth into service tiers based on the combination and complexity of needs rated as '2' or '3' on certain areas of the youth's IM+CANS. The Decision Support Model has been reviewed by a workgroup of licensed clinicians representing other child-serving agencies and stakeholders, including: the Department of Human Services' Division of Mental Health, the Department of Children and Family Services, Managed Care Organizations, and community behavioral health providers. This clinical workgroup's feedback was integrated into the Decision Support Model to ensure the model is clinically sound and tailored specifically to children in Illinois.

Youth stratified into Tier 1 (High Fidelity Wraparound) or Tier 2 (Intensive Care Coordination) of the Decision Support Model, and who meet the other criteria listed above, are identified as N.B. Class Members and are eligible for the Pathways to Success program. The following tables outline the criteria used to stratify youth into Tier 1 and Tier 2 of the Decision Support Model.

If a youth is determined to be eligible for Tier 1 or Tier 2, they will receive a letter from HFS explaining that they are eligible for the Pathways to Success program, and they will be assigned to a Care Coordination and Support Organization (CCSO) that will be responsible for providing the care coordination services. The CCSO will then reach out to the youth and their family to offer Pathways to Success services. Questions regarding the Behavioral Health Decision Support Model or the Pathways to Success program can be sent to: HFS.Pathways@illinois.gov.



Behavioral Health Decision Support Model Criteria

Tier 2 - Intensive Care Coordination

(Criterion 2.1 OR Criterion 2.2) AND (Criterion 2.3 OR Criterion 2.4 OR Criterion 2.5)

Full Criteria Description: The first step in applying the criteria for Tier 2 Intensive Care Coordination requires the conditions in the row labeled "Treatment/Population Eligibility Need" to be reviewed. If the information from the individual's IM+CANS shows that either of the conditions labeled 2.1 **OR** 2.2 are met, then the second step in applying the criteria can be taken. The second step requires the conditions in the row labeled "Complexity" to be reviewed. If the information from the individual's IM+CANS shows at least one of the conditions labeled 2.3 **OR** 2.4 **OR** 2.5 is also met, then the individual meets the criteria for Tier 2 Intensive Care Coordination.

Step 1: Treatment/Population Eligibility Need	2.1 A rating of '2' or '3' on Psychosis
	2.2 At least one rating of '3', or two or more ratings of '2' or '3' on any the following Behavioral/ Emotional Needs items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Depression - Anxiety - Eating Disturbance - Adjustment to Trauma - Oppositional - Impulsivity/Hyperactivity - Anger Control/Frustration Tolerance - Substance Use - Conduct/Antisocial Behavior - Interpersonal Problems
If at least one of 2.1 or 2.2 is met, then apply Step 2 below to determine if at least one of 2.3, 2.4 OR 2.5 is met.	
Step 2: Complexity	2.3 Two ratings of '3', or three or more ratings of '2' or '3' on the following Functioning needs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Family Functioning - Living Situation - Social Functioning - Developmental/Intellectual - Communication - Medical/Physical - Sexual Development - Sleep - Decision Making - School - Legal
	2.4 One rating of '3', or two or more ratings of '2' or '3' on the following Risk Behaviors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Suicide Risk - Intentional Misbehavior - Runaway - Sexually Problematic Behavior - Non-Suicidal Self-Injurious (NSSI) Behavior - Bullying Others - Other Self Harm - Danger to Others - Delinquent/Criminal Behavior - Fire Setting - Victimization/Exploitation
	2.5 At least two ratings of '2' or '3' on the following Caregiver Resources and Needs items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supervision - Involvement with Care - Family Stress - Knowledge - Marital/Partner Violence in the Home - Self-Care/Daily Living Skills - Medical/Physical - Mental Health
If Step 1 is complete AND at least one of 2.3, 2.4 or 2.5 is met, then the youth meets the criteria for Tier 2 of the Pathways to Success program.	



Behavioral Health Decision Support Model Criteria

Tier 1 – High Fidelity Wraparound

(Criterion 1.1 OR Criterion 1.2) AND Criterion 1.5; OR (Criterion 1.3 AND Criterion 1.4 AND Criterion 1.5)

Full Criteria Description: An individual may meet the criteria for Tier 1 in two ways. The first way for an individual to qualify for Tier 1 is for the information from the individual's IM+CANS to show the individual meets the conditions labeled 1.1 **OR** 1.2 in the row labeled "Treatment / Population Eligibility Need" **AND** the condition labeled 1.5 in the row labeled "Complexity". If the individual meets 1.1 **OR** 1.2 **AND** meets 1.5, then the individual qualifies for Tier 1. The other way an individual may qualify for Tier 1 is if the information from the individual's IM+CANS shows the individual meets the condition labeled 1.3 in the row labeled "Treatment / Population Eligibility Need" **AND** meets the conditions labeled 1.4 **AND** 1.5 in the row labeled "Complexity". If the individual meets 1.3 **AND** 1.4 **AND** 1.5, then the individual qualifies for Tier 1.

Treatment/Population Eligibility Need	1.1 A rating of '3' on Psychosis
	1.2 A rating of '3' on Adjustment to Trauma
	1.3 Two or more ratings of '3', OR three or more ratings of '2' or '3' on the following Behavioral/ Emotional Needs items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Psychosis – Depression – Anxiety – Eating Disturbance – Adjustment to Trauma – Oppositional – Impulsivity/Hyperactivity – Anger Control/Frustration Tolerance – Substance Use – Conduct/Antisocial Behavior – Interpersonal Problems
Complexity	1.4 One rating of '3', OR two or more ratings of '2' or '3' on the following Risk Behaviors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Suicide Risk – Intentional Misbehavior – Runaway – Sexually Problematic Behavior – Non-Suicidal Self-Injurious (NSSI) Behavior – Bullying Others – Other Self Harm – Danger to Others – Delinquent/Criminal Behavior – Fire Setting – Victimization/Exploitation
	1.5 At least one rating of '2' or '3' any of the following Caregiver Resources and Needs items OR youth has no current viable caregiver: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Supervision – Involvement with Care – Social Resources – Organization – Marital/Partner Violence in the Home – Self-Care/Daily Living Skills – Medical/Physical – Mental Health

If at least one of 1.1 OR 1.2 is met, AND 1.5 is met, then the youth meets criteria for Tier 1 of the Pathways to Success program; OR

If all of 1.3 AND 1.4 AND 1.5 are met, then the youth meets criteria for Tier 1 of the Pathways to Success program.