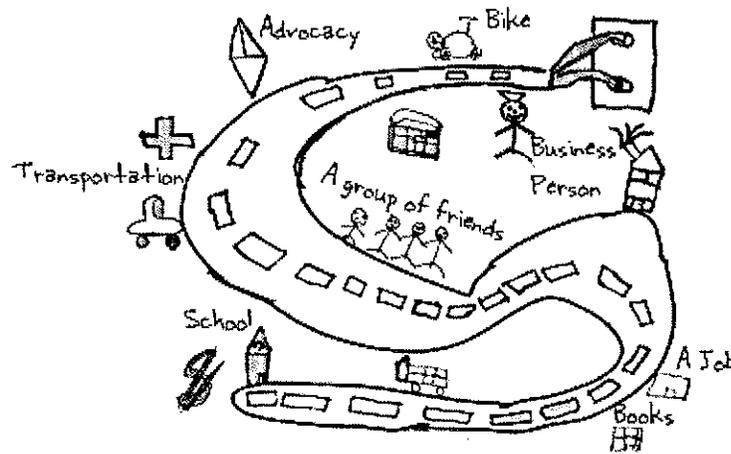


Supporting Individual Success For Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities & Autism

Office of Aging & Disability Services



A Guide for Case Managers

Understanding the Proposed Budgets and Service Hours by
Residential Setting

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Introduction

The primary audience for this guide is Case Managers working with members with intellectual disabilities and autism. It provides detailed information regarding the model that will be used for allocating resources to members receiving Section 21 waiver services in the future.

Individuals and their families will undoubtedly have questions regarding what they can expect with the new model. This guide is intended to assist Case Managers to understand the components of the new model and, in turn, provide accurate and helpful information to members.

Understanding Individual Budgeting

At the center of a system promoting self-direction is a personal budget allocation that the individual may use within an approved person-centered service plan to secure needed supports. In the new model, an individual's base budget amount is based on their level of need, which is informed by the Supports Intensity Scale®, and other information. Individuals will be assigned to a level and will know their base budget *before* planning for their supports. Case Managers will assist individuals to plan for the supports they need and prefer while staying within their budget amount.

Important to Know Right Now

- No changes have been made to services at this time.
- Information about levels and budgets is for review only.
- Based on review and public comments, changes may be made to what has been proposed.
- Change process will begin next year, starting in July 2015.
- Information is posted on the OADS website:
<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/oads/disability/ds/sis/index.shtml>
- OADS is collecting feedback & comments. Email OADS@maine.gov

How to Use This Guide

This guide can be used to easily locate an individual's proposed annual base budget amount. You will need to know the following information to use this guide:

- The individual's residential placement
- The number of individuals living in that residential placement
- The individual's SIS level assignment (1-5) provided by OADS

Use the Table of Contents to locate information by residential placement. Each residential placement section has a series of tables describing the services, units, and dollar amounts included in the proposed base budgets by SIS level. The descriptions for the proposed five levels and residential definitions are provided on the next few pages to help with understanding the proposed budgets.

Maine Level Descriptions

1	<p>Adults in this level have low support need, including little to no support need for medical and behavioral challenges. They can manage many aspects of their lives independently or with little assistance. This includes instrumental activities like eating or dressing, as well as daily living activities such as shopping or going out into the community. Supports are typically intermittent rather than 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (24/7).</p> <p>Someone in this level may need supports with clothing care, preparing meals, and dressing. Often support needed involves some monitoring or prompting instead of partial to full physical support. They may need intermittent help participating in leisure activities, gaining and maintaining employment, visiting family and friends, or assistance with shopping. They may be able to ambulate or need little to no help moving about, but need help with health practices that include maintaining a nutritious diet and/or taking medications.</p>
2	<p>Adults in this level have moderate support needs and little to no support need for medical and behavioral challenges. Although they need more support than those in Level 1, their support needs are minimal in a number of life areas. They may also receive intermittent daily support rather than 24/7.</p> <p>An individual in this level may need some assistance preparing and eating meals, they might need monitoring or prompting with daily dressing, and daily assistance with housekeeping and laundry. They may need support getting from place to place, gaining and maintaining employment, accessing public services or interacting with community members. In this level, they most likely will need partial physical assistance taking medications, avoiding health and safety concerns and maintaining a healthy diet.</p>
3	<p>Adults in this level have either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low to moderate support needs as in Levels 1 & 2 but also above average, non-extensive support need due to behavioral challenges; or • Above average support needs and up to above average, non-extensive support need due to behavioral challenges. <p>Adults in this level may need 24/7 supports due to their daily support needs and/or behavioral challenges.</p> <p>In this level, an individual will most likely need daily assistance preparing food, eating meals, dressing, and bathing. This could range from monitoring, but will most likely include partial to full physical assistance for some supports including gaining and maintaining employment, accessing community activities; such as, visiting friends and family members, or participating in preferred community activities. They will most likely need at least partial physical assistance obtaining health care. They may also have behavioral support needs that lie outside of overall living activity supports. This could include support with prevention of outbursts, or monitoring for wandering.</p>

4	<p>Adults in this level have either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High to maximum support needs; or • Significant need for support due to medical conditions. <p>They have behavioral support needs that are not significant but can range from none to above average. Adults in this level may need additional 24/7 supports due to their daily support needs and/or medical conditions.</p> <p>Support needs may include partial to full physical assistance with eating and preparation of meals, dressing, and all household activities. An individual in this level may have difficulty ambulating, and therefore needs full physical help accessing the community. In order to maintain health and safety, an individual in this level will likely need full support in meal planning, obtaining health care and taking medications. Support for medical issues may also be required to ensure people in this level are able to participate in employment activities.</p>
5	<p>All adults in this level have significant behavioral challenges, regardless of their support need to complete daily activities or for medical conditions. Adults in this level may need enhanced 24/7 supports due to their behavioral challenges.</p> <p>* Individuals that meet Level 5 criteria due to behavioral challenges, and have significant medical need (Section 3A score higher than 7) may require additional review to ensure their medical and behavioral needs are addressed appropriately.</p> <p>In this level, an individual has behavioral support needs that are exceptional and require a great amount of assistance. They may have lower support needs in daily living activities but require full physical assistance of support staff to prevent harm to themselves or others. Support needs in this domain include prevention of pica, sexually aggressive behavior, wandering and tantrums, or other forms of self-harm. Given the behavioral challenges experienced by people in this level, employment supports will need to be highly specialized.</p>

Residential Definitions

Agency Home Support (Group home)

A provider managed service location that routinely employs direct care staff to provide direct support services.

Family-Centered Support

No more Family Centered Support will be approved after December 30, 2007. This was a model designed to provide enhanced home support to a member in a family environment, with the family and the member sharing a home that is not owned by the member or member's family. The Family Centered Provider must be a Certified Direct Support Professional (DSP).

Shared Living (Foster Care – Adult)

A model in which services are provided to a member by a person who meets all of the requirements of a Direct Support Professional with whom that member shares a home. The home may belong to the provider or the member, but the provider must enter into a contractual relationship with an Administrative Oversight Agency in order to provide services under this model. Only one member may receive services in any one Shared Living arrangement at the same time, unless a relationship existed prior to the service arrangement and the arrangement is approved by DHHS. In such case, no more than two members may be served in any one Shared Living arrangement concurrently.

The Shared Living Provider/Direct Support Professional must enter into a contractual relationship with the Administrative Oversight Agency in order to provide services in a Shared Living arrangement. The agency supports the provider in fulfilling the requirements and obligations agreed upon by the DHHS, the Administrative Oversight Agency, and the Personal Plan.

Home Support (Living Alone or with Family)

Direct support is provided in the member's home, by a Direct Support Professional to improve and maintain a member's ability to live as independently as possible. Home Support is direct support to a member and includes primarily habilitative training and/or personal assistance with Activities of Daily Living (ADL) and/or Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADL), development, and personal well-being.

Within the scope of Home Support, there may be activities that require that the service be carried over into the community. Nothing in this rule is intended to prohibit community inclusion as a reimbursable service accompanied by documentation on the Personal Plan provided that the service has a therapeutic outcome. An example is shopping for food, which may later be prepared in the home. This is allowable as long as it does not duplicate Community Support.

Home Support cannot be provided at a Member's employment site.

**Family-Centered Support
1 Person**

**Proposed Residential Services
for 1 Year**

SIS Levels	Subtotal
1	\$38,022
2	\$38,022
3	\$38,022
4	\$38,022
5	\$38,022

For each of the tables on the left, first find the assigned SIS level. Then follow along that row to find the proposed budget amounts.

Table 1 shows the subtotal of the proposed annual residential budget for people in each level living in this setting.

**Proposed Day Services by hours per
week for 1 Year***

SIS Levels	Community Support Hours	Work Support Hours	Subtotal
1	10	12	\$25,401
2	10	12	\$26,108
3	10	12	\$26,108
4	15	10	\$30,971
5	15	10	\$30,971

Table 2 shows the subtotal based on the proposed number of hours per week for community support and work support for people in each level.

***Note:** The hours listed in this table are not imposed limits. People will be able to choose how many hours of community support and work support they prefer while staying within their total budget.

Total Budget

SIS Levels	Total Budget
1	\$63,423
2	\$64,130
3	\$64,130
4	\$68,993
5	\$68,993

Table 3 shows the total annual budget amount for people in each level living in this setting.

(Table 1 Subtotal + Table 2 Subtotal = Table 3 Total Budget)

The rates for this residential service were not changed. Rates for settings designated as *Increased Support* are still being considered at this time

**Family-Centered Support
2 Person**

**Proposed Residential Services
for 1 Year**

SIS Levels	Subtotal
1	\$31,317
2	\$31,317
3	\$31,317
4	\$31,317
5	\$31,317

For each of the tables on the left, first find the assigned SIS level. Then follow along that row to find the proposed budget amounts.

Table 1 shows the subtotal of the proposed annual residential budget for people in each level living in this setting.

**Proposed Day Services by hours per
week for 1 Year***

SIS Levels	Community Support Hours	Work Support Hours	Subtotal
1	10	12	\$25,401
2	10	12	\$26,108
3	10	12	\$26,108
4	15	10	\$30,971
5	15	10	\$30,971

Table 2 shows the subtotal based on the proposed number of hours per week for community support and work support for people in each level.

***Note:** The hours listed in this table are not imposed limits. People will be able to choose how many hours of community support and work support they prefer while staying within their total budget.

Total Budget

SIS Levels	Total Budget
1	\$56,718
2	\$57,425
3	\$57,425
4	\$62,288
5	\$62,288

Table 3 shows the total annual budget amount for people in each level living in this setting.

(Table 1 Subtotal + Table 2 Subtotal = Table 3 Total Budget)

The rates for this residential service were not changed. Rates for settings designated as *Increased Support* are still being considered at this time

**Family-Centered Support
3 Person**

**Proposed Residential Services
for 1 Year**

SIS Levels	Subtotal
1	\$26,700
2	\$26,700
3	\$26,700
4	\$26,700
5	\$26,700

For each of the tables on the left, first find the assigned SIS level. Then follow along that row to find the proposed budget amounts.

Table 1 shows the subtotal of the proposed annual residential budget for people in each level living in this setting.

**Proposed Day Services by hours per
week for 1 Year***

SIS Levels	Community Support Hours	Work Support Hours	Subtotal
1	10	12	\$25,401
2	10	12	\$26,108
3	10	12	\$26,108
4	15	10	\$30,971
5	15	10	\$30,971

Table 2 shows the subtotal based on the proposed number of hours per week for community support and work support for people in each level.

***Note:** The hours listed in this table are not imposed limits. People will be able to choose how many hours of community support and work support they prefer while staying within their total budget.

Total Budget

SIS Levels	Total Budget
1	\$52,101
2	\$52,808
3	\$52,808
4	\$57,671
5	\$57,671

Table 3 shows the total annual budget amount for people in each level living in this setting.

(Table 1 Subtotal + Table 2 Subtotal = Table 3 Total Budget)

The rates for this residential service were not changed. Rates for settings designated as *Increased Support* are still being considered at this time

**Family-Centered Support
4 Person**

**Proposed Residential Services
for 1 Year**

SIS Levels	Subtotal
1	\$22,626
2	\$22,626
3	\$22,626
4	\$22,626
5	\$22,626

For each of the tables on the left, first find the assigned SIS level. Then follow along that row to find the proposed budget amounts.

Table 1 shows the subtotal of the proposed annual residential budget for people in each level living in this setting.

**Proposed Day Services by hours per
week for 1 Year***

SIS Levels	Community Support Hours	Work Support Hours	Subtotal
1	10	12	\$25,401
2	10	12	\$26,108
3	10	12	\$26,108
4	15	10	\$30,971
5	15	10	\$30,971

Table 2 shows the subtotal based on the proposed number of hours per week for community support and work support for people in each level.

***Note:** The hours listed in this table are not imposed limits. People will be able to choose how many hours of community support and work support they prefer while staying within their total budget.

Total Budget

SIS Levels	Total Budget
1	\$48,027
2	\$48,735
3	\$48,735
4	\$53,598
5	\$53,598

Table 3 shows the total annual budget amount for people in each level living in this setting.

(Table 1 Subtotal + Table 2 Subtotal = Table 3 Total Budget)

The rates for this residential service were not changed. Rates for settings designated as *Increased Support* are still being considered at this time

Family-Centered Support 5 Person

Proposed Residential Services for 1 Year

SIS Levels	Subtotal
1	\$20,181
2	\$20,181
3	\$20,181
4	\$20,181
5	\$20,181

For each of the tables on the left, first find the assigned SIS level. Then follow along that row to find the proposed budget amounts.

Table 1 shows the subtotal of the proposed annual residential budget for people in each level living in this setting.

Proposed Day Services by hours per week for 1 Year*

SIS Levels	Community Support Hours	Work Support Hours	Subtotal
1	10	12	\$25,401
2	10	12	\$26,108
3	10	12	\$26,108
4	15	10	\$30,971
5	15	10	\$30,971

Table 2 shows the subtotal based on the proposed number of hours per week for community support and work support for people in each level.

***Note:** The hours listed in this table are not imposed limits. People will be able to choose how many hours of community support and work support they prefer while staying within their total budget.

Total Budget

SIS Levels	Total Budget
1	\$45,582
2	\$46,289
3	\$46,289
4	\$51,152
5	\$51,152

Table 3 shows the total annual budget amount for people in each level living in this setting.

(Table 1 Subtotal + Table 2 Subtotal = Table 3 Total Budget)

The rates for this residential service were not changed. Rates for settings designated as *Increased Support* are still being considered at this time

Group Home 1 Person

Proposed Residential Services for 1 Year

SIS Levels	Residential Subtotal
1	\$170,986
2	\$171,367
3	\$171,367
4	\$187,912
5	\$187,912

For each of the tables on the left, first find the assigned SIS level. Then follow along that row to find the proposed budget amounts.

Table 1 shows the subtotal of the proposed annual residential budget for people in each level living in this setting.

Proposed Day Services by hours per week for 1 Year*

SIS Levels	Community Support Hours	Work Support Hours	Subtotal
1	10	12	\$25,401
2	12	12	\$27,768
3	12	12	\$27,768
4	20	10	\$36,348
5	20	10	\$36,348

Table 2 shows the subtotal based on the proposed number of hours per week for community support and work support for people in each level.

***Note:** The hours listed in this table are not imposed limits. People will be able to choose how many hours of community support and work support they prefer while staying within their total budget.

Total Budget

SIS Levels	Total Budget
1	\$196,386
2	\$199,135
3	\$199,135
4	\$224,260
5	\$224,260

Table 3 shows the total annual budget amount for people in each level living in this setting.

(Table 1 Subtotal + Table 2 Subtotal = Table 3 Total Budget)

Group Home 2 Person

Proposed Residential Services for 1 Year

SIS Levels	Residential Subtotal
1	\$105,011
2	\$108,549
3	\$108,549
4	\$130,690
5	\$130,690

For each of the tables on the left, first find the assigned SIS level. Then follow along that row to find the proposed budget amounts.

Table 1 shows the subtotal of the proposed annual residential budget for people in each level living in this setting.

Proposed Day Services by hours perweek for 1 Year*

SIS Levels	Community Support Hours	Work Support Hours	Subtotal
1	10	12	\$25,401
2	12	12	\$27,768
3	12	12	\$27,768
4	20	10	\$36,348
5	20	10	\$36,348

Table 2 shows the subtotal based on the proposed number of hours per week for community support and work support for people in each level.

***Note:** The hours listed in this table are not imposed limits. People will be able to choose how many hours of community support and work support they prefer while staying within their total budget.

Total Budget

SIS Levels	Total Budget
1	\$130,411
2	\$136,317
3	\$136,317
4	\$167,038
5	\$167,038

Table 3 shows the total annual budget amount for people in each level living in this setting.

(Table 1 Subtotal + Table 2 Subtotal = Table 3 Total Budget)

Group Home 3 Person

Proposed Residential Services for 1 year

SIS Levels	Residential Subtotal
1	\$79,611
2	\$83,454
3	\$83,454
4	\$118,717
5	\$118,717

For each of the tables on the left, first find the assigned SIS level. Then follow along that row to find the proposed budget amounts.

Table 1 shows the subtotal of the proposed annual residential budget for people in each level living in this setting.

Proposed Day Services by hours per week for 1 Year*

SIS Levels	Community Support Hours	Work Support Hours	Subtotal
1	10	12	\$25,401
2	12	12	\$27,768
3	12	12	\$27,768
4	20	10	\$36,348
5	20	10	\$36,348

Table 2 shows the subtotal based on the proposed number of hours per week for community support and work support for people in each level.

***Note:** The hours listed in this table are not imposed limits. People will be able to choose how many hours of community support and work support they prefer while staying within their total budget.

Total Budget

SIS Levels	Total Budget
1	\$105,012
2	\$111,222
3	\$111,222
4	\$155,065
5	\$155,065

Table 3 shows the total annual budget amount for people in each level living in this setting.

(Table 1 Subtotal + Table 2 Subtotal = Table 3 Total Budget)

Group Home 4 or more Persons

Proposed Residential Services for 1 year

SIS Levels	Residential Subtotal
1	\$64,663
2	\$78,393
3	\$78,393
4	\$115,185
5	\$115,185

For each of the tables on the left, first find the assigned SIS level. Then follow along that row to find the proposed budget amounts.

Table 1 shows the subtotal of the proposed annual residential budget for people in each level living in this setting.

Proposed Day Services by hours per week for 1 Year*

SIS Levels	Community Support Hours	Work Support Hours	Subtotal
1	10	12	\$25,401
2	12	12	\$27,768
3	12	12	\$27,768
4	20	10	\$36,348
5	20	10	\$36,348

Table 2 shows the subtotal based on the proposed number of hours per week for community support and work support for people in each level.

***Note:** The hours listed in this table are not imposed limits. People will be able to choose how many hours of community support and work support they prefer while staying within their total budget.

Total Budget

SIS Levels	Total Budget
1	\$90,063
2	\$106,161
3	\$106,161
4	\$151,533
5	\$151,533

Table 3 shows the total annual budget amount for people in each level living in this setting.

(Table 1 Subtotal + Table 2 Subtotal = Table 3 Total Budget)

Shared Living 1 Person

Proposed Residential Services for 1 Year

SIS Levels	Subtotal
1	\$46,059
2	\$46,059
3	\$46,059
4	\$46,059
5	\$46,059

For each of the tables on the left, first find the assigned SIS level. Then follow along that row to find the proposed budget amounts.

Table 1 shows the subtotal of the proposed annual residential budget for people in each level living in this setting.

Proposed Day Services by hours per week for 1 Year*

SIS Levels	Community Support Hours	Work Support Hours	Subtotal
1	10	12	\$25,401
2	10	12	\$26,108
3	10	12	\$26,108
4	15	10	\$30,971
5	15	10	\$30,971

Table 2 shows the subtotal based on the proposed number of hours per week for community support and work support for people in each level.

***Note:** The hours listed in this table are not imposed limits. People will be able to choose how many hours of community support and work support they prefer while staying within their total budget.

Total Budget

SIS Levels	Total Budget
1	\$71,460
2	\$72,168
3	\$72,168
4	\$77,031
5	\$77,031

Table 3 shows the total annual budget amount for people in each level living in this setting.

(Table 1 Subtotal + Table 2 Subtotal = Table 3 Total Budget)

The rates for this residential service were not changed. Rates for settings designated as *Increased Support* are still being considered at this time

Shared Living 2 Person

Proposed Residential Services for 1 Year

SIS Levels	Subtotal
1	\$23,032
2	\$23,032
3	\$23,032
4	\$23,032
5	\$23,032

For each of the tables on the left, first find the assigned SIS level. Then follow along that row to find the proposed budget amounts.

Table 1 shows the subtotal of the proposed annual residential budget for people in each level living in this setting.

Proposed Day Services by hours per week for 1 Year*

SIS Levels	Community Support Hours	Work Support Hours	Subtotal
1	10	12	\$25,401
2	10	12	\$26,108
3	10	12	\$26,108
4	15	10	\$30,971
5	15	10	\$30,971

Table 2 shows the subtotal based on the proposed number of hours per week for community support and work support for people in each level.

***Note:** The hours listed in this table are not imposed limits. People will be able to choose how many hours of community support and work support they prefer while staying within their total budget.

Total Budget

SIS Levels	Total Budget
1	\$48,432
2	\$49,140
3	\$49,140
4	\$54,003
5	\$54,003

Table 3 shows the total annual budget amount for people in each level living in this setting.

(Table 1 Subtotal + Table 2 Subtotal = Table 3 Total Budget)

The rates for this residential service were not changed. Rates for settings designated as *Increased Support* are still being considered at this time

Living Alone or with Family

Proposed Residential Services for 1 Year*

SIS Levels	Home Support hours each week	Subtotal
1	20	\$30,784
2	24	\$36,941
3	24	\$36,941
4	48	\$73,882
5	48	\$73,882

Proposed Respite*

SIS Levels	Total Hours Each Year	Subtotal
1	100	\$2,492
2	100	\$2,492
3	100	\$2,492
4	100	\$2,492
5	100	\$2,492

Proposed Day Services by hours per week for 1 Year*

SIS Levels	Community Support Hours	Work Support Hours	Subtotal
1	10	12	\$25,401
2	10	12	\$26,108
3	10	12	\$26,108
4	15	10	\$30,971
5	15	10	\$30,971

Total Budget

SIS Levels	Total Budget
1	\$58,677
2	\$65,541
3	\$65,541
4	\$107,345
5	\$107,345

For each of the tables, first find the assigned SIS level. Then follow along that row to find the proposed budget amounts.

Table 1 shows the subtotal of the proposed annual residential services budget for people in each level living in this setting.

Table 2 shows the subtotal based on the number of hours available for respite per year.

Table 3 shows the subtotal based on the proposed number of hours per week for community support and work support for people in each level.

***Note:** The hours listed in these tables are not imposed limits. People will be able to choose how many hours of each service they prefer while staying within their total budget.

Table 4 shows the total annual budget amount for people in each level living in this setting.

(Table 1 Subtotal + Table 2 Subtotal + Table 3 Subtotal = Table 4 Total Budget)

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is Supporting Individual Success?

The Office of Aging and Disability Services (OADS) is making changes to services to make sure that people with intellectual disabilities and autism can get the supports they need, be in charge of their lives, and be a part of their communities. We call this new effort *Supporting Individual Success* or SIS.

2. Why is OADS Implementing the Supporting Individual Success initiative?

OADS is committed to people with intellectual disabilities and autism getting the services and supports they need to live, love, play, and reach for their goals just as others do in their community.

We want make sure that services are:

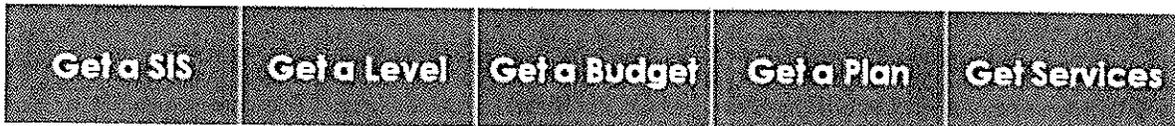
- Fair for everyone.
- Based on a person's needs and choices.
- Available when people need them (no long waits for services).

To reach our goals, we must:

- Build on our successes.
- Be willing to change some of how and what we've been doing.
- Balance our goals with the best use of the dollars we have.

3. How will it work?

There are five (5) main steps in the process.



- 1) The individual will have a Supports Intensity Scale® interview to assess their support needs.
- 2) They will be assigned to a supports level (1-5) based on their needs.
- 3) Based on their level, they will get a Base Budget for services they need. They will know their level and base budget *before* planning for services.
- 4) They will meet with their case manager and providers that support them (if any) to get ready for their person-centered planning meeting. Then, they will have the person-centered planning meeting and plan for the life they want with the supports they need.
- 5) The case manager will get everything ready for services to start or continue.

4. What is the Supports Intensity Scale® (SIS)?

The Supports Intensity Scale (SIS) is a nationally recognized, valid and reliable assessment tool developed by the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD). The SIS is strengths-based and focuses on a person's daily support needs.

5. How does the assessment occur?

A SIS interviewer who is trained and recognized by AAIDD will use the SIS to measure a person's individual support needs. The interview usually takes about one and a half to two hours. Some interviews may take up to three hours. The amount of time it takes depends on a number of factors, including the individual's attention span and the number of people in the group. The interview may be held in a variety of locations that offer privacy and comfort such as a person's home, where he or she spends the day, or someplace else like an office.

6. Who will participate in a SIS Interview?

Participants in the interview include **Respondents** and **Observers**. Respondents and observers will stay until the interview is completed. The person served may leave at any time.

Respondents: People who answer questions during the interview. The person receiving services can be a respondent. Other respondents must know the person well and be very familiar with their day-to-day support needs also participate as respondents. They must have known the person for at least three months and have had recent opportunities to support the person in one or more environments for at least several hours per setting. Respondents are typically direct support staff, or family members who provide daily support to the person. In addition to direct support staff from the home, support staff from community and work settings may be respondents.

Observers: Attend the interview, but do not answer questions. The case manager participates in the SIS interview and will act as an observer if he or she is not familiar with the person's daily support needs. A guardian or family member may be a respondent or an observer, depending on their involvement in daily support to the person. When there are enough respondents, the case manager may act as an observer. Observers may include advocates.

7. What kind of questions will be asked in the interview?

The interviewer will ask about the supports a person needs at home, in the community, with friends, and at school or work at this date in time. Other questions will focus on a person's needs in the areas of health and safety and essential medical and behavioral supports.

8. How does the SIS interview capture the support needs of people with extraordinary needs?

Answers on specific SIS questions will indicate that a person may have extraordinary medical or behavioral needs. The SIS interviewer will then ask a series of supplemental questions to gather additional information. Individuals, identified through this process as having extraordinary needs, will receive a comprehensive record review to ensure that the SIS has accurately captured their current support needs.

9. What happens after the SIS interview?

The SIS interviewer will send a report of the assessment results to the case manager after the interview. The case manager will then share the SIS results with the person-served and his or her guardian if there is one. With the person's permission, the case manager may send the report to the person's provider agencies.

10. Does the SIS interview replace a Person Centered Planning meeting?

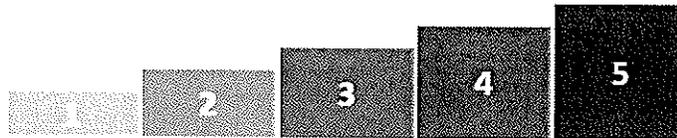
No. The Person-Centered Planning meeting will continue to be held once a year for every person served. The SIS interviews will be held once every three years. Information on the person's support needs from the SIS will be used to help inform the Person-Centered Plan. You can get a lot of information during an interview that is useful in developing a plan. The SIS is a conversation starter!

11. Will the SIS assessment change eligibility for the Medicaid Waiver?

No.

12. What are the levels?

Each person will be assigned a level based on their support needs. People in Level 1 have the least level of support need and people in Level 5 have the highest. Level 4 takes care of people with extraordinary medical support needs and Level 5 takes care of people with really high behavioral support needs.



13. Where can I get more information about Supporting Individual Success?

OADS has engaged with self-advocates, providers, advocates and others in several ways to gather input and share information about this initiative.

For more information about the *Supporting Individual Success*, visit the OADS website at <http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/oads/disability/ds/sis/>

