

## **ODP Announces Reinstatement of SIS Assessments**

[ODP Announcement 20-063](#) is to inform all that effective June 1, 2020, the Supports Intensity Scale-Adult™ (SIS-ATM) and Pennsylvania (PA) Supplement assessments will be reinstated for counties that have transitioned to the yellow and green phases of Governor Wolf's Plan to Reopen Pennsylvania.

As counties transition to the yellow and green phases, ODP will be beginning virtual SIS-ATM and PA Supplement assessments through a conservative roll-out strategy, concentrating first on 5-year reassessments, prioritizing those that are overdue, and select individuals identified by ODP. ODP will gradually increase the target population.

ODP has been working collaboratively with the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD) and Keystone Peer Review Organization (KEPRO) to develop operating procedures that will allow for the completion of the SIS-ATM and PA Supplement assessments virtually.

The assessment tools, submission requests and approval process will remain the same. Below is a description of what will need to be done differently when scheduling and completing a virtual assessment.

- Once the assessment is scheduled, a confirmation email will be sent from KEPRO containing information on how to access the SIS-A Respondent Guide for Use with Remote Assessments and a link to join the assessment. If a respondent does not have an email address, KEPRO will mail this information to the respondent.
- The SIS Assessor will need to have a virtual view of the individual being assessed. This requires the individual to have access to a device that has audio and video capabilities. If an individual does not have access to a device with audio and video capabilities, the virtual assessment cannot be completed.
- Respondents that can should also participate virtually (audio and video capabilities). If the respondent cannot participate virtually and has access to a landline phone, the respondent should be sent by mail the telephone number of a secure conference line to dial in.
- Respondent teams should plan on logging in to the meeting ten minutes prior to the assessment start time. This will allow time for troubleshooting any connectivity issues.
- Virtual assessments may take longer to complete. Ample time should be allocated (up to three hours) for accurate information to be obtained. Breaks should be offered during the assessment and respondents should be instructed to feel free to request a break any time one is needed.

- As an additional level of quality oversight, an ODP Regional SIS Lead and/or KEPRO quality staff may listen in on the assessment.

If you have any questions, please reach out to your SIS Regional Lead.

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