

# 8.7202.AA Support Levels and Algorithms

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# Supports Intensity Scale Decommission and Interim Support Level Assessment Implementation

HCPF is retiring the Supports Intensity Scale and creating a new Assessment process to determine Support Levels for Members with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities enrolling in Day Habilitation services, Supported Employment services, or Residential Habilitation services. We anticipate the interim solution will impact a limited number of Members and will move us closer to the launch of the full Colorado Single Assessment, Person-Centered Support Plan, and Person-Centered Budget Algorithm.

# Acronyms

- Supports Intensity Scale - SIS
- Interim Support Level Assessment - ISLA

# Decommissioning the SIS

## Background

Items from the SIS Assessment are used to determine Support Levels for **Supported Employment, Day and Residential Habilitation Services** in the **Supported Living Services (SLS)** and **Developmental Disabilities (DD) waivers** and the **Service Plan Authorization Limits (SPALs)** for services in the SLS waiver

June 30, 2025

The SIS Assessment currently used in Colorado will be retired by AAIDD and **no longer available**

Implementing **Community First Choice (CFC)** will **eliminate SPALs** for SLS waiver services

## Our Plan

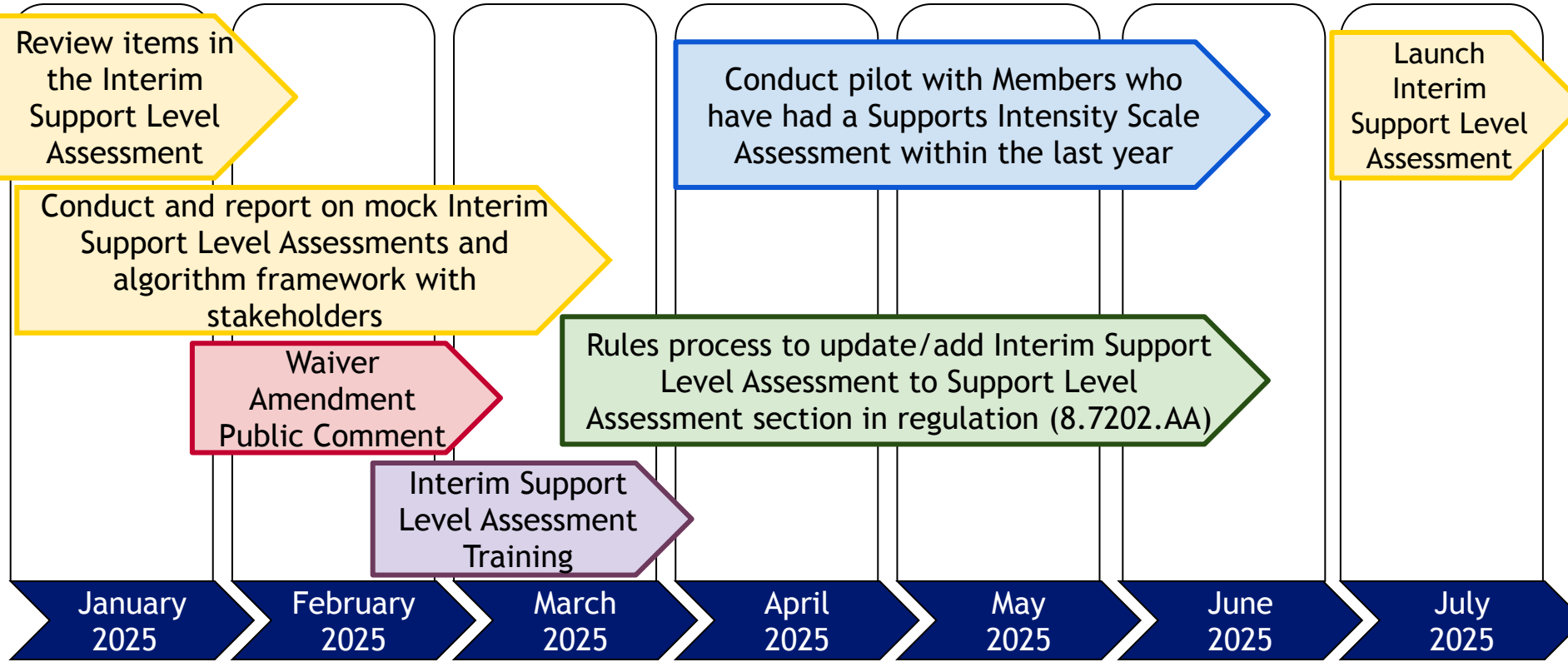
- Implement the Interim Support Level Assessment (ISLA) to identify Support Levels for people enrolling in **Day Services, Supported Employment Services, and Residential Services** in the DD waiver and **Day Services and Supported Employment Services** in the SLS waiver, who do not already have an identified SIS Support Level
- Must maintain as much fidelity as possible to the current process to ensure parity for newly enrolling Members
- Estimated **60 newly enrolling adult Members with I/DD per month** will need a Support Level via the ISLA

# Supports Intensity Scale Decommission

- Supports Intensity Scale Assessment Decommission
  - June 30, 2025
- Implementation of the Interim Support Level Assessment
  - July 1, 2025
  - Limited Approach for *newly enrolling* HCBS-DD and HCBS-SLS Members that have never received a Supports Intensity Scale Support Level and are seeking Day Habilitation, Supported Employment, or Residential Habilitation services
- Continuation of Supports Intensity Scale Support Levels
- Support Level Review Process continues as currently used for both Members with a SIS Support Level and Members with an ISLA Support Level



# Interim Support Level Assessment Timeline



# Stakeholder Engagement

- Creating the Colorado Single Assessment (CSA)
  - Beginning 2014 to 2020 the Assessment/Support Plan (A/SP) Stakeholder advisory group development the Colorado Single Assessment and Person-Centered Support Plan
- Developing the Interim Support Level Assessment (ISLA)
  - Beginning 2020 to Present the same A/SP Stakeholder group partnered with HCPF and HCBS Strategies to develop the ISLA
  - Core elements of the CSA are the basis of the ISLA which maps to the SIS Support Level Algorithm elements
- ISLA Pilot
  - Worked with the SIS Community of Practice (CMA SIS Contact) and A/SP Stakeholder group to review Department proposed operational guidelines, training plan, communications, and outreach strategies for the ISLA Pilot
- SIS Decommission and ISLA Rule Review
  - Rule review with A/SP Stakeholder group over three consecutive meeting
  - Incorporated stakeholder suggestions wherever possible as reflected in the Stakeholder Engagement Listening Log

# Stakeholder Engagement - SIS Lessons Learned

HCPF Convened SIS/SL Workgroup June 2022-March 2023. Themes captured and addressed for SIS Processes and now carried forward for ISLA:

- Provide information and education to Members/families before the assessment
- Explain the SIS Rating Key (aka ISLA Response Options Guide) to Members/families thoroughly
- Provide SIS results overview at annual planning meeting
- Establish a Post-Assessment Experience Survey for Respondent
- Create and publish a plain language explanation of HCBS Waivers and ISLA
- Expand monthly SIS/ISLA Community of Practice to include advocacy partners
- Publish the finalized Interim Support Level Assessment (ISLA) Algorithm in rule (in the intervening period between rule presentation and completion of the pilot the ISLA Algorithm will be posted on the HCPF website)
- Risk Factor exceptions and “step-down” processes enhancements



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## Rule Structure

- Specific definitions
- Support Level Assessments
- Support Levels
  - Supports Intensity Scale-A (adult) Algorithm Factors
  - Supports Intensity Scale-A (adult) Algorithm
  - Interim Support Level Assessment Algorithm Factors
  - Interim Support Level Assessment Algorithm (Placeholder)
  - Risk Factors
- Support Level Assessment Complaint Process
- Support Level Review Process
- Annual Support Level Assessment Overview

