

Chapter: Rules for State-Operated Programs and Facilities Subchapter: Admission, Placement, Release, and Discharge Division: Commitment and Reception <b>Rule: Initial Assessment</b>  ACA: 4-JCF-4E-01, 5A-02, 5B-02, 5C-03, 5D-04 Statute(s): <a href="#">HR Code §244.001</a>	<b>Effective Date: 4/1/14</b>  Page: 1 of 2  Replaces: GAP.380.8505, 11/1/11
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**RULE**

**(a) Purpose.**

The purpose of this rule is to establish the assessment process for each youth initially admitted to the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD).

**(b) General Provisions.**

(1) Assessments are used to identify:

- (A) immediate safety, medical, mental health, and housing needs;
- (B) specialized treatment needs;
- (C) case planning issues, including individual risk and protective factors; and
- (D) risk and restriction level for initial placement.

(2) The assessment process is designed to be completed within 21 calendar days after receipt of the youth at the orientation and assessment unit.

(3) Treatment and case planning activities initiated at the orientation and assessment unit focus on the youth's long-term needs and eventual re-entry into the community.

**(c) Assessments Completed prior to Dormitory Placement.**

Within 24 hours after admission and prior to assigning a youth to a dormitory in the orientation and assessment unit, appropriate staff conduct:

(1) medical and mental health screenings, which include, at a minimum, a review of the youth's:

- (A) suicide risk;
- (B) medical history;
- (C) substance abuse history;
- (D) treatment history;
- (E) psychiatric history;
- (F) violent offense history; and
- (G) sex offense history; and

(2) a screening for risk to display sexually aggressive or assaultive behavior or to be sexually victimized; and

(3) a safe housing assessment in accordance with [§380.8524](#) of this title.

**(d) Assessments Completed within 21 Days after Admission.**

No later than 21 calendar days after a youth's admission to TJJD, appropriate staff at the orientation and assessment unit conduct additional assessments, including, but not limited to:

(1) assessment of individual risk and protective factors;

- (2) religious preference assessment;
- (3) educational assessment;
- (4) workforce development needs and skills;
- (5) substance abuse screening and assessment;
- (6) assessment of need for specialized treatment;
- (7) assessment of behavior while at the orientation and assessment unit;
- (8) comprehensive psychological evaluation, including review of prior treatment;
- (9) dental examination;
- (10) medical examination, including review of history and prior treatment; and
- (11) comprehensive psychiatric evaluation of the youth, including review of prior treatment, when:
  - (A) a youth has been identified during admission as being currently prescribed psychotropic medication;
  - (B) a youth's psychological evaluation shows the need for a psychiatric referral; or
  - (C) a youth has been assigned a minimum length of stay of 12 months or longer, unless the agency receives the results of a comprehensive psychiatric evaluation of the youth conducted not more than 90 days prior to admission.

(e) **Treatment and Case Planning.**

- (1) A summary of assessment results and treatment needs is developed for each youth while at the orientation and assessment facility. This summary is used as a basis for placement decisions, in accordance with [§380.8521](#) of this title, and for development of the individual case plan, in accordance with [§380.8701](#) of this title.
- (2) For each youth assessed as having one or more specialized treatment needs, a specialized treatment plan is developed, reviewed, and re-evaluated in accordance with [§380.8751](#) of this title.

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See [CMS Chapter 1](#), [CMS.02.29](#), [CMS.13.09](#), [HSP.06.02](#), and [EDU Chapter 13](#) for implementation procedures.