

Chapter: Rules for State-Operated Programs and Facilities Subchapter: Admission, Placement, Release, and Discharge Division: Commitment and Reception Rule: Initial Assessment Statutes: Human Resources Code §244.001	Effective Date: 12/1/17 Page: 1 of 2 Replaces: GAP.380.8505, 4/1/14
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RULE

(a) **Purpose.**

This rule establishes 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 the youth's arrival 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 members 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 members 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) screening and assessment for substance use disorders;
- (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, if:
 - (A) the youth is identified during admission as having a current prescription for psychotropic medication or as having been prescribed psychotropic medication at any time within the 60 days prior to admission;
 - (B) the youth's psychological evaluation shows the need for a psychiatric referral; or
 - (C) the youth has been assigned a minimum length of stay of 12 months or longer or the youth has been committed under a determinate sentence, unless TJJD 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 at the Orientation and Assessment Unit. 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.

See [CMS Chapter 1](#), [CMS.02.29](#), [HSP.06.04](#), and [EDU Chapter 13](#) for implementation procedures.