



Virginia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Services

SIS-A® 2nd Edition Update

Advance Questions (AQ): SIS assessors started asking SIS-A 2nd Edition questions on June 15, 2023. To date, 88% of SIS-A assessments result in AQ collection. AQ responses do not print on the SIS Family Friendly report, nor do they affect the resulting levels and tier. Human Services Research Institute (HSRI) will use the collected data to inform discussions regarding SIS-A 2nd Edition implementation.

SIS-A 2nd Edition Advisory Group: During the last part of July and early August, DBHDS called for volunteers to participate in the upcoming SIS-A 2nd Edition Advisory Group. SurveyMonkey was used to collect the information. The announcements went out via the DBHDS Provider listserv and the DBHDS Facebook page. The SIS Stakeholder Work Group Members were asked to share the SurveyMonkey link with their advocacy groups. The Arc of Virginia made the information available on their Facebook page.

How DBHDS identified participants for the SIS-A 2nd Edition Advisory group: First, anyone who had not participated in a SIS assessment was eliminated. Prior SIS participation was deemed necessary. Eligible participants were divided into the following groups: self-advocates, family members, providers, advocacy groups, and CSB employees. Next, an Excel randomizer was applied to identify participants. The selected participants were emailed and asked to confirm their participation. Representatives from HSRI, DMAS (Dept. of Medical Assistance), and DBHDS will round out the group.

The first meeting of Virginia's SIS-A 2nd Edition Advisory Group is September 7th, 2023, from 2:30-4:00ET. The public is welcome to listen in here: (<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89456732831>). The advisory groups meeting dates and times will also be posted to the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall website.

State Collaboration Meetings: Virginia isn't the only state going through the transition to SIS-A 2nd Edition, so why not start a support group? DBHDS has done just that, except DBHDS is calling it a collaboration group. NASDDDS (National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services) hosted the kickoff call on 8/16/23, which drew 73 participants from 31 states. Going forward, DBHDS will host the monthly meetings. It's exciting to share ideas and information with others from across the nation who are interested in and excited about SIS-A 2nd Edition.

NEW SIS Email: sis@dbhds.virginia.gov

DBHDS has a new email address for questions from the public related to the SIS Advisory Group meetings and the transition to the new version. If you have questions about your SIS, your Support Coordinator or Regional Supports Specialist should be able to answer them. The email is not for SIS scheduling or to cancel a scheduled SIS assessment (contact the appropriate SIS vendor for those issues).