



OhioRISE Overview for CANS Assessors

OhioRISE Eligibility and Enrollment

OhioRISE is a Medicaid managed care program that specializes in children and youth with complex behavioral health needs. These needs might include mental health or substance use disorders, and often require multiple supports from child-serving systems. Aetna Better Health of Ohio (Aetna) is the managed care partner for the program. Enrollment in OhioRISE gives children and youth access to behavioral health benefits provided through Aetna, while their physical health coverage continues through a managed care organization (MCO) or fee-for-service (FFS) Medicaid.

The Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) is a functional assessment tool used to make OhioRISE program eligibility determinations and support ongoing care planning. Most children and youth will become enrolled in OhioRISE as a result of a CANS assessment indicating they meet criteria for OhioRISE eligibility. Young people may also be enrolled in OhioRISE as a result of an inpatient admission with a primary mental health or substance use disorder diagnosis or an admission to a Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility.

Children and youth who are eligible for OhioRISE will have access to new and improved behavioral health services and supports, including moderate and intensive care coordination, intensive home-based treatment, behavioral respite services, flex funds, and mobile response and stabilization services (also available through MCOs or FFS Medicaid).

Children and Youth Who May Benefit from OhioRISE

OhioRISE may help children and youth who:

- » Have multiple needs that result from behavioral health challenges,
- » Have multisystem needs or are at risk for deeper system involvement, and/or
- » Are at risk of out-of-home placement or are returning to their families from out-of-home placement.

CANS Assessment Overview

The CANS assessment gathers information about a child or youth and their caregiver's experiences, strengths, and needs and tells the family's story from their own perspective. It also considers input from the child or youth and caregiver's formal and natural supports, which may include teachers, counselors, coaches, etc. In addition to determining OhioRISE eligibility, CANS assessment results are organized in a whole-child, whole-family framework. This is used to help the Child and Family Team co-develop a Child and Family-Centered Care Plan and to track progress and continuing needs over time.

Understanding CANS Assessment Results in the CANS IT System

After an Ohio Children's Initiative CANS assessor submits a completed assessment into the CANS IT System, preliminary eligibility status is viewable by the assessor in real time. Please note, providers should refer to MITS for final eligibility and enrollment.

The CANS IT System also produces a recommendation for one of three tiers of care coordination, based on the complexity of the child or youth's needs. Limited Care Coordination (Tier 1) is provided by Aetna and is the least intensive level. Moderate Care Coordination (Tier 2) is delivered by care management entities (CMEs) and uses wraparound-informed strategies. Intensive Care Coordination (Tier 3) is also provided by CMEs and adheres to the High-Fidelity Wraparound model. While the CANS IT System makes a recommendation for level of care coordination, Aetna is responsible for making the final tier assignment.

CANS IT System Ethics and Privacy

All CANS IT System users must agree to the Ohio Department of Medicaid CANS IT System User Agreement when registering to use the system. CANS assessors using the system agree to comply with all applicable state and federal confidentiality and information disclosure laws, rules, and regulations.

- » Each CANS IT System assessor/user may only access information in the CANS IT System to input a CANS assessment or to review an existing CANS assessment for the individual being assessed. All other use of the CANS IT System is prohibited.
- » CANS assessment information is protected by state and federal privacy laws and may not be shared with any other entities unless required and permitted under law.
- » Completed CANS assessments may be shared by the Ohio Department of Medicaid with a child or youth's managed care organization (MCO) and the OhioRISE Plan for the purpose of coordinating the child or youth's healthcare. MCOs and the OhioRISE Plan will only share completed CANS assessments with other parties when sharing is necessary to help with coordinating healthcare. Others who may view CANS assessments for the purpose of coordinating care may include the child or youth's OhioRISE care coordinator and other care coordinators, parents/caregivers, and other members of the OhioRISE Child and Family Team.

CANS assessments must be completed in an ethical manner, and CANS assessors must take all reasonable steps to appropriately minimize any potential conflicts of interest or biases, actual or perceived.

- » A potential conflict of interest includes without limitation any interest (personal, professional, financial, or otherwise) that an assessor or their employer has that is incompatible with, or would compromise in any manner, the discharge and fulfillment of the assessor's responsibilities in conducting the assessment.
- » If assessors have concerns about appropriately minimizing potential conflicts or biases, they must identify an alternative assessor who meets this standard to ensure the assessment in a timely and ethical manner.

Preparing a Child/Youth and Caregiver(s) for a CANS Assessment - OhioRISE Eligibility

When preparing a young person and caregiver(s) for their CANS assessment to determine OhioRISE eligibility, it is important to:

- » Explain the reason for the CANS assessment.
- » Advise that the outcome of the assessment may or may not result in OhioRISE enrollment.
- » Secure any necessary releases of information and review confidentiality parameters with the young person and caregiver(s), including circumstances in which the assessor or their agency may be required to break confidentiality.
- » Inform the child or youth and caregiver that the CANS assessment will be stored within the statewide CANS IT System, where it can be reviewed and updated by other CANS assessors who may work with them in the future, but it cannot be viewed or used by assessors for reasons outside of creating and updating assessments.
- » Inform the child or youth and caregiver that the CANS assessment may be used to help coordinate their care in the future.
- » Review any collateral documentation received about a child or youth.
- » Check the CANS IT System for any recent CANS assessment(s) that may be used or updated.

After the CANS Assessment

If a CANS assessment indicates a child or youth is eligible for OhioRISE, they will be enrolled in OhioRISE effective on the date the assessment is submitted into the CANS IT System. If determined eligible, the young person's enrollment in OhioRISE is mandatory because OhioRISE is the only pathway that can be used to help them get some of the behavioral health services they may need.

Enrollment in OhioRISE gives children and youth access to behavioral health benefits provided through Aetna, while their physical health coverage continues through a managed care organization (MCO) or fee-for-

service (FFS) Medicaid. Children and youth enrolled in OhioRISE will receive mailed new member materials from Aetna, including a new Medicaid ID card reflecting OhioRISE program eligibility. Within days of enrollment, their care coordinator will reach out to further explain the program, determine new services that may be helpful, and start developing an individualized plan with the child or youth and caregiver(s). If the care coordinator has not made contact within two weeks of the child, youth, or caregiver(s) receiving the new member materials from Aetna, call OhioRISE Member Services at 1-833-711-0773 (TTY: 711).

If the CANS assessment indicates the child or youth is not eligible for the program, a notice of denial and hearing rights will be issued to their mailing address.

Ongoing Use of the CANS Assessment Within OhioRISE

Following OhioRISE enrollment, the comprehensive CANS assessment will be completed and updated at least every 90 days or each time there is a change in the child or youth's condition or circumstances. Examples of changes in conditions or circumstances that would result in the need to update the CANS may include caregiver divorce, moving, school suspension, inpatient psychiatric admission, loss of a family member, or other impactful life events. The initial and updated CANS assessments should be entered into the CANS IT System to be used as a reference for ongoing reassessments. Each reassessment will include updated ratings and narratives on previously rated items. This ensures an updated CANS builds upon the previous CANS and reduces the number of times the child or youth and their caregiver(s) must retell their story.

Children and Youth Without Medicaid Eligibility

To be enrolled in OhioRISE, a child or youth has to be eligible for Ohio Medicaid (either managed care or fee-for-service).

Generally, if the young person does not have Medicaid but is determined to have needs that would result in OhioRISE enrollment if they were enrolled in Medicaid, the CANS IT System will notify the CANS assessor after the assessment is complete. If appropriate, a Medicaid application may be submitted for the child or youth through one of the following ways:

- » Over the phone by calling 1-844-640-OHIO (6446).
- » Online at <https://benefits.ohio.gov>.
- » In-person at their local County Department of Job and Family Services (https://jfs.ohio.gov/County/County_Directory.stm).

OhioRISE 1915(c) Waiver Eligibility - Use of CANS for Inpatient Psychiatric LOC Assessment

Eligibility for the OhioRISE Waiver is identified through an Inpatient Psychiatric Level of Care (IP LOC) assessment that includes the CANS and other information collected by the assessor. Only a CANS assessor at a care management entity (CME) can complete the IP LOC assessment. As a result, children and youth seeking enrollment in the OhioRISE Waiver should be referred to a CME to have the necessary assessments completed. CME contact information can be located at:

<https://managedcare.medicare.ohio.gov/managed-care/ohiorise/5-OhioRISE+CMEs>

OhioRISE Resources

For information on OhioRISE, including information on new and improved covered services:

- » Visit managedcare.medicare.ohio.gov/OhioRISE.
- » Call OhioRISE Member Services at 1-833-711-0773 (TTY: 711) from 7 a.m. - 8 p.m. Monday - Friday.
- » On or after July 1, 2022, visit AetnaBetterHealth.com/OhioRISE.

Training on the CANS assessment can be located at:

- » The Ohio Department of Medicaid's CANS Resources webpage: <https://managedcare.medicare.ohio.gov/managed-care/ohiorise/4-cans-resources>
- » The Center of Excellence's CANS website: <http://www.cansohio.org/>