



Functional Assessment

A comprehensive FA is a narrative that describes how the person's mental health symptoms impact their day-to-day functioning in a variety of roles and settings. It is important to look at how factors other than mental health symptoms impact life functioning.

The assessment of functional ability identifies and describes the following:

- The person's functional strengths and deficits
- The person's current status within each life domain
- The linkage between the symptoms of mental illness and the identified functional impairment within each life domain (if applicable)

The functional assessment should primarily reflect the person's current functioning based on interviews and observational data. It is helpful to gather the data from the recipient in his or her home or community settings. To determine a person's functioning baseline, it is important to take into account the person's history and include input from other people associated with the person. The assessment is nonjudgmental; it describes what is rather than what should be.

Information obtained in the FA helps determine goals, objectives and relevant treatment interventions pertinent to each person's needs. By incorporating strengths in the assessment, it enriches the possibilities of how a goal can be achieved.

Refer to [Functional Assessments](#) in this manual for more information.

DHS Electronic Documents

- [ARMHS Supplemental Authorization Form DHS-4159 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Functional Assessment Information- MHCP Provider Manual page](#)
- [LOCUS Level of Care MHCP Provider Manual page](#)
- [LOCUS Level of Care Recording Form DHS-6249 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Recertification Personnel Record Review DHS-3730A](#)
- [Recertification Recipient Record Review DHS-3730](#)
- <https://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us>