

Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor

Louise A. Kelley  
Acting Commissioner



# CAS

## Coordinated Assessment System



## The OPWDD Coordinated Assessment System (CAS)

The interRAI Intellectual/Developmental Disability (ID/DD) assessment tool was selected as the core instrument of the Coordinated Assessment System (CAS) after input from stakeholders across New York State and extensive research. The CAS will be used to learn about each individual's strengths, needs and interests and help us create a more person-centered care plan.

### The CAS is:

- Comprehensive
- Standardized
- Highly reliable with items validated over time
- Person-centered
- Focused on identifying individual strengths, needs and interests
- Comprised of a core tool with supplements tailored to a person's individualized needs:



## What does assessment mean to you and your family?

OPWDD is committed to an assessment process that is person-centered, respectful and responsive to the needs of people receiving supports and their families. To make the individual as comfortable as possible, assessments will take place in environments where people feel most at home. That will provide us with a better understanding of each individual's specific needs, and help shape the most appropriate support plan. Assessment Specialists who have experience working with people with developmental disabilities will be well trained to provide a consistent and valid approach to assessment. Reassessments will be completed at defined intervals and in response to a person's changing needs.

## What are the benefits of a statewide Coordinated Assessment System (CAS)?

- Accurate identification of the needs of individuals to better inform their person-centered care plans
- Resources that are aligned with individuals' needs rather than with program models
- Consistent assessment across settings and in different geographic regions
- Discovery of trends in the medical, behavioral health and functional status of individuals with developmental disabilities
- Data and information sharing between state agencies to plan for future needs of people with developmental disabilities in New York State



# What are next steps in the implementation of the Coordinated Assessment System (CAS)?

- The People First Waiver case studies will afford an opportunity for individuals, families and providers to offer feedback on the CAS, the assessment tool and the ability to inform the planning process for individuals receiving supports and services.
- NYS Assessment Specialists will complete an intensive training program on the CAS including person-centered interviewing and use of technology automation.
- NYS Assessment Specialists with experience in supporting people with developmental disabilities will carry out assessments during the case studies.



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Nirav R. Shah, M.D.  
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**Please use the contacts below to learn about the People First Waiver, ask questions and make recommendations.**

Visit the People First Waiver Web page:  
[http://www.opwdd.ny.gov/opwdd\\_services\\_supports/people\\_first\\_waiver/home](http://www.opwdd.ny.gov/opwdd_services_supports/people_first_waiver/home)

Use the People First email address for submitting comments or questions:  
[People.First@opwdd.ny.gov](mailto:People.First@opwdd.ny.gov)

Phone the People First comment line:  
1-866-946-9733 or TTY: 1-866-933-4889