

MFEI / DD

What is the MFEI

Kansas has introduced a new way to learn about people's eligibility and needs for IDD waiver services: The Medicaid Functional Eligibility Instrument. It replaces the old BASIS assessment and is built on the well-known interRAI system. This tool looks at your or your loved one's strengths, needs, and personal goals—not just medical or behavioral issues. This newer tool has been practiced and used with many people to make sure it focuses on a person's needs and preferences.

What to Expect

Who Should Participate?

- The person being assessed is the primary voice in the process
- Others who know the person well, including family members and legal guardians, are encouraged to participate, especially if the person has trouble communicating

Assessment Format

- In-person when possible
- Live video may be used when needed (e.g., illness, public health emergencies)
- Requires a device with real time audio/video capabilities
- A support person should help operate the device if needed

Assessment Areas

- How well daily tasks are managed
- Thinking, emotions, and mental health
- Physical health and medications
- Support needed from family, friends, or caregivers
- Support needed for living, working, and spending free time
- Personal goals and support needed to achieve them

If Your Assessment Is by Video...

- Use a device that has real-time audio/visual capabilities, like a tablet or laptop.
- Have important information ready (e.g., medication list).
- If the assessed person has trouble communicating, someone who knows the person well should also be present. If the person typically uses a device for communication, that should be present as well

After the Assessment

- You will learn if you or your loved one qualifies for the I/DD waiver based on abilities and needs
- If you are currently on the waiver, the CDDO will let you know of your eligibility. If this is your first assessment, the CDDO will guide you through the next steps, including getting you on the I/DD waitlist
- If you remain eligible and are already on the waiver, services will continue as planned.

Tiers

- If you are new to the waiver, there will no longer be a numbered tier determining the funding your provider receives to support you. Instead, your provider will receive a set payment for Day or Residential Services. This will continue until July 2026, when a new payment system will apply.
- No matter the payment structure, your needs will be assessed and met by the managed care organization and community service providers.

FAQs

- **Does this affect services?** — No, the MFEI is for waiver eligibility only, not service levels.
- **Will I need to show IDD documentation?** — No, answering the assessment questions truthfully and to the best of your ability is the only requirement.
- **Will I receive a copy?** — You will receive a copy of the completed assessment from your CDDO, if requested.