



**Mississippi Department of Mental Health**  
**Provider Bulletin**  
**Number PR0060**

**Subject: Child and Adolescent  
Functional Assessment Scale and Daily  
Living Activities Functional Assessment**

**Issue Date: July 6, 2016**

**Effective Date: July 1, 2016**

**Scope**

All DMH Certified Providers of Adult and Children/Youth Mental Health Services

**Purpose**

Inform all DMH Certified Providers of Adult and Children/Youth Mental Health Services of the DMH approved functional assessments, Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale (CAFAS) and Daily Living Activities– 20 (DLA-20) Functional Assessment.

**Background**

DMH certified providers of Adult and Children/Youth Mental Health Services are required by the Operational Standards to conduct a DMH approved functional assessment for all Adults and Children/Youth receiving mental health services. To support certified providers in meeting this requirement, DMH has conducted several learning opportunities.

Earlier this year, the DMH Division of Adult Services held trainings on the DLA-20 for clinicians including a training of trainers. Previously, DMH has approved a variety of functional assessments, including the MULTNOMAH to meet the functional assessment requirement. The DLA-20 replaces all previously approved functional assessments for Adults receiving mental health services.

Over the past 3 years, the DMH Division of Children & Youth Services has contracted with Multi-Health Systems, Inc. for a state-wide license, technical assistance and online scoring system for the CAFAS. In January 2016, a training of trainers was conducted for providers to train their agency staff on the administration and rating of the CAFAS. Previously, DMH has approved several functional assessments to meet the functional assessment requirement. The CAFAS replaces all previously approved functional assessments for Children/Youth receiving mental health services.

**Subject**

DMH approves the DLA-20 for adults (18 years and older), the CAFAS for children (5 -19 years) and the Preschool and Early Childhood Functional Assessment Scale (PECFAS) for children (3-7 years) to meet the DMH approved functional assessment in Rules 16.9.G and 16.9.H. The DLA-20 and the CAFAS replace all previously approved functional assessments.

Beginning July 1, 2016, all newly admitted children/youth or adults beginning to receive services from the agency must be administered a DLA-20 or CAFAS within thirty (30) days of Initial Assessment and at least every six (six) months thereafter.

For children/youth currently receiving services, a CAFAS must be administered at either their six (6) month Individual Service Plan review or annual ISP review whichever occurs first. For adults currently receiving services, a DLA-20 must be administered at their annual Individual Service Plan review and at least every six (6) months thereafter.

If DMH certified providers have not received training for their agency on the implementation of the DLA-20 or the CAFAS they may contact the Division of Children and Youth Services or the Division of Adult Services for more information.

***End of Provider Bulletin***