



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF PROBATION  
***Service Interpretive Guidelines***  
**Co-Occuring Evaluation**

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**SERVICE DEFINITION:**

A Co-Occurring Evaluation is a clinical, strengths-based evaluation of an individual experiencing co-occurring substance use and mental health symptoms. The Co-Occurring Evaluation is a process of gathering information to assess client functioning and needs based on identification of the presenting problem, evaluation of mental status, evaluation of substance use, formulation of a diagnostic impression (as applicable) and recommendation for treatment services/strategies. The Co-Occurring Evaluation will include a mental health diagnostic impression (as applicable), a substance use diagnostic impression (as applicable), history of mental health symptoms, trauma history/symptoms, criminogenic risk, risk of harm to self and/or others, the individual's perception of the situation and collateral information. Based on the evaluation, recommendations are provided and justified for appropriate behavioral health services and treatment. The results of the Simple Screening Instrument (SSI) should be included in the written narrative report. The Co-Occurring Evaluation may include a recommendation for further psychological testing, if supported.

**EXPECTATIONS/REQUIREMENTS:**

- The probation/problem-solving court staff member is responsible for reviewing all screenings/risk assessments to determine if the client has a need for further evaluation.
- The probation/problem-solving court staff member shall work with the client to identify a Registered Service Provider (RSP) to conduct the evaluation.
- The probation/problem-solving court staff member will communicate with the RSP to provide all collateral information to assist with the completion of the evaluation.
  1. All evaluations should lead to clinical recommendations for treatment services, including justification for the level of care. Evaluations could also recommend no treatment with appropriate justification.
  2. Evaluations should not focus on non-treatment needs and should not identify or refer to particular agencies offering the recommended service.
- This service will assist clients who have risks and needs related to substance use and mental health symptoms. The outcome of this evaluation is identifying any behavioral health diagnoses and treatment recommendations.
- Probation/problem-solving court staff members will utilize the RSP's clinical recommendations to assist in developing an individualized case management plan.