

# Overview: Level of Care For Children

## Indiana, Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA)



### What is Level of Care?

A Nursing Facility Level of Care (LOC) assessment is a way to measure care needs that must be met to go to a Medicaid nursing facility or to access long-term care services and supports from Medicaid Home and Community-Based Waiver services (HCBS). Indiana's HCBS Waiver available for children who meet Nursing Facility LOC include:

- Health and Wellness Waiver
- Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Waiver for children that have a TBI diagnosis

States use assessment tools of their choice that measure a child's ability to do daily activities like bathing, dressing, and grooming, a person's medical conditions and what types of medical support they need, and other areas of a person's health and support needs. This assessment helps to decide if the level of care is met.

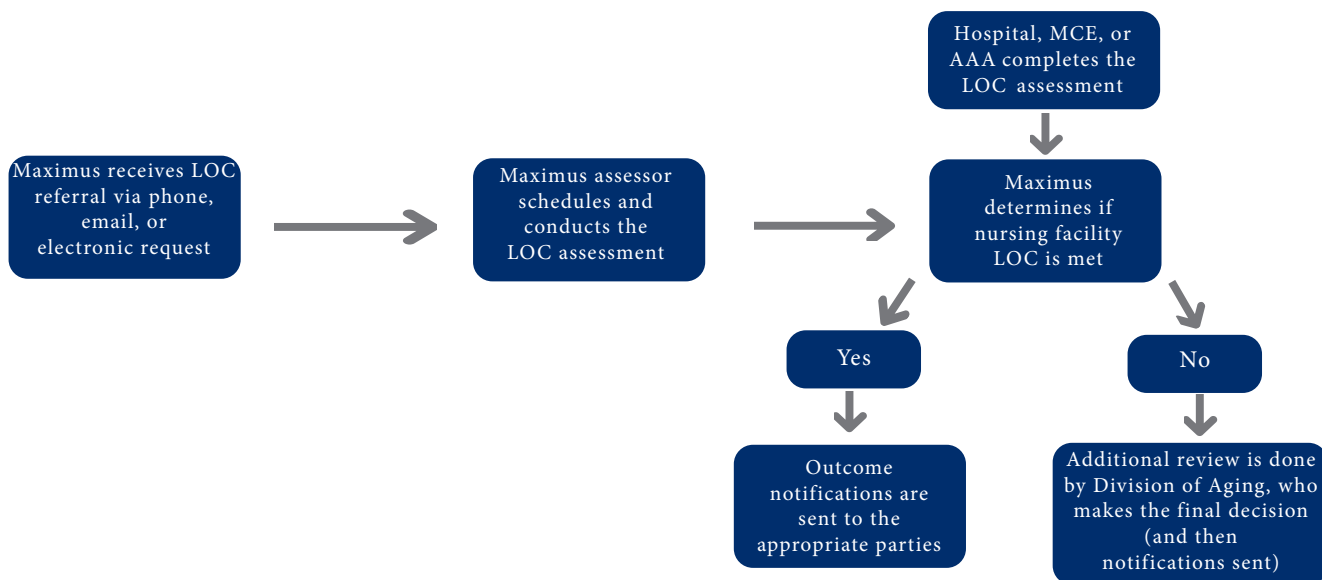
The assessment tools used for these decisions in Indiana for children are:

- The interRAI Early Years (EY) for children ages 0-4
- The interRAI Pediatric Home Care (PEDS-HC) for children ages 4-18

A child cannot access a nursing facility or HCBS if nursing facility LOC is not met as Medicaid will not pay for the service unless it is determined that they meet that LOC. Nursing facility LOC assessments can happen in a child's home, a hospital, a group home, a nursing home, or any other setting where the child lives. Anyone in Indiana needing a nursing facility LOC assessment for nursing facility care or an HCBS Waiver will either:

- Receive an assessment by a provider such as a hospital (if admitted to the hospital and seeking nursing facility admission) or their local Area Agency on Aging (AAA) (if engaged in non-waiver services with the AAA and now in need of a nursing facility LOC determination) and Maximus will review the assessment and make a decision about whether nursing facility LOC is met, or
- Maximus will complete both the assessment and the decision as appropriate.

### Level of Care for Children Process



**Support: Direct all Questions to the Indiana LCAR Help Desk:**

[INLCAR@maximus.com](mailto:INLCAR@maximus.com) or at 833.597.2777.

Additional information and resources are found here:  
[www.INLCAR.com](http://www.INLCAR.com).