

In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Protective Supervision Services

The In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program provides Protective Supervision (PS) services to income-eligible individuals who meet certain criteria. PS consists of observing recipient behavior and intervening as appropriate to safeguard the recipient against injury, hazard, or accident. This program service is available for observing the behavior of nonself-directing, confused, mentally impaired, or mentally ill persons only [Manual of Policies and Procedures (MPP) sections 30-757.17 - .172].



As the parent or legal guardian of a minor applicant or recipient in the IHSS program, you should make sure that your county IHSS social workers review the availability of, and the conditions for, receiving PS.

Minor Applicants/Recipients and PS

Below are helpful reminders in helping you determine whether PS is an appropriate service for your child if s/he is mentally impaired or mentally ill and nonself-directing.

- All IHSS eligible minors should be evaluated for a mental impairment/mental illness during the assessment.
- Parents/legal guardians should provide any available information and documentation about the existence of a minor's mental impairment/mental illness to the county IHSS social worker.
- A mentally ill/mentally impaired minor should be evaluated in the functions of memory, orientation, and judgment, on an individualized basis.

- A mentally ill/mentally impaired minor should be evaluated even if there are no previous injuries.
- A mentally ill/mentally impaired minor should be evaluated regardless of age.
- The minor child should be evaluated to determine whether he/she needs more supervision because of his/her mental impairment than a minor child of the same age without such an impairment.
- A mentally ill/mentally impaired minor child should be evaluated even if the child can be left home alone for a fixed period.
- Any relevant information that you provide to the county IHSS social worker should be reviewed.
- The county IHSS social worker should not presume that services, which are otherwise compensable, will be provided *voluntarily* by a parent or guardian or anyone else. (*Garrett v. Anderson; Lam v. Anderson; All-County Letter No. 15-25*)

Additionally, the below questions will help you better understand PS services and whether your child may need this service.

STOP AND THINK:

1. Is my child's nonself-direction due to his/her mental impairment/mental illness?
2. Is my child physically able to put him/herself at risk of harm?
3. Is he/she able to engage in dangerous activities?
4. Does my child need more supervision than another child of the same age who is not mentally impaired/mentally ill?
5. Is 24 hour-a-day supervision needed for my child to remain at home safely?

If you answer yes to any of these questions, make sure to discuss PS services with your county IHSS social worker.

To learn more about PS services, contact your local county IHSS office.

**INSERT COUNTY CONTACT
INFORMATION HERE**