

MICHIGAN JUVENILE JUSTICE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM (MJJAS) FISCAL YEAR 2023 STATISTICS AND FISCAL YEAR 2024 TRAINING PLAN

Overview

Since 2013, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Children's Services Agency (CSA) Division of Juvenile Justice (JJ) has been providing certification training for administering the Michigan Juvenile Justice Assessment System (MJJAS) to private, contracted juvenile justice residential treatment facility workers, MDHHS case workers and supervisors, and to juvenile court personnel. More than 700 juvenile justice staff have been trained. This report reviews MJJAS training activities that occurred in fiscal year 2023 and details the plan for MJJAS training in fiscal year 2024.

Background

The MJJAS is a research-based, validated assessment instrument developed by the University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute (UCCI) and is known as the Ohio Youth Assessment System © (OYAS). MDHHS contracts with UCCI to utilize the OYAS and refer to the risk assessment as the MJJAS. The OYAS (aka: MJJAS in Michigan) is a structured decision-making assessment tool which identifies the likelihood a youth will participate in future delinquent behavior and helps inform placement and treatment decisions. When used over time, scores show changes in risk level based upon changes in a youth's behavioral profile and life situation.

The MJJAS (aka: OYAS ©) assessment system is based on research involving 2,457 youth in Ohio across all counties, courts, and rehabilitative programs of the juvenile justice system. The MJJAS was incorporated into Michigan's public juvenile justice residential treatment facilities through a contract with UCCI as part of the treatment planning process by MDHHS in 2010. Since 2013, MJJAS is the risk assessment tool used by MDHHS public and private, contracted juvenile justice residential treatment facilities. MDHHS is currently exploring a validation study of the tools in Michigan.

Several county juvenile courts use the MJJAS and/or have staff certified to administer the MJJAS instruments. Since 2013, staff from 40 county juvenile courts have been trained in the counties of: Alcona, Alpena, Bay, Baraga, Berrien, Benzie, Calhoun, Cass, Charlevoix, Crawford, Dickinson, Eaton, Gogebic, Gratiot, Grand Traverse, Houghton, Ionia, Iosco, Iron, Isabella, Jackson, Kalkaska, Lapeer, Lake, Livingston, Luce, Mackinac, Manistee, Marquette, Mecosta, Menominee, Missaukee, Midland, Monroe, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oakland, Oceana, Ogemaw, Osceola, Oscoda, Ottawa, Otsego, Petoskey, Roscommon, Saginaw, Sanilac, Shiawassee, Van Buren, Wexford, and Washtenaw ISD.

MJJAS training must be provided by UCCI-certified trainers. Currently, MDHHS trainers are certified to present MJJAS training.

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Summary of Fiscal Year 2023 Training Activities

Seven MDHHS virtual trainings were held as listed below. Since 2020 all trainings were moved to a virtual platform due to state in-person meeting restrictions related to COVID-19 and ease of access to the training for participants statewide. In FY 2023 virtual training was continued as it received excellent participation and cut back on travel costs and lost work time due to travel. Either initially or upon re-testing, 95 of 95 were certified to administer the MJJAS risk assessment instruments.

End User Training Location and Attendance:

Training Date	Training Venue	Number of Trainees
October, 2022	Virtual	13
November, 2022	Virtual	12
January/February, 2023	Virtual	15
March, 2023	Virtual	16
May, 2023	Virtual	18
July, 2023	Virtual	11
August 2023	Virtual	10
Total Trainees		95

Trainee demographics:

- MDHHS local offices and state operated residential treatment facilities: 58
- Private, contracted residential treatment facilities: 6
- County courts: 31
- Interns or other: 0

Training Evaluations:

Trainees participated in an optional brief survey to assess training value. There were 73 respondents. Of the 73 respondents, 53 were “very satisfied” with overall quality of the training, and 20 were “satisfied” with the training. All respondents stated that the training provided the essential information and instruction needed to administer the risk assessment instruments and enabled them to conduct the MJJAS risk assessment independently, without further assistance.

Fiscal Year 2024 Training Plan

MJJAS training sessions for fiscal year 2024 are listed below. Maximum enrollment is generally limited to 15 participants per session. In calendar year 2024 virtual classes will be completed

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per UCCI guidelines, participants will attend four consecutive half days of training to be eligible for certification testing. It is highly recommended that MDHHS staff and supervisors complete the Juvenile Justice Program System Training (JJPST) through the Office of Workforce Development and Training (OWDT) prior to scheduling MJJAS training. Certification is required to administer the MJJAS risk assessments.

- October 18-19, 2023 – Virtual
- December 13-14, 2023 – Virtual
- January 22-25, 2024 - Virtual
- February 20-23, 2024 - Virtual
- March 18-21, 2024 - Virtual
- April 22-25, 2024 - Virtual
- May 13-16, 2024 - Virtual
- June 10-13, 2024 - Virtual
- August 12-15, 2024 - Virtual
- September 23-26, 2024 - Virtual
- October 14-17, 2024 - Virtual
- December 16-19, 2024 - Virtual

Training can be scheduled via the MDHHS Learning Management System (MDHHS LMS) for MDHHS staff or state of Michigan juvenile court staff may schedule by contacting MDHHS at MDHHS-MJJAS@michigan.gov .