



## New Hampshire Division for Children, Youth and Families Policy Manual

### 1338 DISPOSITIONAL ASSESSMENTS

Chapter: **Juvenile Justice Field Services**

Section: **Investigations**

Approved:

Joseph E. Ribsam, Jr., DCYF Director

Policy Directive: **22-69**

Effective Date: **January 2023**

#### References Of Note

Federal Authority:

Statutes: [RSA 169-B](#), [RSA 169-D](#), [RSA 169-F](#),  
[RSA 170-G:16](#), and [RSA 186-C](#)

Administrative Rules:

Case Law:

This policy establishes JJS practice of completing Dispositional Assessments and reporting the resulting information to the Court.

#### **Required Practices**

*Any deviations to the following information must be documented with Supervisory Approval.*

- I. Dispositional Assessments must be conducted when specifically ordered by the Court following an adjudicatory hearing in which a child was found true of a delinquent act or to be a Child in Need of Services (CHINS).
  
- II. Information gathering to inform the Dispositional Assessment Report (Form 1338) will include, but is not limited to:
  - A. An interview with the child;
  - B. An interview with each parent/guardian (as available);
  - C. Review of any previously completed and current [Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths \(CANS\) assessments](#) (with the consent of the child and parents/guardians);
  - D. Completion of a Comprehensive CANS assessment;
  - E. Review of any current and prior JJS/CPS involvement;
  - F. Review of previous and current involvement with law enforcement;
  - G. Contact with the victim(s) for the purpose of providing a Victim Impact Statement;
  - H. Review of the child's academic participation and progress;
  - I. Review of the child's health needs (as relevant) and any substance use history;

- J. Review of the child’s mental health history (as applicable);
  - K. Identification of the child’s employment history (as applicable);
  - L. Gathering information as to the child’s extracurricular activities outside the school setting; and
  - M. Contact with collaterals as deemed appropriate.
- III. Upon completion of the Comprehensive CANS and gathering of other relevant information, the JPPO will complete and submit a Dispositional Assessment Report (Form 1338) to the Court and all parties at least 5 business days prior to the date of the dispositional hearing (unless otherwise ordered by the Court).
- IV. All contact with the child, family members, and collaterals, as well as any review of previously completed CANS assessments or DCYF involvement for the purpose of completing the Form 1338 will be documented in the DCYF electronic information system.

<b>Standard Operating Procedures</b>		
<b>SOP</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Applicable Disciplines</b>
<a href="#">1338.1</a>	Conducting Dispositional Assessments	JJS
<a href="#">1338.2</a>	Writing Dispositional Assessment Reports	JJS

<b>Applicable Forms</b>	
<b>Form</b>	<b>Title</b>
1338	Dispositional Assessment Report

**Glossary and Document Specific Definitions**

[A - B](#)   [C - D](#)   [E - F](#)   [G - I](#)   [J - L](#)   [M - N](#)   [O - Q](#)   [R - S](#)   [T - V](#)   [W - Z](#)

<b>Document Change Log</b>			
<b>PD</b>	<b>Modification Made</b>	<b>Approved</b>	<b>Date</b>