

Youth with Complex Needs Subcommittee – Final Definition (condensed)

Youth with complex needs are individuals age 0-21 which span across multiple systems, requiring support and coordinated services. Two or more of the following descriptors identify youth with complex needs:

1. Multiple systems involvement
2. Behavioral Health Conditions with or without diagnosis
3. Co-occurring disorder diagnosis
4. Risky Behaviors
5. Environmental Risks

Youth with Complex Needs Subcommittee – Final Definition (full)

Youth with complex needs are individuals age 0-21 which span across multiple systems, requiring support and coordinated services. Two or more of the following descriptors identify youth with complex needs:

1. Multiple systems involvement (childcare, child welfare, developmental disability, education, healthcare, juvenile justice, homeless, behavioral health services)
2. Behavioral Health Conditions with or without diagnosis (examples include but not limited to youth w/mental health conditions to include depression, PTSD, anxiety, suicidal ideation, eating disorders, substance use and other addictions.
3. Co-occurring disorder diagnosis (Behavioral Health issues combined with developmental disabilities, physical or intellectual disabilities)
4. Risky Behaviors (examples include but not limited to running away, self-harm, truancy, expulsion or sexualized behaviors)
5. Environmental Risks (examples include but not limited to living in poverty, homelessness, living in a home with domestic violence, and at risk of abuse and neglect.)