Requirements for psychological reports to determine clinical eligibility for the Adult or Children's DD waiver

The psychologist must render an opinion in writing specifically answering the referral question for clinical eligibility by confirming or denying a diagnosis of mental retardation, IQ of 70 or below, or developmental disability due to a related condition. The psychologist must be licensed to practice psychology by the Wyoming State Board of Psychology, or a similar agency in another state.

Related conditions include individuals with a severe, chronic disability attributable to cerebral palsy or a seizure disorder or any other condition other than mental illness, that is found to be **closely related to mental retardation**. The related condition cannot be mental illness or mental health challenges alone. These conditions must be manifest before age 22and be a life long disability. The conditions must be differentiated from many sensory, medical and behavioral conditions that yield significant deficits but do not meet the developmental disability definition. They must also be in need of treatment or services similar to those services required for persons with mental retardation.

Further clarification of a related condition includes:

- 1. It is manifested before the person reaches age 22;
- 2. It is likely to continue indefinitely:
- 3. The person has **substantial functional limitations** in age appropriate activities when compared to peers of a similar age in three or more of the following areas of major life activities:
 - self-care,
 - understanding and use of language.
 - learning,
 - mobility.
 - self-direction, and,
 - -capacity for independent living.

Requirements of the report:

The diagnosis code from DSM-IV-TR. The Division cannot qualify an individual with a provisional, borderline Intellectual functioning, or a "rule out" diagnosis.

A definitive opinion statement made by the examiner that the person is Mentally Retarded and, if it is based on an IQ above 70, the specific rationale for why the person is still to be considered as such. This statement should also state in writing that the condition is opined to be lifelong and permanent.

The reported scores of a standardized and professionally accepted IQ test and measure of adaptive behavior with the latter being capable of addressing the areas of self-care, understanding and use of language, learning, mobility, self-direction, and capacity for independent living.

A formal opinion statement by the evaluator that any symptoms that could be associated with a mental illness are not opined to have affected the results of IQ and adaptive behavior measures. An opinion by the evaluator that the person is or is not waiver eligible based on the psychological testing.

Once the psychological evaluation confirms that the person has a diagnosis of mental retardation or developmental disability due to a related condition, the Division will arrange for the ICAP evaluation to see if the individual meets the functional critieria for eligibility.

If the psychological evaluation does not contain a written opinion statement confirming this diagnosis, the applicant will not be clinically eligible for the Adult or Children's DD waiver.