

# MONTANA SCALE FOR CHILDREN / ADOLESCENTS

## With Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED)

### SED DEFINITION

Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED) is the inclusive term for children and adolescents whose emotional and mental disturbances severely limit their development and welfare over **a significant period** of time and requires a comprehensive coordinated system of care to meet their needs.

### SED DETERMINATION

Serious emotional disturbance (SED) means, with respect to a youth between the ages of 6 and 17 years, that the youth meets criteria of A and B. Youth under 6 must meet criteria in C. The severity of the child's/ adolescent's disturbance may place or potentially place him/her at significant risk for out of school, home or community placement. **Indicate the appropriate response to each of the areas below.**

- Yes  No **A. PRIMARY DIAGNOSIS:** The youth has been determined by a licensed mental health professional as having an SED diagnosis as described within the Children's Mental Health Bureau Medicaid Services Provider Manual (Effective March 1, 2020) <https://dphhs.mt.gov/dsd/CMB/Manuals>

**PRIMARY DIAGNOSIS: (See above Manual, ICD 10 Name and Code) and date (annual reassessment is required)**

- Yes  No **B. FUNCTIONAL IMPAIRMENT:** As a result of the youth's diagnosis determined in A and for a period of at least 6 months, or for a predictable period over 6 months, the youth consistently and persistently demonstrates behavioral abnormality in two or more spheres, to a significant degree, well outside normative developmental expectations, that cannot be attributed to intellectual, sensory, or health factors:

**PLEASE CHECK THE BOXES AND COMPLETE "As Evidenced By."**

- Has failed to establish or maintain developmentally and culturally appropriate relationships with adult care givers or authority figures;

**As Evidenced By:**

- Has failed to demonstrate or maintain developmentally and culturally appropriate peer relationships;

**As Evidenced By:**

- Has failed to demonstrate a developmentally appropriate range and expression of emotion or mood;

**As Evidenced By:**

- Has displayed disruptive behavior sufficient to lead to isolation in or from school, home, therapeutic or recreation settings;

**As Evidenced By:**

- Has displayed behavior that is seriously detrimental to the youth's growth, development, safety or welfare, or to the safety or welfare of others;

**As Evidenced By:**

- Has displayed behavior resulting in substantial documented disruption to the family including, but not limited to, adverse impact on the ability of family members to secure or maintain gainful employment.

**As Evidenced By:**

## OR For Youth under 6 years of age:

What ICD 10 Code and Name you are treating?

- Yes  No **C. CHILDREN UNDER 6 YEARS OF AGE:** Serious emotional disturbance (SED) with respect to a youth under 6 years of age means the youth exhibits a severe behavioral abnormality that cannot be attributed to intellectual, sensory, or health factors and that results in substantial impairment in functioning for a period of at least 6 months and obviously predictable to continue for an additional period of at least 6 months, as manifested by one or more of the following:

- Atypical, disruptive or dangerous behavior which is aggressive or self-injurious;

**As Evidenced By:**

- Atypical emotional responses which interfere with the child's functioning, such as an inability to communicate emotional needs and to tolerate normal frustrations;

**As Evidenced By:**

- Atypical thinking patterns which, considering age and developmental expectations, are bizarre, violent or hypersexual;

**As Evidenced By:**

- Lack of positive interests in adults and peers or a failure to initiate or respond to most social interaction;

**As Evidenced By:**

- Indiscriminate sociability (e.g., excessive familiarity with strangers) that results in a risk of personal safety of the child;

**As Evidenced By:**

- Inappropriate and extreme fearfulness or other distress which does not respond to comfort by care givers.

**As Evidenced By:**