



Interagency Review Team (IRT) and Complex Case Overview

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How did IRT originate:

- M.G.L. c. 6A, section 16R authorizes HHS, in partnership with the DESE to conduct interagency reviews of complex cases.
- 101 CMR 27.00 ([101 CMR 27.00: Interagency Review of Complex Cases | Mass.gov](#)), sets forth the definition for a complex case and processes for referral to and review by the Interagency Review Team or IRT.
- The IRT replaces the United Planning Team.



What is an IRT:

- A team that collaborates to review and issue determinations for complex cases for youth under 22 years of age and is comprised of decision makers from the following agencies.
 - DCF, DMH, DDS, DYS, DPH, MH, EOE, and DESE
- A complex case involves a youth under the age of 22 as defined in 101 CMR 27.03 where there is a lack of consensus or resolution between state agencies as to the individual's current service needs or placement, and the individual is waiting in a hospital emergency department, a medical bed, at home or other location and in urgent need of a disposition (placement or identifying entity responsible for payment).
- The IRT is required to conduct reviews of eligible cases and act within prescribed timeframes.
- In addition to conducting reviews, the IRT has access to funds to provide necessary interim services until HHS agency resources and services can be identified and employed.



Who can make a referral to IRT:

- May self-refer if individual is 16 years of age or older.
- A state agency or a representative of a state agency's ombudsman's office.
- A juvenile court in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
- A hospital or emergency service provider.
- A school district.
- An attorney representing the individual or the individual's parent or guardian.
- The individual's parent or guardian.
- A physician or behavioral health care provider authorized to act on behalf of a parent or guardian who is seeking access to services for the individual or the individual's parent or guardian.



How to make a referral:

- A [referral](#) must be submitted in conjunction with the documents and information required in 101 CMR 27.05 for the Interagency Review Team.
- Examples of supporting clinical documents, but not limited to, neuropsychological testing, Individualized Educational Plan (IEP), clinical assessments, placement history.
- Release of Information must also be completed by guardian or young adult if over 18 years of age.



For additional information:

- [Interagency Review Team for Complex Cases | Mass.gov](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/interagency-review-team-for-complex-cases)
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