



Youth Admission and Exclusion Criteria for Independence Mental Health Institute (IMHI)

Admission Categories

Voluntary Admission (Iowa Code §229.2)

- ▶ Per policy, youth patients must meet criteria as “danger to self or others due to serious mental impairment”
- ▶ Requires parent/guardian written consent, and, if minor objects, juvenile court approval

Involuntary Commitment (Iowa Code §229.6/§229.6A)

- ▶ Court-ordered hospitalization, to originate in the county where the youth resides or where the youth is currently located
- ▶ Must meet criteria as “danger to self or others due to serious mental impairment”

Juvenile Court – Pending Delinquency (Iowa Code §232.49)

- ▶ Court-ordered as part of ongoing delinquency case
- ▶ Commitment not to exceed 30 days
- ▶ Often includes request for psychological evaluation
- ▶ Provisions of Chapter 229 do not apply
- ▶ Requires agreement of parent/guardian and juvenile’s attorney if ordered prior to adjudication

Juvenile Court – Delinquency Disposition (Iowa Code §232.52)

- ▶ Court-ordered as part of delinquency disposition
- ▶ Requires findings pursuant to Chapter 229 standards

Juvenile Court – CINA Petition (Iowa Code §232.98)

- ▶ Court-ordered as part of CINA case
- ▶ Must not exceed 15 days (Must not exceed 30 days if ordered after adjudication)
- ▶ Can be ordered prior to or at adjudication if one of the three criteria is present:
 1. Probable cause exists to believe that the child is CINA pursuant to section 232.96A, subsection 6, **OR**
 2. Commitment is necessary to determine whether there is clear & convincing evidence that the child is a CINA, **OR**
 3. Child’s attorney agrees to the commitment

Competence to Stand Trial (Iowa Code §812)

- ▶ IMHI can provide competency evaluations and/or restoration services for youths charged in delinquency cases

Exclusion Criteria

Substance Abuse Treatment

- ▶ IMHI is not licensed to provide substance abuse treatment

Transfers of Youths with Intellectual Disability

- ▶ Unless determined otherwise in the sole discretion of the Director of Iowa HHS (or the Director's designee), a youth with intellectual disability may be transferred under Iowa Code §222.7 only if all the following criteria are met:
 1. IMHI determines the youth meets criteria for inpatient psychiatric care
 2. IMHI determines the youth will benefit from psychiatric treatment or from a specific program available at IMHI
 3. There is sufficient available capacity to meet the youth's needs

Adequate Resources in the Community

- ▶ IMHI may decline to admit a youth patient when there are other community resources available that are adequate to meet the youth's needs

Minimum Age

- ▶ IMHI does not serve youth under the age of seven

IMHI Resources

- ▶ IMHI may decline to admit a youth patient when it lacks sufficient beds or other resources to serve the youth's needs
- ▶ IMHI is an acute psychiatric hospital and has limited ability to address other medical needs
- ▶ IMHI is not a long-term placement facility
- ▶ Some youth with traumatic brain injury, intellectual disability, or autism may have unique needs which IMHI could not adequately address

Facility Security

- ▶ IMHI does not have specialized security staff and has limited ability to meet the needs of highly aggressive or violent individuals

**Additional information about patient admissions may be obtained
by contacting the IMHI admissions office**

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