

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of:)
)
ADOPTION OF ADJUSTED SCORING) Administrative Order
CUTOFF FOR THE STATE APPROVED) No. 2020 - 93
RISK-NEEDS ASSESSMENT)
INSTRUMENT)
_____)

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 8-246(C) “The supreme court in cooperation with the department of juvenile corrections and other state agencies shall develop a common risk needs assessment instrument to be used for each juvenile who is referred to the juvenile court.”

The Administrative Office of the Courts, Arizona Supreme Court, adopted the Arizona Youth Assessment System (AZYAS) as the state approved youth assessment instrument to be used by juvenile probation departments.

The University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute (UCCI) conducted a validity and reliability study on the use of the tool which was completed in 2019. The results of the study confirm that the tool is reliable and valid. Recommendations from the study suggested moving the cut-off scores downward to create risk groups with recidivism rates more consistent with past research. The recommendations are the optimal cutoffs that can be implemented to achieve the main goals of the juvenile risk assessment.

The Arizona Judicial Council approved the recommendations from UCCI to adjust the cut-off scores for the risk categories on the AZYAS at their December 12, 2019 meeting.

Therefore, pursuant to Article VI, Section 3, of the Arizona Constitution,

IT IS ORDERED affirming the use of the Arizona Youth Assessment System (AZYAS).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the adjusted cutoff scores to the risk levels of the Arizona Youth Assessment System be adopted effective July 15, 2020 as set forth in Exhibit A (attached and incorporated).

Dated this 26th day of June, 2020.

ANN A. SCOTT TIMMER
Vice Chief Justice

EXHIBIT A

Males

Low	0-6
Moderate	7-13
High	14+

Females

Low	0-7
Moderate	8-11
High	12+