

# Differential Monitoring Focused Measurement Tools

## What is Differential Monitoring?

Differential monitoring is a method used to determine the frequency of inspections needed and the scope that will be required based on the setting's licensing history. This method uses weighted risk, licensing indicators, and quality indicators to determine the number and scope of inspections that should be conducted at a licensed setting. **Focused measuring tools** are licensing inspection instruments that increase the effectiveness and efficiency of a regulatory oversight agency without producing recurring operational costs. In other words, focused measurement tools maximize performance while minimizing costs.

There are three basic types of **focused measurement tools** utilized within a differential monitoring approach:

1. **Weighted Risk Assessment** assigns weighted scores to licensing regulations based on the level of risk to persons in care in the event of regulatory noncompliance.
2. **Key Indicator Systems** identify a subset of licensing regulations that statistically predict compliance with the entire set of regulations.
3. **Quality Indicator Systems** identify a subset of licensing regulations and other non-regulatory factors to predict the overall quality of care provided in a licensed setting.

### ***Important dependencies exist when considering Differential Monitoring:***

#### *Full Compliance (100%)*

- ✓ Requires an inspection using *all licensing regulations* to determine 100% regulatory compliance.
- ✓ Because all rules are in compliance, a weighted risk assessment is not required.
- ✓ Utilizes *key indicators* to determine if an inspection requires full or partial expansion.

#### *Substantial Compliance (98-99%)*

- ✓ Requires *weighted risk assessment* to determine substantial regulatory compliance.
- ✓ Requires full compliance with all highly weighted rules.
- ✓ Utilizes *key indicators* to determine if an inspection requires full or partial expansion.

## About NARA

The National Association for Regulatory Administration (NARA) is an international professional membership association founded in 1976 dedicated to the protection of the health, safety and well-being of children and adults in day or residential human care facilities through strong licensing and other forms of regulation.

## NARA

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