The Ohio Youth Assessment System (OYAS) is a dynamic risk/needs assessment system to be used with juvenile offenders. It offers juvenile justice actors the ability to assess youths at various decision points across the juvenile justice system. The OYAS is comprised of 5 tools, and while the Assessment is free to use, agencies must be trained by UC prior to implementation. Training on the system provides an overview of the assessment tools, and techniques for administering and scoring the individual assessments. In addition, the training will review how to use the scores obtained from individuals' OYAS assessments to develop case plans for reducing risk to re-offend. The OYAS was developed by the University of Cincinnati, and made possible by a grant from the Ohio Department of Youth Services. The University of Cincinnati (UC) serves as the sole owner and proprietor of the copyright in the Ohio Youth Assessment System (OYAS), and its corresponding manual and training program.

OVERVIEW
Components of the assessment include five instruments:

> Diversion Tool
> Detention Tool
> Disposition Tool
> Residential Tool
> Reentry Tool

END USER
The end user session is two days of in person training for a maximum of 30 trainees, or 4 half-days of synchronous on-line training for a maximum of 15 trainees. The training protocol covers an introduction to the OYAS, review and practice scoring of tools, practicing interview skills, review and practice scoring of tools, review assessment driven case planning, and certification test.

Our goal is to provide a high-fidelity program. UCCI assessments are free to use! Our mission is to research, develop, disseminate and implement evidence-based practices in corrections. As such, we've worked with the university to offer this program at no "per-participant" fee. While copyrighted property of the University of Cincinnati, training materials received in our training events include permission to photocopy resources needed to conduct assessments. Once trained facilitators have conducted at least 15 live assessments with individuals, they may be eligible to participate in a training-of-trainers' session to build agency sustainability of the program.

AUTOMATED SYSTEM
UCCI has partnered with the UC IT Solutions Center (ITSC) to create an automated tool to provide agencies with the ability to integrate the OYAS seamlessly into their day-to-day work. The automated system can be accessed via a secure web-based portal and all agency data can either be housed on UC's servers or on individual agency servers. Like the pen/paper version, there is no "per-participant" fee to use the system. Start-up and annual help-desk/maintenance contracts are required for agency integration.

CONTACT
For more information about OYAS, please contact UCCI at corrections.institute@uc.edu or visit our website at www.uc.edu/corrections.

DESCRIPTION OF TOOLS

Diversion (OYAS-DIV): Designed to help determine who can be safely diverted from system versus remain in the juvenile justice system. The tool consists of six items and can be completed through a thorough file review and/or face-to-face interview with the youth in approximately 10 minutes.

Detention (OYAS-DET): Designed to be used with youth being considered for detention. The results of the assessment will provide the court with the level of risk the youth poses while on pre-trial release. The instrument can be used at intake to aid in front-end decisions or the back door to release youth, when appropriate. This instrument consists of 6 items and can be completed through a brief face-to-face interview, which takes approximately 10 minutes to complete.

Disposition (OYAS-DIS): Designed to be used with youth adjudicated by the court. More specifically, the tool considers youths' overall risk to re-offend and criminogenic needs, while also identifying responsivity factors and case management strategies to facilitate successful intervention. This tool consists of seven domains, including (1) juvenile justice history, (2) family and living arrangements; (3) peers and social support networks; (4) education and employment; (5) pro-social skills; (6) substance abuse, mental health, and personality; and (7) values, beliefs, and attitudes.

Residential (OYAS-RES): Designed for a residential setting to accurately assess youths' overall risk to re-offend, as well as identify criminogenic need areas and barriers to treatment (i.e., responsivity factors). The results of the OYAS-RES may also be used for case planning purposes. Similar to the OYAS-DIS, the OYAS-RES includes seven domain areas.

Reentry (OYAS-RET): Designed to reassess youth after being in a residential program for an extended period of time. The OYAS-RET is based on the same domains as the OYAS-DIS and OYAS-RES, but is scored based on youths' progress in the residential program. The OYAS-RET should be used in conjunction with post-program supervision to ensure youths' successful transition back into the community.