



## **Participant Risk Status**

The purpose of the Risk Status procedure is to ensure prioritization of services to the highest need participants in the event of a worker shortage such as an epidemic illness, snow emergency, etc. In the event that an agency has several workers out on the same day, the risk status indicates which participants are to be prioritized for service delivery. Risk status is assigned based on the individual's service needs and the availability of informal supports to assist if formal services are not delivered.

### **Risk Status 1:**

A risk status of 1 indicates a high level of risk, such as someone who will not be able to get out of bed or get food without services and who does not live with someone who will provide care in the absence of a paid caregiver. Persons with a risk status of 1 are to receive services even if it means reassigning a worker from someone with a risk status of 2 or 3.

### **Risk Status 2:**

A risk status of 2 indicates an increased level of risk if services are not provided. This status is used for someone who has significant service needs but lives with an informal caregiver who will provide at least the most critical types of assistance in the absence of a paid worker, or for someone who lives alone and has lesser service needs than someone with a risk status of 1. Persons with a risk status of 2 are to receive services even if it means reassigning a worker from someone with a risk status of 3; however, the worker of a person with a risk status of 2 should be reassigned to someone with a risk status of 1 if there is no other way to ensure that the person with the higher risk status receives services.

### **Risk Status 3:**

A risk status of 3 indicates someone who would be at little or no risk if services are not provided as scheduled. This status applies to individuals who are able to get out of bed, toilet, eat, etc. independently but have services to assist with activities such as errand-running, housekeeping or bathing. In the event of a worker shortage, individuals with a risk status of 3 should receive services only after individuals with a risk status of 1 or 2 have been served.