

Level 1 – Requiring Support		
Description	Social Communication	Behavior
This person requires some level of support in order to function in the world.	The individual may be verbal and can engage in conversation, but has great difficulty making friends.	They likely have poor organizational skills and can't live independently, pay their own bills, or make their own medical appointments.
Level 2 – Requiring Substantial Support		
Description	Social Communication	Behavior
This person requires substantial support in order to function in the world.	They may speak in simple sentences and have unusual nonverbal communication (e.g. makes little eye contact with others and does not use gestures).	They likely resist changes in routine and become very upset when their schedule changes, e.g. due to a holiday or change in season. This person may be able to care for themselves with reminders from others.
Level 3 – Requiring Very Substantial Support		
Description	Social Communication	Behavior
This person requires very substantial support in order to function in the world.	They may use very few words, if any, to communicate. They likely do not respond to questions and do not share new ideas with others.	They will likely require substantial cues and supports from others in order to engage in basic self-care and is likely dependent upon others for all basic needs of daily living.

Adapted from DSM 5 (American Psychiatric Association, 2013)