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Ohio Administrative Code

Rule 5180:3-11-05 PCSA requirements for providing family first prevention services.

Effective: October 29, 2026

(A) What is the definition of a "candidate for family first prevention services" (FFPS) for the purposes of this rule?

A "candidate for FFPS" is:

(1) A child or young adult considered at imminent risk of entering or re-entering foster care, but who can remain safely at home or with a kinship caregiver with the support and provision of approved prevention services for the child, parent, or kinship caregiver.

(2) Youth in foster care who are pregnant or parenting.

(3) Children with an adoption or guardianship arrangement that is at risk of disruption or dissolution (42 U.S.C. 675(13)) (2018).

(B) When may a public children services agency (PCSA) provide or refer to FFPS?

The PCSA may provide or refer FFPS when the PCSA determines that the child or young adult is a candidate for family first prevention services.

(C) How is eligibility determined for FFPS when a family does not have an open case with a PCSA?

The PCSA is to assess information received from a referent and the family's history in Ohio's comprehensive child welfare information system (CCWIS) to determine eligibility for FFPS. The PCSA may also consider other publicly available information when making the eligibility determination.

(D) How can the PCSA coordinate FFPS when a family does not have an open case?

The PCSA may refer the family to an evidence-based service that develops and maintains a prevention plan for the family. For the purposes of this rule, an "evidence-based service" refers to mental health, substance abuse, and parenting skills programs rated by the title IV-E prevention services clearinghouse and approved through Ohio's prevention services plan.

(E) How does the PCSA determine whether to select the ongoing case category or the prevention services case category in Ohio's CCWIS?

The PCSA may provide prevention services by designating a case category in Ohio's CCWIS of prevention services and developing a prevention services plan or by designating a case category in Ohio's CCWIS of ongoing and developing a family case plan. The PCSA is to use the assessment of safety and the assessment of risk and the following criteria to inform case category selection:

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(1) The PCSA is to select the ongoing case category if:

(a) The family has an active safety plan.

(b) The family has an active family case plan.

(2) The PCSA may select the prevention services case category for cases in which paragraph (E)(1) of this rule does not apply.

(F) When does the PCSA complete and implement the prevention services plan under the prevention services case category in Ohio's CCWIS?

The PCSA is to complete and implement the prevention services plan no later than thirty calendar days from the completion of the comprehensive assessment planning model (CAPM) family assessment and the child's parent, guardian, or custodian's agreement to the provisions of prevention services.

(G) What is to be included in the prevention services plan under the prevention services case category in Ohio's CCWIS?

The PCSA is to include at least one evidence-based service provided by an FFPS provider approved by the Ohio department of children and youth (DCY).

(H) What actions is the PCSA to complete in developing and implementing the prevention services plan under the prevention services case category in Ohio's CCWIS with the family?

The PCSA is to complete all the following actions:

(1) Develop the prevention services plan in collaboration with the family, which includes the child and the child's parent, guardian, or custodian.

(2) Obtain agreement and signatures on the contents of the prevention services plan from the child's parent, guardian, or custodian.

(3) Provide a copy of the fully executed prevention services plan to the child's parent, guardian, or custodian no later than fourteen calendar days after the agreement is reached, not including the date of signature.

(I) When does the PCSA update the prevention services plan under the prevention services case category in Ohio's CCWIS?

The PCSA is to update the prevention services plan if there is a change in the following:

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(1) Services.

(2) Participants.

(3) Service providers.

(J) What actions is the PCSA to perform when updating the prevention services plan under the prevention services case category in Ohio's CCWIS?

The PCSA is to complete all the following actions:

(1) Contact the child and child's parent, guardian, or custodian to discuss the proposed updates.

(2) Obtain agreement and signatures from the child's parent, guardian, or custodian.

(3) Implement the change once the parent, guardian, or custodian agrees to the change.

(4) Provide each parent, guardian, or custodian with a copy of the updated prevention services plan within seven calendar days of the agreement being reached, not including the date of signature.

(K) When does a PCSA transfer a prevention services plan under the prevention services case category in Ohio's CCWIS to a family case plan under the ongoing case category in Ohio's CCWIS?

The PCSA is to transfer a prevention services plan to a family case plan if the following occurs during the provision of FFPS:

(1) An assessment of safety or risk identifies the need for services better suited for a family through a family case plan under the ongoing case category in Ohio's CCWIS.

(2) A safety plan is implemented.

(3) The family requests to be served through a family case plan under the ongoing case category in Ohio's CCWIS.

(L) What is the PCSA to do if the child's parent, guardian, or custodian no longer agrees on the prevention services plan under the prevention services case category in Ohio's CCWIS?

The PCSA is to assess safety and risk and do one of the following:

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(1) Close the case in accordance with paragraph (Q) of this rule.

(2) Offer and provide in-home supportive services or ongoing services in alternative response through the family case plan under the ongoing case category in Ohio's CCWIS, if safe and appropriate for the family.

(3) File a complaint with the court pursuant to section 2151.27 of the Revised Code if the child is an abused, neglected, or dependent child or may become abused, neglected, and dependent and intervention of the court is needed for the child's protection.

(M) How often is the PCSA to make face-to-face contact with each parent, guardian, or custodian and child participating in and being provided services through the prevention services plan under the prevention services case category in Ohio's CCWIS?

The PCSA is to have at least one face-to-face contact with each parent, guardian, or custodian and child involved in the prevention services plan every other month in the child's home. During contact the PCSA is to:

(1) Assess child safety and risk.

(2) Review the prevention services plan.

(3) Obtain the family's perception and experiences with the service provider.

(4) Determine if there are any desired changes to the service plan.

(N) How often is the PCSA to make contact with each service provider involved in a prevention services plan under the prevention services case category in Ohio's CCWIS?

The PCSA is to have minimum monthly contact with each service provider involved in the prevention services plan. If more frequent contact is required by the evidence-based service, those standards are to be followed. During monthly contact the PCSA is to obtain:

(1) Actions and activities completed by the provider and the family.

(2) Desired service outcomes and progress of the family.

(3) Presenting concerns regarding child safety and risk within the family.

(4) Changes to the provider's service plan delivery.

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(O) How does the PCSA review the progress of the prevention services plan under the prevention services case category in Ohio's CCWIS?

The PCSA is to review the progress of the prevention services plan by completing the prevention plan review in conjunction with the CAPM semiannual administrative review (SAR) no later than every one hundred and eighty calendar days after the completion date of the family assessment. The prevention plan review is to contain a summary of the service provider contacts and family contacts. The PCSA will invite parties to the prevention services plan and provide a copy of the SAR to all parties to the prevention services plan no later than seven days after completion of the SAR.

(P) What is a PCSA to do when it determines that a child is in immediate danger of serious harm during the provision of FFPS?

The PCSA is to follow procedures outlined in rule 5180:3-5-02 of the Administrative Code.

(Q) What is the PCSA to do when closing a case under the prevention services category in Ohio's CCWIS?

The PCSA is to complete all the following actions:

(1) Complete a prevention plan review to assess there are no active safety threats and the overall level of risk supports a case closure within thirty calendar days of closure.

(2) Notify the prevention services plan participants and service providers of the intent to close the prevention services case and terminate the prevention services plan in writing.

(3) Update the prevention services plan for closure.

(R) What may the PCSA do when closing a case under the prevention services category in Ohio's CCWIS?

The PCSA may coordinate with an FFPS provider approved by DCY for the family to continue evidence-based services after case closure.

(S) What is the PCSA to maintain in the case record?

The PCSA is to maintain a copy of the prevention services plan under the prevention services case category in Ohio's CCWIS, all updates, documentation of all attempted and completed contacts, and all other information related to the PCSA's provision of FFPS in accordance with this rule.