

Child and Family Services Reviews Update

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National Call on Round 4 Emphasizes Inclusion

The Children's Bureau (CB) held a briefing call on Round 4 of the Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs) with state child welfare administrators and court improvement managers on September 21, 2021. CFSR Round 4 will kick off with distribution of data profiles in August 2022. Onsite case reviews and interviews will likely start in early 2023. The Round 4 Year 1 schedule will be finalized this fall. The CB said that states should not expect the Round 4 review schedule to parallel Round 3. Below are a few call highlights:

- Among other things, the CB is encouraging states to consider and include in the CFSRs those who may experience bias, inequities, or underservice, either in their communities or by the systems seeking to serve them. The CB also noted that broad, meaningful involvement of system partners and professionals throughout the CFSR, including persons with lived experience, is necessary to change systems.
- Round 4 will continue to expand the integration of legal and judicial systems into the Program Improvement Plan (PIP) process. The CB emphasized that family and youth voices are also critical to a well-functioning child welfare system and should be included in program planning and improvement efforts. A wide variety of voices should inform CFSR planning efforts, the statewide assessment process, interviews conducted during the onsite reviews, and PIP development and implementation. These voices should also be a part of exit conferences and ongoing systemic improvement efforts.

Attachments provided to call participants included [Technical Bulletin #13](#) and State-Led CFSR Case Review Criteria. The presentation and video from the call, and the case criteria document, will be posted soon in the new Round 4 Resources section of the CFSR Information Portal. <https://www.cfsrportal.acf.hhs.gov/resources>

Statewide Data Indicator Profiles Disseminated

Regional Offices have received the latest statewide data indicator profiles from CB and are disseminating them to states. The data profiles are an update of performance on safety and permanency indicators for July 2021. JBS will also update the CFSR Online Monitoring System (OMS) data visualizations based on the profiles.

Multi-Item Data Analysis Tool Launched

The Multi-Item Data Analysis Tool (MIDAT) provides specified OMS users a powerful new tool for analyzing CFSR and continuous quality improvement (CQI) case review data collected in the Onsite Review Instrument and Instructions (OSRI). Using the multiple filters within the MIDAT,

users can analyze case review results by OSRI item rating and compare ratings across a maximum of 7 OSRI items and 17 case characteristics. The MIDAT provides case-level details with hyperlinks that go directly to an individual case. The MIDAT also can pull Rationale Statements for selected OSRI items into a single view. To access the MIDAT, OMS users with the role of Site Leader, State Administrator, or Observer can log into the portal, go to the OMS, select a CFSR or CQI review, go to the OSRI, and select “Reports” at the top of the page. The link to the MIDAT is at the bottom of the right column.

Ways to use the MIDAT:

- Collect information to test a hypothesis
 - “Cases of children who have had frequent and quality visits with their caseworkers are more likely to have their needs assessed and met”: Select Items 12A and 14 and click on the Rating Comparisons tab.
 - “Caseworkers are less likely to initiate CPS investigations timely when reports involve more than one child”: Select Item 1, click on the Case Characteristics tab, and select “Number of Children in Family” from the Case Characteristics dropdown.
- Explore what effect case characteristics have on ratings. For example, users can use the filters to limit the query to “In-Home Services cases with more than 4 children where the case has been open for more than 1 year” to generate a report that includes only the cases that meet those criteria.
- Create Outcome reports by selecting items within outcomes, such as Items 7–11 (Permanency Outcome 2) or Items 12–18 (Well-Being Outcomes 1–3).
- Determine progress toward PIP measurement goals by selecting up to seven items and viewing the rating results on the Overview tab.

New Training Content Coming Soon on ELA

The third and final module, *QA Staff*, of the three-module Quality Assurance (QA) Course is expected soon on the E-Learning Academy (ELA) site in the portal. The second module of the QA Course, *Reviewer QA*, was posted recently. The first module is *QA Overview*.

All portal account holders who are logged into their accounts can access the QA Course at <https://www.cfsrportal.acf.hhs.gov/e-learning/osri-quality-assurance>. Learners who complete all module activities may request a Certificate of Completion by emailing ela@cfsrportal.org.