




CONTINUUM OF CARE REFORM

## Level of Care Rates Protocol

Pp C1




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## The Level of Care Rates Protocol

- A matrix & scoring sheet, to be used by the case carrying SW/Probation Officer & considers all available information (i.e. CFTs, MH, existing County assessment tools, court reports, etc.)
- Standardizes levels of care based on 5 domains that are common to several assessment tools
- Supports a consistent application of the new rate structure
- Sets strength-based expectations for resource parents for meeting the care and supervision needs of the child/youth

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## LOC Context

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- Builds on the existing social worker comprehensive assessment process
- Designed to help CWS staff to organize the information about the child/youth and provides a way to document input from Resource Families.

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## Use of LOC (cont'd)

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The rate protocol tool will be applied:

- At initial entry into care (will have up to 60 days to complete to align with the CFT meeting, final rate will be retro to date of placement)
- *Some* placement changes (e.g. when moving to FFA age-based rate, FFH to another, stepping down from ISFC or STRTP, etc.)
- When a triggering event suggests a child/youth's care and supervision needs have changed.

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## The LOC Domains

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LOC rate protocol tool is based on 5 core domains:

1. Physical
2. Behavioral/Emotional
3. Educational
4. Health
5. Permanency/Family Services

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## Physical Domain

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Physical Domain is defined as actions in which the Resource Family must engage to meet the child's individual daily living needs, such as food, clothing, shelter, hygiene, community, social functioning and extracurricular activities including teaching age appropriate life skills even when developmental delays are present. (Does not include specific medical activities ( see health domain)

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## Behavioral/Emotional Domain

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- Behavioral/Emotional domain is defined as actions in which the RF must engage to promote resilience and emotional well-being for the child/youth, as well as encourages the child/youth to engage in prosocial behavior and activities developing health relationship. (excludes medication management for psychotropic meds-see health domain)

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## Education Domain

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- Education domain is defined as actions in which the RF must engage to promote student achievement, foster educational excellence and equal access to services and when required, responds to suspensions and/or expulsions. School-aged youth includes any child/youth who are attending and participating in early childhood educational programs through adult programs.

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## Health Domain

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- Health domain defined as actions in which the RF must engage to promote the child's health by arranging and facilitating health care ( i.e.CHDP wellness check, medical, dental, vision) medication administration and/or monitoring and ensuring access to services that address any special health care needs.

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## Permanency & Family Domain

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- Permanency/Family Services is defined as actions in which the RF must engage to promote and facilitate visitation, communication and the identification, development and maintenance of lifelong, support connections with members of the bio and non-bio families & natural support systems; also include efforts to connect the youth with their community of origin including connections with resources, cultural organizations, faith communities, and any other group or organization which promotes a sense of belonging identity & connection to culture.

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## Static Criteria Factors

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- Static Criteria established factors that may influence ability to identify a home-based placement (includes high-needs youth factors, specialty populations i.e. CSEC and Dual Status)
- Children/youth with higher needs for care and supervision may be served with the ISFC rate for youth who meet specified criteria:
  - Static factors must have occurred within the preceding 6 months
  - ISFC rate will last up to 60 days pending completion of an initial/updated LOC rate determination

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## Resource Family Tool

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- Developed by Small County workgroup to be used by Resource Parents as a tool to stimulate/capture their perspective of the care needs for the child in their home.
- May assist Resource Family with their ability to request additional training to meet the needs of the child and voice how much care and time they are committing to a child or children based on the domains.

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## Next Step

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- LOC Statewide Implementation March 1 and May 1, 2018
- LOCs : ACL 18-06 – ACL 18-06E ACL 18-25
- LOC Pilot Study 6 counties thru April 27, 2018.