

Office of Families and Children COVID-19 Resources

The COVID-19 pandemic presents unique challenges to child and adult protective services agencies and staff charged with protecting Ohio's most vulnerable citizens and responding to reports of suspected maltreatment. The Office of Families and Children (OFC) collaborated with federal and state partners, as well as public and private agencies and service providers, to identify the needs, concerns and questions to provide supportive resources and guidance during this unprecedented time. The guidance is used to help county child and adult protective services staff continue their practice to meet the needs of the children and families in their communities.

The OFC website was updated to offer a centralized location for county agencies, IV-E Courts, and private agencies to access COVID-19 resources. The website includes guidance documents on practice, technical assistance, and fiscal, as well as policy revisions during the pandemic. The website can be accessed at: <https://jfs.ohio.gov/ocf/CoronavirusAndChildServices/>

Below are links to each of the resources.

Toolkit OFC developed a toolkit of resources and guidance to assist county agencies in providing services to children and families while maintaining safety for staff and the community.

- Child and Adult Protective Services Toolkit
<https://jfs.ohio.gov/ocf/COVID-19-ChildAdultProtectiveServicesToolkit.stm>

Procedure and Technical Assistance Letters

- FCASPL 348 COVID-19 Pandemic Guidance
<https://jfs.ohio.gov/ocf/BridgesAgeTerminationGuidance-COVID-19.stm>
- FCASPL 349 Foster Youth Not Aging Out
<https://jfs.ohio.gov/ocf/BridgesFCASPL-349FosterYouth.stm>
- Bridges Flexibility Guidance for COVID-19
<https://jfs.ohio.gov/ocf/COVID-19-BridgesFlexibilityGuidance.stm>
- Bridges Age Termination Guidance During COVID-19
<https://jfs.ohio.gov/ocf/BridgesAgeTerminationGuidance-COVID-19.stm>
- FCASPL356 COVID-19 Pandemic Guidance
<https://emanuals.jfs.ohio.gov/FamChild/FCASM/FCASPL/FCASPL-356.stm>

Fiscal Guidance

- Increase in Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP)
<https://jfs.ohio.gov/ocf/COVID-19-IncreaseInFMAPforPSCA-Courts.stm>

Frequently Asked Questions

- Frequently Asked Questions & Answers
<https://jfs.ohio.gov/ocomm/pdf/JFS-Coronavirus-QA-Local.pdf>

OFC Help Desk The OFC Help Desk responds to policy protective services questions to assist public and private agencies.

- 1-866-886-3537, option 4 or email at Help-Desk-OCF@jfs.ohio.gov. 8:00 am – 5:00 pm, M-F.