



# Texas Child-Centered Care (T3C) System Blueprint Change Log As of April, 2024

The purpose of the *T3C System Blueprint* is to provide detailed information on changes made to the *T3C System Blueprint* between published versions.

If you have questions related to these changes, or anything else related to T3C, please email them to [dfpstexaschildcenteredcare@dfps.texas.gov](mailto:dfpstexaschildcenteredcare@dfps.texas.gov).

To view the *T3C System Blueprint* in its entirety please visit:  
[https://www.dfps.texas.gov/Texas\\_Child\\_Centered\\_Care/whats\\_new.asp](https://www.dfps.texas.gov/Texas_Child_Centered_Care/whats_new.asp)

2<sup>nd</sup> Edition April, 2024

1<sup>st</sup> Edition February, 2024

Item	Date of Change	Prior Page Number/s	Previous Language	New Page Number/s	Revised Language
1.	April, 2024	5	<p><b><u>Purpose of the Blueprint</u></b>                      ... DFPS will include a summary of changes and a redlined version to show modifications made between versions for ease and to ensure transparency.</p>	5	<p><b><u>Purpose of the Blueprint</u></b>                      ... DFPS will include the <b><i>T3C System Blueprint Change Log</i></b> <del>a summary of changes and a redlined version</del> to show modifications made between versions for ease in tracking and to ensure transparency.</p>
2.	April, 2024	11	<p><b><u>Commonly Used Terms</u></b>                      [new bullet point and term inserted]</p>	11	<p><b><u>Commonly Used Terms</u></b>                      ➤ <b><i>Interim Credential: An initial, short-term Credential that can be applied for by General Residential Operations and Child Placing Agencies that meet certain eligibility requirements. Within state and federal statute and regulatory requirements, DFPS-approved providers could start providing T3C Service Packages and Add-On Services based on evaluation of a comprehensive plan, but prior to meeting all of the requirements to become fully Credentialed. Providers approved for the Interim Credential would subsequently be required to become fully Credentialed within a set time frame. The Interim Credentialing process will be time-limited and will be eliminated as an option to providers during the latter part of the transition to T3C.</i></b></p>
3.	April, 2024	14	<p><b><u>Commonly Used Terms</u></b>                      ➤ <b>Treatment Model:</b>... Except for the General Residential Operation Tier II Service Packages, the provider's Treatment Model can be one they have developed</p>	14	<p><b><u>Commonly Used Terms</u></b>                      ➤ <b>Treatment Model:</b>... <del>Except for the General Residential Operation Tier II Service Packages,</del> The provider's Treatment Model can be one they have developed</p>

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			independently or one they have purchased, so long as it meets the core elements listed above and is Evidence-informed...		independently or one that they have purchased, so long as it meets the core elements listed above and is Evidence-informed, <b>or a Promising Practice, or is Evidence-based...</b>
4.	April, 2024	Not Applicable	Not Applicable – New Section [inserted after Commonly Used Terms]	16	<p><b><u>System Roles and Responsibilities Under T3C</u></b></p> <p><i>The Texas foster care system is an inter-agency and interdependent system. Each agency has a unique and specific role in the system that is defined by law, rule, statute or contract, and the T3C system strives to ensure that roles and responsibilities remain clearly defined. Most of the responsibilities identified are consistent with previously established responsibilities for each entity, however, a few have been added that are specific to the T3C credentialing, service delivery, and oversight processes.</i></p> <p>[new graphic illustration inserted]</p>
5.	April, 2024	16	<p><b><u>Selecting a Placement Under the T3C System</u></b></p> <p>While the CANS 3.0 Assessment <b>recommended</b> Service Package, and other supporting documentation will be used to inform the process, the knowledge and professional judgement of the SSCC or DFPS staff working to secure placement based on the individual child’s needs and best interest will be the basis for the selection of the <b>actual</b> Service Package and placement type.</p>	18	<p><b><u>Selecting a Placement Under the T3C System</u></b></p> <p>While the CANS 3.0 Assessment <b>recommended</b> Service Package, and other supporting documentation will be used to inform the process, the knowledge and professional judgement of the SSCC or DFPS staff working to secure placement based on the individual child’s needs and best interest will be the basis for the <b>selected</b> <del>of the actual</del> Service Package and placement type.</p>
6.	April, 2024	18	<p><b><u>Example of the Placement Selection Process Under the T3C System</u></b></p>	19	<p><b><u>Example of the Placement Selection Process Under the T3C System</u></b></p>

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			<p>While the CANS 3.0 Assessment <b>recommended</b> Service Package, and other supporting documentation will be used to inform the process, the knowledge and professional judgement of the SSCC or DFPS staff working to secure placement based on the individual child's needs and best interest will be the basis for the selection of the <b>actual</b> Service Package and placement type.</p>		<p>While the CANS 3.0 Assessment <b>recommended</b> Service Package, and other supporting documentation will be used to inform the process, the knowledge and professional judgement of the SSCC or DFPS staff working to secure placement based on the individual child's needs and best interest will be the basis for the <b>selected</b> <del>of the actual</del> Service Package and placement type.</p>
7.	April, 2024	21	<p><b><u>As a Provider, What Should I Be Doing to Prepare for Transition to the T3C System?</u></b>                      [new bullet point inserted]</p>	22	<p><b><u>As a Provider, What Should I Be Doing to Prepare for Transition to the T3C System?</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visit T3C Ready at <a href="http://www.T3CReady.org">www.T3CReady.org</a> an initiative of the SSCCs and the Texas Alliance of Child &amp; Family Services. T3C Ready contains valuable information to help providers actively prepare for the transition, including details on the two types of grant funds available for Fiscal Year 2024 to be utilized for T3C transition needs. ACH Child and Family Services-Our Community Our Kids (ACH-OCOK) has entered into a contract with DFPS to administer the FY 2024 funds. ACH-OCOK anticipates releasing a Request for Applications (RFA) in early May 2024, notify grant awardees in mid-June 2024, and to distribute grant funds early July 2024. Please watch the website for additional information.</li> </ul>
8.	April, 2024	25-26	<p><b><u>The Credentialing Process</u></b>                      Based on the vision for the T3C System and stakeholder feedback, some of the assumptions that are</p>	27	<p><b><u>The Credentialing Process</u></b>                      [information moved out of bulleted area, up to become its own reformatted paragraph]</p>

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			<p>being used to guide the development of this process include:...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Considering establishment of an initial short-term alternate Credentialing process for providers that have experience operating in Texas, are in good standing with CCR and SSCC/DFPS Contracts and have a demonstrated record of serving children with like needs to the Service Package(s) and/or Add-On Service(s) for which they are applying. Within state and federal statute and regulatory requirements, providers qualifying under this short-term, alternate process could start providing T3C Service Packages and Add-On Services based on evaluation of a comprehensive plan and prior to meeting all the requirements to become fully Credentialed. If approved, these providers would be required to become fully Credentialed within a set time frame. The initial short-term alternate Credentialing process would be time-limited and would be eliminated as an option to providers during the transition to T3C.</li> </ul>		<p><b><i>DFPS anticipates considering establishment of an <b>Interim initial short-term alternate</b> Credentialing process. <b>It is anticipated that providers will have the ability to apply for the Interim Credential if they</b> have experience operating in Texas, <b>meet performance expectations as defined by DFPS,</b> are in good standing with CCR and SSCC/DFPS Contracts and have a demonstrated record of serving children with like needs to the Service Package(s) and/or Add-On Service(s) for which they are applying. Within state and federal statute and regulatory requirements, <b>DFPS-approved providers</b> could start providing T3C Service Packages and Add-On Services based on evaluation of a comprehensive plan, but prior to meeting all of the requirements to become fully Credentialed. <b>Providers approved for the Interim Credential</b> would <b>subsequently</b> be required to become fully Credentialed within a set time frame. The <b>Interim initial short-term alternate</b> Credentialing process will be time-limited and will be eliminated as an option to providers during <b>the latter part of the</b> transition to T3C.</i></b></p>
9.	April, 2024	27	<p><b><u>The Credentialing Process</u></b>                      ... DFPS anticipates providing updated information regarding both the Credentialing and re-Credentialing process, including the estimated timeline to begin the process and the expected timeline for completing the</p>	28	<p><b><u>The Credentialing Process</u></b>                      ... DFPS anticipates providing updated information regarding both the Credentialing and re-Credentialing process, including the estimated timeline to begin the process and the expected timeline for completing the</p>

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			process, in the next iteration of the <i>T3C System Blueprint</i> .		process, in the <b>July 2024 next iteration</b> of the <i>T3C System Blueprint</i> .
10.	April, 2024	29	<b><u>Service Package and Add-On Service Descriptions</u></b> [new #7 added, renumbered subsequent numbers]		<b><u>Service Package and Add-On Service Descriptions</u></b> <b>7. For all Service Packages, the Child Placing Agency or General Residential Operation must be licensed for all of the Permit Services listed. General Residential Operations have two possible Permit Types listed for each Service Package, but the provider is only required to have one or the other of them.</b>
11.	April, 2024	37, 48, 52, 58, 60, 68, 72, 80, 84, 91, 95, 103, 106, 115, 119, 127, 156, 185, 288, 304, 320, 336, 353, 371	<b><u>Admission Guidelines</u></b> and <b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b> In addition to and/or consistent with Statutory and Minimum Standards Requirements:...	38, 49, 53, 59, 61, 69, 73, 81, 85, 92, 96, 104, 108, 117, 121, 129, 159, 188, 293, 309, 325, 341, 358, 376	<b><u>Admission Guidelines</u></b> and <b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b> In addition to, and/or consistent with Statutory and Minimum Standards Requirements:...
12.	April, 2024	38, 48, 68, 80, 92, 104, 115, 127, 156, 171, 186, 200, 228, 242, 257, 272, 289, 305, 321, 337, 354, 372	<b><u>Quality Assurance and Continued Stay Guidelines</u></b> [new introduction to bullet points inserted]	39, 49, 69, 81, 93, 105, 117, 129, 159, 174, 189, 203, 231, 246, 262, 277, 294, 310, 326, 342, 359, 376	<b><u>Quality Assurance and Continued Stay Guidelines</u></b> <b>Quality Assurance and Continued Stay Guidelines incorporated in the provider's policy and procedures, that include:</b> • On-going review and...
13.	April, 2024	47, 57, 67, 79, 102, 125	<b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b> ... All Case Management functions must be performed by an employee of the Child Placing Agency.	48, 58, 68, 80, 103, 127	<b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b> ... All <b>Treatment Director and</b> Case Management functions must be performed by <b>actual employees an</b> employee of the Child Placing Agency.

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14.	April, 2024	48	<p><b><u>Admission Guidelines</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child Placing Agency admissions staff have reviewed the child’s information and determined that the child’s needs align with services offered by the Child Placing Agency and selected Caregivers. The Child Placing Agency and Foster Family Home are Credentialed to provide the Substance Use Support Services Package.</li> </ul>	49	<p><b><u>Admission Guidelines</u></b></p> <p>[bullet points were separated]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child Placing Agency admissions staff have reviewed the child’s information and determined that the child’s needs align with services offered by the Child Placing Agency and selected Caregivers.</li> <li>The Child Placing Agency and Foster Family Home are Credentialed to provide the Substance Use Support Services Package.</li> </ul>
15.	April, 2024	52	<p><b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child Placing Agency must coordinate and ensure that comprehensive assessments, evaluations, screenings, and treatment services are provided within 21 days of admission (for children aged 5 and under) and 30 days of admission (for children aged 5 and older) and be based on the child’s individual need(s) (dependent on eligibility, services should be authorized and paid for through STAR Health.)...</li> </ul>	53	<p><b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child Placing Agency must coordinate and ensure that comprehensive assessments, evaluations, screenings, and treatment services are provided within 21 days of admission (for children aged 5 and under) and 30 days of admission (for children aged <del>5</del> and over), and be based on the child’s individual need(s) (dependent on eligibility, services should be authorized and paid for through STAR Health.)...</li> </ul>
16.	April, 2024	53	<p><b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The child’s CANS 3.0 Assessment must be administered in accordance with the requirements, but no later than 21 days (for children between the ages of 3 and 5) 30 days (for children aged 5 and older) after entering the placement...</li> </ul>	54	<p><b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The child’s CANS 3.0 Assessment must be administered in accordance with the requirements, but no later than 21 days (for children between the ages of 3 and 5) or 30 days (for children aged <del>5</del> and older) after entering the placement...</li> </ul>
17.	April, 2024	91, 113	<p><b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b></p> <p>... All Case Management functions, and the responsibilities of the</p>	92, 115	<p><b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b></p> <p>... All <b><i>Treatment Director and</i></b> Case Management functions, and the</p>

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			Registered Nurse, must be performed by actual employees of the Child Placing Agency.		responsibilities of the Registered Nurse, must be performed by actual employees of the Child Placing Agency.
18.	April, 2024	101	<p><b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child Placing Agency must have a Treatment Director whose responsibilities include supervision of Licensed Therapist(s) on staff.</li> </ul>	102	<p><b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b><i>The</i></b> Child Placing Agency must have a Treatment Director whose responsibilities include supervision of Licensed <b><i>Therapists Therapist(s)</i></b> on staff.</li> </ul>
19.	April, 2024	108	<p><b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b> [new bullet point inserted]</p>	109	<p><b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b><i>The Intellectual or Developmental Disability (IDD)/Autism Spectrum Disorder Support Services Package necessitates a custom care plan for the child that should incorporate support and guidance from a Registered Nurse on how to care for the individual medical needs of the child, to include administering medication and the use of medically necessary equipment.</i></b></li> <li>Child Placing Agency must have case manager level...</li> </ul>
20.	April, 2024	153	<p><b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The General Residential Operation must have a Treatment Director that is responsible for evaluating, assessing, and providing direction to the Child Placing Agency's Case Management staff on necessary services that the child, youth, or young adult receiving the Tier I: Basic Child Care Operation Service Package may require as a part of his or her Service Plan.</li> </ul>	156	<p><b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The General Residential Operation must have a Treatment Director that is responsible for evaluating, assessing, and providing direction to the <b><i>General Residential Operation's</i></b> <del>Child Placing Agency's</del> Case Management staff on necessary services that the child, youth, or young adult receiving the Tier I: Basic Child Care Operation Service Package</li> </ul>



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					may require as a part of his or her Service Plan.
21.	April, 2024	154	<p><b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b>                      ... All Direct Delivery Caregiver and/or Cottage Parent and Case Management functions must be performed by an employee of the operation.</p>	157	<p><b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b>                      ... All <b><i>Treatment Director</i></b>, Direct Delivery Caregiver and/or Cottage Parent, and Case Management functions must be performed by <b><i>actual employees</i></b> <del>an employee</del> of the operation.</p>
22.	April, 2024	168, 184, 198, 213, 239, 254, 270, 287, 302, 318, 335, 369	<p><b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b>                      ... All Direct Delivery Caregiver and Case Management functions must be performed by an employee of the operation.</p>	171, 187, 201, 216, 243, 259, 274, 291, 307, 323, 339, 374	<p><b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b>                      ... All <b><i>Treatment Director</i></b>, Direct Delivery Caregiver, and Case Management functions must be performed by <b><i>actual employees</i></b> <del>an employee</del> of the operation.</p>
23.	April, 2024	170	<p><b><u>Admission Guidelines</u></b>                      In addition to Statutory and Minimum Standards Requirements:...</p>	173	<p><b><u>Admission Guidelines</u></b>                      In addition to, <b><i>and/or consistent with</i></b> Statutory and Minimum Standards Requirements:...</p>
24.	April, 2024	205	<p><b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The General Residential Operation must coordinate and ensure that comprehensive assessments, evaluations, screenings, and treatment services are provided within 30 days of admission; services should be customized based on individual strengths and needs (dependent on eligibility, services should be authorized and paid for through STAR Health)...</li> </ul>	208	<p><b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The General Residential Operation must coordinate and ensure that comprehensive assessments, evaluations, screenings, and treatment services are provided within <b><i>21 days of admission (for children aged 5 and under) and 30 days of admission (for children aged 6 and over)</i></b>; services should be customized based on individual strengths and needs (dependent on eligibility, services should be authorized and paid for through STAR Health)...</li> </ul>
25.	April, 2024	206	<p><b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The child's CANS 3.0 Assessment must be administered in accordance with the requirements, but no later than 30 days after entering the placement (unless a</li> </ul>	209	<p><b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The child's CANS 3.0 Assessment must be administered in accordance with the requirements, but no later than <b><i>21 days after admission (for children</i></b></li> </ul>

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			CANS 3.0 Assessment was completed within the prior 90-day period and remains valid)...		<b><i>between the ages of 3 and 5) and 30 days after admission entering the placement (for children aged 6 and over),</i></b> unless a CANS 3.0 Assessment was completed within the prior 90-day period and remains valid...
26.	April, 2024	219	<b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b> [new bullet point inserted]	222	<b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b><i>The Tier I: Complex Medical Needs Treatment to Support Community Transition Service Package necessitates a custom care plan for the child that should incorporate support and guidance from a Registered Nurse on how to care for the individual medical needs of the child, to include administering medication and the use of medically necessary equipment.</i></b></li> <li><b><i>The child's CANS 3.0 Assessment...</i></b></li> </ul>
27.	April, 2024	226	<b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b> ... All Direct Delivery Caregiver and Case Management functions, and the responsibilities of the Registered Nurse, must be performed by actual employees of the agency.	229	<b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b> ... All <b><i>Treatment Director</i></b> , Direct Delivery Caregiver, and Case Management functions, and the responsibilities of the Registered Nurse, must be performed by actual employees of the <b><i>operation agency</i></b> .
28.	April, 2024	244	<b><u>Treatment Services</u></b> Intellectual or Development Disability  Autism Spectrum Disorder  Emotional Disorders	249	<b><u>Treatment Services</u></b> Intellectual or <b><i>Developmental Development</i></b> Disability  Autism Spectrum Disorder  Emotional Disorders
29.	April, 2024	253	<b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b><i>The General Residential Operation must have a Treatment Director whose responsibilities include</i></b></li> </ul>	258	<b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b><i>The General Residential Operation must have a Treatment Director whose responsibilities include</i></b></li> </ul>

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			supervision of the Licensed Therapist(s) on staff.		supervision of the Licensed <b>Therapists</b> <del>Therapist(s)</del> on staff.
30.	April, 2024	273	<p><b><u>Aftercare Services</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Tier I: Human Trafficking Victim Treatment Services to Support Community Transition Service Package requires the planning and provision of Aftercare Services.</li> </ul>	278	<p><b><u>Aftercare Services</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Tier I: Human Trafficking Victim/<b>Survivor</b> Treatment Services to Support Community Transition Service Package requires the planning and provision of Aftercare Services.</li> </ul>
31.	April, 2024	277	<p><b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>... Therapy services must be provided by a Licensed Sex Offender Treatment Provider (LSOTP) or Qualified Credentialed Counselor (QCC), unless the Service Planning team determines a different type of therapist is needed to meet the child's custom needs...</li> </ul>	282	<p><b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>... Therapy services must be provided by a Licensed Sex Offender Treatment Provider (LSOTP) <del>or Qualified Credentialed Counselor (QCC)</del>, unless the Service Planning team determines a different type of therapist is needed to meet the child's custom needs...</li> </ul>
32.	April, 2024	286	<p><b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Licensed Sex Offender Treatment Provider (LSOTP) or Qualified Credentialed Counselor (QCC) to oversee treatment and service planning for children, youth, and young adults</li> </ul>	291	<p><b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Licensed Sex Offender Treatment Provider (LSOTP) <del>or Qualified Credentialed Counselor (QCC)</del> to oversee treatment and service planning for children, youth, and young adults</li> </ul>
33.	April, 2024	352	<p><b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b></p> <p>... All Direct Delivery Caregiver and Case Management functions, and the responsibilities of the Registered Nurse, must be performed by an employee of the operation.</p>	356	<p><b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b></p> <p>... All <b>Treatment Director</b>, Direct Delivery Caregiver, and Case Management functions, and the responsibilities of the Registered Nurse, must be performed by <b>actual employees</b> <del>an employee</del> of the operation.</p>
34.	April, 2024	357	<p><b><u>Treatment Services</u></b></p> <p>Emotional Disorders</p> <p>Intellectual or Development Disability</p> <p>Autism Spectrum Disorder</p>	362	<p><b><u>Treatment Services</u></b></p> <p>Emotional Disorders</p> <p>Intellectual or <b>Developmental</b> <del>Development</del> Disability</p>

T3C System Blueprint Change Log

As of April, 2024

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					Autism Spectrum Disorder