

PCSP Assessment and Agreement Tool

A Parental Child Safety Placement (PCSP) is when Child Protective Services (CPS) determines that the child(ren) cannot safely live with any parent, and the parent(s) agrees to have the child(ren) live in another household without the parent(s). If the child(ren) and a parent move into or remain in the same household, it is NOT a PCSP.

Complete the PCSP Assessment and Agreement Tool if:

- You assessed the child(ren)'s home for safety,
- You identified dangers,
- You staffed the case with a supervisor, and
- A determination has been made to evaluate a potential PCSP caregiver.

This PCSP Assessment and Agreement Tool helps ensure you're choosing the right PCSP caregiver. It was developed using information from current practice, predictive analytics, and best practice nationwide. The PCSP Assessment and Agreement Tool helps you critically and consistently think through whether or not:

1. The individuals in the PCSP home are appropriate caregivers for the child(ren): You must ensure that all persons in the PCSP household can safely be around the child(ren). This means evaluating abuse and neglect history, criminal history, and IMPACT person characteristics.
2. The PCSP physical home environment is safe: You must complete an assessment of the PCSP home to ensure the child(ren) will be safe. You must ensure there are no dangers to the child(ren)'s safety from the home environment.
3. The child(ren)'s needs can be met: While the child(ren) is in a PCSP, the parent(s) should be involved in caring for and meeting the needs of their child(ren) as much as is safely possible; however, the PCSP caregiver assumes the primary task of the child(ren)'s day-to-day care. This is not an easy task, and should not be undertaken lightly. You must ensure that the PCSP caregiver(s) and parent(s) have a mutually agreed upon plan to meet the child(ren)'s needs and keep them safe and everyone understands what is required of them.

You must assess all of these factors *before* you leave the child(ren) in the home.

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Case Number _____

Stage Number _____

Child(ren) Name _____

Primary PCSP Caregiver Assessed _____

Other PCSP Household Members

Assessed _____

Date _____

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Assessment

If you answer **NO** to any question on this assessment, **this caregiver and household are not appropriate for the PCSP under any circumstance.**

Section 1 - Determine if the Individuals in the PCSP Household Are Appropriate

Yes	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Is the proposed PCSP caregiver willing to provide care?2. Has the PCSP caregiver identified all individuals in the PCSP household?3. Has the PCSP caregiver identified at least one individual who can care for and supervise the child(ren) on a short-term basis when the caregiver is not at home?4. Has the criminal history of all persons age 14 or older in the PCSP household and all identified short-term caregivers been reviewed and a finding made that the child(ren) will be safe?	
If you answered yes and someone in the PCSP household had criminal history, you must check the box and describe below how circumstances have changed and why you think the child will be safe.	

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Yes No

5. Has CPS, APS, CCL, and RCCL history of all persons in the PCSP household and all identified short-term caregivers been reviewed and a finding made that the child(ren) will be safe?

If you answered yes and someone in the PCSP household had abuse or neglect history, check the box and describe below how circumstances have changed and why you think the child will be safe.

6. Have all individuals 18 or older in the household and all identified short-term caregivers shown some type of official photo identification?

7. Does the PCSP caregiver agree to immediately notify the caseworker of any changes to the PCSP household or any short-term caregivers for the child(ren)?

If you answer **YES** to **all** questions in Section 1, continue to Section 2.

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Section 2 - Determine if the Physical Home Environment of the PCSP is Safe

You can only answer **YES** to the following questions if the condition has been met *prior* to placement of the child(ren). If you do not yet have enough information to clearly answer **YES** for a question, answer **NO**. Before answering **NO**, however, you should work with and help the caregiver to meet the condition if reasonably possible.

Yes No

1. If there are any weapons in the PCSP home, has the PCSP caregiver secured all weapons out of the child(ren)'s access before placement occurs and agreed to keep all weapons secured as long as the child(ren) is in the home?
2. Has the PCSP caregiver secured all medicine, chemicals, cleaning supplies, and other harmful material out of the reach of the child(ren) before placement occurs?
3. Has the caregiver resolved any physical living conditions that are hazardous or immediately threatening to the health and/or safety of the child(ren)?

If the answer is NO, identify the physical living condition that was not resolved:

If you answer **YES** to **all** questions in Section 2, continue to section 3.

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Section 3 - Determine a Plan to Meet the Child(ren)'s Needs

You can only answer **YES** to the following questions if the condition has been met *prior* to placement of the child(ren). If you do not yet have enough information to clearly answer **YES** for a question, answer **NO**. Before answering **NO**, however, you should work with and help the caregiver to meet the condition if reasonably possible.

The Safety Plan must document details about the parent's access to the child, duties of the parent(s), PCSP caregiver and DFPS related to child safety and the PCSP's expected end date.

Yes	No	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. If there are school aged children being placed in the PCSP, is there a plan to ensure the child(ren)'s enrollment in and attendance at school (could include homeschooling)?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Is there a plan to ensure the child(ren) receives medical, dental, and behavioral health services, if needed?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Is there a plan for visitation between the parents and the child(ren), including access, frequency, and any conditions for visitation?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Is there a plan to provide or arrange for safe transportation for the child(ren) as needed, including an age appropriate car seat if transporting in a car?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Is there a plan for safe sleeping arrangements for the child(ren)?

If you answer **YES** for all questions in Section 3, proceed to Section 4.

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Section 4 - Other Danger Precluding Placement

Yes No

1. Are the PCSP home and caregiver free of any other dangers?

If the answer is NO describe the dangers:

If you answer **YES** for the question in Section 4, proceed to Section 5.

Section 5 - Collateral Information (select **only one** option below)

- Collaterals were contacted.
- It was not possible to contact collaterals before placement but contact will be made within 24 hours.

Section 6 - Required Follow-Up on Out of State Abuse and Neglect History (select **one** option below)

- No PCSP household members or short-term caregivers age 14 or older have lived outside Texas.
- One or more household members or short-term caregivers age 14 or older have lived outside Texas , and out-of- state abuse and neglect history has been checked.
- One or more household members or short-term caregivers age 14 or older have lived outside Texas, and out-of-state abuse and neglect history was not available before placement, but has been requested or will be requested within 24 hours.

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Section 7 - Parental Child Safety Placement Decision

- PCSP approved by supervisor and program director Date of Approval: _____
Approving Supervisor (print or type name): _____
Approving Program Director (print or type name): _____
- PCSP not approved Date of Denial: _____
Placement Confirmation: _____
- Child(ren) placed with Caregiver
Date of Placement: _____

Section 8 - Statements of Understanding and Agreement

Complete this section **only** if the PCSP was approved.

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 1. The parent(s) and PCSP caregivers understand that PCSPs are meant to be short-term and temporary and if the child(ren) cannot safely return to living with a parent within a reasonable period of time: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• CPS may seek legal custody, or• The PCSP caregiver may need to care for the child(ren) long-term without CPS involvement, or• Other arrangements for the child(ren)'s care may need to be made. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 2. The caregiver understands that subsidized day care is available if needed, even if the caregiver is not working full-time. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 3. If siblings are not placed together, the parent(s) and caregiver agree to facilitate contact among the children as often as possible. |

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<input type="checkbox"/>	4. The caregiver acknowledges that they have been provided with the Voluntary Caregiver Manual and reviewed these provisions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• firearm safety• water safety• safe sleep• poison prevention• car safety• discipline
<input type="checkbox"/>	5. The parent(s) has identified any existing criminal or civil court orders or pending legal cases that may affect access to or possession of a child(ren). If there are existing court orders or pending legal cases, list the child(ren) affected, case number, and court.
<input type="checkbox"/>	6. The placement has been discussed with the child(ren).
<input type="checkbox"/>	7. The Safety Plan details the conditions under which a parent(s) can have access to the child, the respective duties of the caregiver, parent(s) and DFPS related to child safety and the expected PCSP end date. The parent(s) and the primary PCSP caregiver have reviewed and signed the Safety Plan, and its terms are incorporated into and attached to this PCSP Agreement. Any changes to parent(s) access, the duties of the caregiver, parent(s) or DFPS related to child safety or the extension of the PCSP end date will be documented in a revised Safety Plan.
<p>Check this box if an Authorization Agreement for a Nonparent Relative was executed. <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	8. The PCSP caregiver understands that CPS will be visiting the PCSP home at least once a month during the duration of the PCSP. The visit may be announced or unannounced, and may involve any or all of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inspection of the PCSP home• Interviews with members of the PCSP household and any child(ren) placed in the PCSP
<input type="checkbox"/>	9. The PCSP caregiver will immediately notify the caseworker if a parent is not complying with the agreed upon visitation plan or ends the PCSP placement, and DFPS will take any action needed to ensure the child(ren)'s safety, which could include a removal and seeking legal custody.

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10. The PCSP primary caregiver will share the PCSP Agreement and Safety Plan with other adult members of the PCSP household and immediately notify the caseworker about changes to the PCSP household.

Comments

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Before agreeing to this plan, parents and caregivers should consider the following:

NOTICE to Voluntary Caregiver: If the parent is unable to develop a safe environment for the child and a court names CPS as the child's legal conservator, you will be given priority consideration as a placement for the child if you agree and continued placement is determined to be safe. However, if you or others in your home have any criminal history or child abuse or neglect history, it is possible that this history would make you ineligible to become a foster or adoptive parent, or to receive any benefits under the Department's foster care, adoption assistance, permanency care assistance, or kinship care programs. If you have concerns about this issue, please discuss them with the child's caseworker.

NOTE TO PARENTS: YOUR AGREEMENT TO THE PARENTAL CHILD SAFETY PLACEMENT IS NOT AN ADMISSION OF CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT ON YOUR PART AND CANNOT BE USED AGAINST YOU AS AN ADMISSION OF CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT.

Signatures - By signing this form, the parents and the voluntary caregiver are agreeing to the specified plan for the parental child safety placement.

Parent's Signature	Best Contact Number	Date
Parent's Signature	Best Contact Number	Date
Primary Caregiver Signature	Best Contact Number	Date
Secondary Caregiver Signature (if available)	Best Contact Number	Date
Caseworker Name	Office Phone Number	Date