

Case Worker Pre-Service Web-Based Modules 3/25/2020

Section Titles and Descriptions and Recorded Module Length / Time

Pre-Service training provides beginning knowledge and awareness of areas essential to child welfare practice, including knowledge of the scope and philosophical base of child protective services, the basic process and functions of providing child protective services, and an introduction to engagement, safety, court, and human behavior.

The web-based Pre-Service training is approved by the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families. This content meets the requirement for pre-service training identified in DCF 43. The web-based Pre-Service modules are intended to be used as one component of a new worker’s pre-service orientation package that should also include direct supervision, job shadowing, and other on the job training.

Section #	Section Title	Section Description	Module Time
Module: Introduction to Child Protective Services			62 minutes
Section 1	Welcome and Introduction to Pre-Service	In this section the mission of the Wisconsin Child Welfare Professional Development System (WCWPDS), the role WCWPDS plays in helping Child Protective Service workers meet the Administrative Rule 43 pre-service training requirements, and the Wisconsin Child Welfare Model for Practice are explained; knowledge is shared about how child protective services work is affected by four levels of government: Federal, State, Native American Tribes, and County; and the primary areas of concern related to ethical practice in child welfare are introduced.	
Section 2	Wisconsin Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (eWISACWIS)	Information about eWISACWIS – what it is, how it is used by CPS, and where one can find more information about this information collection system – are explained in this section.	

Module: Engaging in Child Protective Services			40 minutes
Section 1	Engaging Families	Getting the family engaged in change requires a skillful social worker who is able to empathize and respect family members. This section provides suggestions and builds your skill in being able to engage families.	
Module: Child Abuse and Neglect			68 minutes
Section 1	Child Development	This section provides information that will help you understand child development including what is "normal" for the various stages of a child's life.	
Section 2	Dynamics of Maltreatment	There are many different reasons why maltreatment arises in families. This section takes a look at some of the root causes of maltreatment.	
Section 3	Signs of Maltreatment	Child protective services is intended to protect a family and specifically the child. To do this successfully, a worker needs to be able to recognize the signs of abuse in a child and to note signs of an abusive caregiver. This section will assist you in protecting families by learning about these signs.	
Section 4	Domestic Violence and Child Maltreatment	Domestic violence has a damaging impact on children. Households with domestic violence are often households where children are not safe. Domestic violence is difficult to spot. As a practitioner, you need to learn how to identify domestic violence so that the children in your families remain safe. This section presents you with valuable information that will help you understand the nature of domestic violence and provide you with background which might help you identify it.	
Module: Trauma			35 minutes
Section 1	Trauma	This module provides an overview of trauma and common types of trauma child welfare professionals may encounter in their work. Learners will hear how trauma impacts children developmentally, and how it impacts behaviors of children and adults. Child welfare professionals will gain basic strategies to build resilience and minimize trauma in their approach with families.	

Module: Safety			84 minutes
Section 1	Basics	This section provides the foundation of Safety, presenting key concepts and terms and emphasizing the role of parents and their capacity to keep their child(ren) safe.	
Section 2	Present Danger Threats	How do you know if a child is unsafe? This section presents the concept of present danger threats and what constitutes a present danger threat.	
Section 3	Responding to Present Danger Threats	The previous section introduced you to present danger threats. In this section, you learn about the actions and responsibilities you have to protect a child from a present danger threat.	
Section 4	Impending Danger Threats	A child(ren) might be safe today, but that is no guarantee that they will be in a few weeks. This section defines impending danger threats and examines how they are different from present danger threats. The content includes the Standards requirements for when there must be a Safety Assessment and introduces the danger threshold criteria.	
Module: Court			46 minutes
Section 1	Protocol for Removing a Child	This section presents the basic legal procedures involved with the removal of a child from the home. When you complete this section, you will have a better understanding of the criteria used to determine whether such a removal is necessary, the legal methods of carrying out the removal, and custodial concerns surrounding the child following removal.	
Section 2	Children's Court and Court Process	In this section, you will be introduced to the personnel involved with the court process, as well as the documentation related to the proceedings.	
Section 3	Preparation for Court	This section is designed to guide you in preparation for testifying in court and provides basic guidelines to follow in addition to some suggestions meant to decrease your stress.	

Module: Access			55 minutes
Section 1	Introduction to Access	This section describes types of Access reports, categories of caregivers (primary, secondary and non-caregivers), and the information that needs to be collected and documented to support decisions about screening and response time. It outlines requirements for inquiring whether a child is an American Indian child and informing tribes of a report, when applicable. This section reviews strategies for engaging with reporters to gather sufficient information.	
Module: Initial Assessment			75 minutes
Section 1	Initial Assessment	Initial Assessment is a demanding function of the child welfare practice. Yet, it's an opportunity for caseworkers to make a significant impact by approaching an Initial Assessment as a process is done "with" families, rather than "to" families. This section reviews the requirements necessary to complete this function according to Standards and best practices of collaborative and transparent communication This section identifies the individuals who must be interviewed for an initial assessment, reviews the categories of information that must be gathered, describes how to make maltreatment and maltreater determinations, identifies the requirements of the Wisconsin Indian Child Welfare Act (WICWA) at initial assessment, and explains the final steps of why and how a case moves to case closure or opens in Ongoing Services.	
Module: Ongoing Services			67 minutes
Section 1	Common Elements	This section introduces new workers to the requirements in the Ongoing Standards and reviews the elements common to all types of cases. Workers are encouraged to use engagement and collaboration skills while working with families and their formal and informal support systems. Respect for parents' rights and responsibilities and the principles of teaming with families are introduced.	

Section 2	In-Home Cases	This section focuses on the requirements and practices related to in-home cases.	
Section 3	Out-of-Home Cases	This section focuses on the requirements and practices related to out-of-home cases.	
Module: Placement			133 minutes
Section 1	Placement: Placement Requirements	This section identifies the requirements for choosing an out-of-home placement and the resources for choosing that placement, and explains how to prepare the child, their family and the caregivers for the move to out-of-home placement. The forms that are required at placement are explored and the change of placement process is discussed.	
Section 2	Placement: Preparing and Sustaining Out-of-Home Placement	This section explores how to support and safely sustain children in out-of-home care by preparing and supporting members of the child welfare team to utilize strategies that build a child's resilience, enhance personal growth and preserve family connections.	
Section 3	Wisconsin Indian Child Welfare Act (WICWA)	In this section, the reasons why the Indian Child Welfare Act was passed into law and the Wisconsin Indian Child Welfare Act (WICWA) requirements are explored. Additionally, which children are affected by WICWA are identified.	
Section 4	Multi-Ethnic Placement Act (MEPA)	This section explores the purpose of the Multi-Ethnic Placement Act (MEPA) and identifies that practices that are prohibited and permitted.	
Module: Confirming Safe Environments			80 minutes
Section 1	Introduction	Placement of a child may be necessary to assure child safety or provide specific services or sanctions to a child. Part of the child welfare responsibility assumed when placing a child is assuring it is a safe placement for this child at this point in time. When placement continues, assuring that the placement is safe is an ongoing assessment issue and responsibility. This section defines your role in assuring safety for children in out-of-home case and identifies how CSE fits into your larger responsibility for child safety, permanency and well-being.	

Section 2	Components and Tools of CSE & RSE	This section examines the standards, steps and time frames of CSE and RSE, identifies sources of information that inform placement decisions, and introduces what questions to ask to gather critical information for decision-making. Placement Danger Threats are a particular focus.	
Section 3	Timeline and Process Requirements for CSE	The timeline and process for confirming the safety of the placement setting for a child is explored including: components of the assessment, information gathering to support thorough assessments and implications of the assessment for child welfare decision making.	
Section 4	Timeline and Process Requirements for RSE	The timeline and process for re-confirming the safety of the placement setting for a child is explored including: components of the assessment, information gathering to support thorough assessments and implications of the assessment for child welfare decision making.	
Module: Permanence			135 minutes
Section 1	Permanency	This section reviews the values of permanency and your responsibility to identify a permanent home for children, while cultivating a network of supportive, nurturing adults and connections which, together, increases a child's likelihood for success and positive outcomes now and into the future.	
Section 2	Permanency Tools and Resources	This section reviews tools and resources that can be used to join with children to learn about their families and important people in their lives in order to expedite permanency.	
Total Training Time			880 minutes (14.67 hours)