

Division of Youth Rehabilitative Services

Chapter 2: Professional Practices	Policy # 2.24	Page: 1 of 2
Subject: Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children	Standards:	
Effective Date: 2/4/25	Revised: 4/1/25	
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- I. PURPOSE: To ensure staff are aware of indicators of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) and are equipped with an evidence-based tool to identify youth who are at risk or victims of CSEC. Youth active with the division will be screened to connect at risk youth or victims of CSEC with the Division of Family Services.
- II. POLICY: DYRS is committed to the safety of the youth we serve, early identification of individualized needs of youth and families, and providing appropriate services to increase protective factors and decrease risk factors.
- III. DEFINITIONS: As used in this document, the following definitions shall apply:
 - A. Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC): A range of crimes and activities involving the sexual abuse or exploitation of a child for the financial benefit of any person or in exchange for anything of value (including monetary and non-monetary benefits) given or received by any person. Examples may include child sex trafficking/prostitution of children; child sex tourism including commercial sexual activity; commercial production of child pornography; and online transmission of live video of a child engaged in sexual activity in exchange for anything of value. CSEC also includes situations where a child, whether or not at the direction of any other person, engages in sexual activity in exchange for anything of value which includes non-monetary things such as food, shelter, drugs, or protection from any person. CSEC may or may not be intrafamilial.
- IV. PROCEDURES:
 - A. When staff suspect a youth active with DYRS is a victim of CSEC or the youth discloses they are a victim, an immediate report not to exceed 24 hours from disclosure shall be made to the DFS Child Abuse and Neglect Report Line (1-800-292-9582). When staff suspect a client eighteen years of age or older is a victim of CSEC or the client discloses they are a victim, an immediate report shall be made to the non-emergency phone number of the police jurisdiction where the incident is alleged to have occurred or, if that is unknown, the jurisdiction where the client lives.
 - B. When youth are placed in any DYRS residential facility, behavioral health staff will complete the Commercial Sexual Exploitation-Identification Tool (CSE-IT) as part of the intake process and every six months thereafter.
 - C. Community Services staff will complete the CSE-IT every six months, upon any return from runaway, and/or when a significant change occurs in the youth's life.

D. The CSE-IT is an information integration tool, not a structured interview or a self-administered questionnaire. The CSE-IT is designed to be completed by staff who work directly with youth. Staff collect information that can be used to complete the tool through conversations with youth, observations of appearance or behavior, client records, history, collateral contacts, and other sources of information.

- i. The CSE-IT is organized into 8 key indicators. Staff should be familiar with the key indicators in advance of using the tool.
 - 1. Housing and caregiving
 - 2. Prior abuse or trauma
 - 3. Physical health and appearance
 - 4. Environment and exposure
 - 5. Relationships and personal belongings
 - 6. Signs of current trauma
 - 7. Coercion
 - 8. Exploitation

E. The following steps will be taken by staff, based upon the outcome of the CSE-IT:

- i. No concern: Either the information available does not suggest that the youth is being sexually exploited, or there is not enough information to determine a rating at this time. This rating does not state that the risk of sexual exploitation does not exist. Staff may want to address concerns with the child and family, but no other formal steps are required.
- ii. Possible concern: The youth may be at risk for or experiencing CSEC. Staff may want to address concerns with the child and family, but no other formal steps are required if CSEC is not suspected.
- iii. Clear concern: Numerous risk factors and vulnerabilities are present, suggesting that the youth is being commercially sexually exploited or is at high risk for sexual exploitation. A report must be made to the DFS Child Abuse and Neglect Report Line within 24 hours. If the client is eighteen years of age or older, a report must be made to the non-emergency phone number of the police jurisdiction where the incident is alleged to have occurred or, if that is unknown, the jurisdiction where the client lives within 24 hours.

F. The CSE-IT will be completed in FOCUS through the CSE-IT hyperlink on the Person Type – Client screen.

G. Staff will participate in any follow up meetings as a result of the report to DFS.

V. Training: All behavioral health staff and community services staff will be trained on the use of the CSE-IT within ninety days of hire.