



ACL 25-08: CFTs FOR FAMILY MAINTENANCE CASES

Released January 31, 2025, this letter provides guidance on the provision of CFTs for youth receiving family maintenance services.

- Long recognized as best practice, however, historically not required or funded by CDSS.
- Practice supports safety, permanency, and well-being by preventing removal of youth from their home. Supports the whole family.
- CDSS made funds available for readiness and workforce training activities for FM CFTs in fiscal year 2023/24.
- Funds are available to county child welfare and juvenile probation departments for these activities as of January 1, 2025

May 1, 2025

about:blank

3/15

4/29/25, 12:59 PM

Mail - Dawne L Lynch - Outlook



ACL 25-10: UPDATED REQUIREMENTS FOR IP-CANS AND CFTs

Released February 18, 2025, this letter updates placing agency requirements to complete the IP-CANS and provide CFT meetings to children and youth, including:

IP-CANS Completion

- All placing agencies required to complete, including juvenile probation

CFT Cadence & Timing

- Timing & frequency requirements for CFT meetings updated to align with IP-CANS requirements

Updated requirements are effective July 1, 2025, and intended, in part, to support greater consistency and improve fidelity to the IP-CANS and CFT processes.

May 1, 2025

about:blank

4/15



ACL 25-10: MORE REQUIREMENTS FOR IP-CANS AND CFTs

More new policies include:

Mental Health Plans and Providers

- MHPs and provider organizations completing the IP-CANS on behalf of placing agencies must adhere to CDSS’s specific requirements for completion of the IP-CANS.
- Guidance to placing agencies is to include language in formal agreements that reflects this.

Triggering Conditions

- Specific conditions identified that require completion of a new or updated IP-CANS within 30 days of identifying the condition.

May 1, 2025

about:blank

5/15

4/29/25, 12:59 PM

Mail - Dawne L Lynch - Outlook



ACL 25-10 “HIGHLIGHTS”

Let’s Take a Look!

ACL 25-10

May 1, 2025

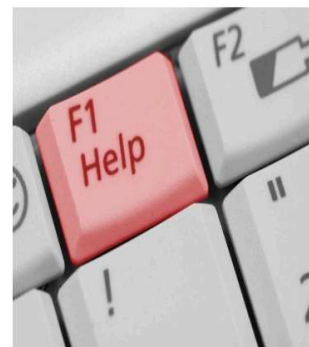
about:blank

6/15



COMING SOON: CARES-LIVE GUIDANCE

- Effective July 1, 2025, placing agencies are required to enter IP-CANS into the California Automated Response and Engagement (CARES) Live system within 10 calendar days
 - Provides tools, resources, and guidance to help placing agencies gain access and learn to operate CARES-Live.
 - Announces live training opportunities and supports to placing agencies receiving access to CARES-Live.
 - Training will include an overview of the functional components of the CARES-Live system.
 - Additional information will be issued to stakeholders in the coming weeks.



May 1, 2025

about:blank

7/15

4/29/25, 12:59 PM

Mail - Dawne L Lynch - Outlook



PENDING ALL COUNTY LETTER *CFT & IP-CANS FIDELITY TOOLS*

This letter will provide placing agencies, Tribes, and system partners with information & guidance on required CFT and IP-CANS fidelity tools intended to support practice and California's new Tiered Rate Structure, beginning July 1, 2027.

1. System-Level Fidelity Tool
2. Case-Level Fidelity Tools
3. CFT and IP-CANS Data & Reports: CCR Dashboard & SafeMeasures System
4. Training, Coaching, and Technical Assistance

May 1, 2025

about:blank

8/15

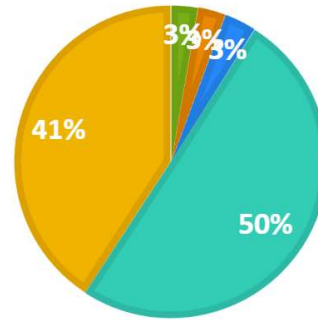


CFT AND IP-CANS DATA & REPORTS: CCR DASHBOARD & SAFEMEASURES

- **CCR Dashboard:** Initial CFT meeting & Initial IP-CANS Completion Timeliness for out-of-home youth (anticipated Summer 2025).
- **SafeMeasures CFT Reports:** Include Initial and Ongoing Timeliness Reports for CFT and FM CFT, and a CFT Data Report.
- **SafeMeasures IP-CANS Reports:** Include Initial and Ongoing IP-CANS Timeliness Reports, Top Strengths and Needs, Action Items, and Aggregate Reports.

TOP STRENGTHS (AUGUST 2024)

- 1 Top Strength
- 2 Top Strengths
- 3 Top Strengths
- 4+ Top Strengths
- No Top Strengths



May 1, 2025



TRAINING, COACHING, & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE



- **Training Resources:** Includes CFT and IP-CANS training through Regional Training Academies (RTAs) and the Chief Probation Officers of California (CPOC).
- **Learning Collaboratives and Coaching:** Available through RTAs.
- **Technical Assistance:** Provided by RTAs and CDSS – specifically, the Integrated Practice and Resources Development Section.

May 1, 2025



ADDITIONAL CFT & IP-CANS RESOURCES



- **From CDSS's web site:**
[CFT Information and Resources](#)
[IP-CANS Information and Resources](#)
 Find general information; CFT Survey; CFT brochures and videos, each tailored to be shared with children and youth, parents and caregivers, or providers; links to policy letters; IP-CANS webinar recordings; and more.
- **From UC Davis's web site:**
[UC Davis | Continuing and Professional Education | Human Services | CFT and CANS](#)
 Serves as an access point for technical assistance, implementation support, and other resources.
- **Quarterly CFT/IP-CANS Statewide Forum**
[CFT CANS Statewide Forum - Request to Join Form](#)

May 1, 2025



CANS ALIGNMENT



CDSS and DHCS CANS Versions

- CDSS and DHCS are actively working toward aligning their requirements for completion of the CANS for children and youth.
 - Alignment will be achieved in phases, over time.
- A draft joint letter will be released by DHCS for review in early May.
 - Draft Behavioral Health Information Notices are available at this address:
- www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/Pages/2025-BH-Information-Notices.aspx

May 1, 2025



THANK YOU

For more information:
California Department of Social
Services System of Care Branch
Integrated Services Unit
CWSCoordination@dss.ca.gov

May 1, 2025