

Quick Links

SSIS in CountyLink

SSIS in DHS-SIR

TrainLink registration

ssishelp@state.mn.us

SSIS update

Social Services Information System

Issue 313
October 22, 2010

Safety Assessment bug discovered in V5.4

The Safety Assessment in V5.4 inadvertently included five items at the bottom of the assessment that are incorrect (pictured below).

As soon as the error was discovered, we removed the items and deleted them from Safety Assessments completed since October 15 on which they had been used. The deletion of the five items will not affect SDM risk assessment scores because they were not used in scoring. SSIS apologizes for any inconvenience caused by this bug.

- 13. Age 0 - 8:
- 14. Diminished mental capacity (e.g., mental retardation):
- 15. Diminished physical capacity (e.g., wheelchair bound):
- 16. Repeated victimization of child:
- 17. Unrelated male caregiver provides unsupervised child care:

Worker Focus

Dashboard timeframe changes

The Child Welfare Data Dashboard is transitioning to a shortened timeframe in reporting performance data. This shift to a shortened timeframe begins with the posting of third quarter 2010 data. The data for the dashboard measures will be queried from the SSIS repository on the 16th day following the close of the month ending the quarter. One week thereafter, the data will be posted on the CW Dashboard.

This change in timing is reflective of MN Statute 260C.215 Sub. 7 - Welfare of Children. The statute sets out reporting requirements that all data must be submitted to the Commissioner within 15 days of the end of the period for which the data is applicable. Running the quarterly update queries on the 16th day is in line with statute.

There may be concern about the shortened timeframe and how it depicts county/tribal performance on the measures. The posted data under this shortened timeline may show a decline in performance; however, as future quarters of data are added, this should level off.

Timely and accurate data entry is important not only for documentation of case-related activities but for tracking systemic performance. This change will help focus the practice on daily data entry while also providing agency staff and the public with a more responsive set of data.

View the Child Welfare Data Dashboard at:

<http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/idcplg?>

[IdcService=GET_DYNAMIC_CONVERSION&RevisionSelectionMethod=LatestReleased&dDocName=dhs16_148137](http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/idcplg?IdcService=GET_DYNAMIC_CONVERSION&RevisionSelectionMethod=LatestReleased&dDocName=dhs16_148137). Email questions to carole.johnson@state.mn.us.

Worker Focus

Complete entry of social worker contact data

Social work staff must review their contact/activity entries to ensure that ALL monthly, face-to-face visits with ALL children in foster care are correctly entered. Minnesota has made steady improvements in meeting monthly visit requirements, but it needs more and concerted efforts to reach the 90% goal.

The October and November uploads will be used to complete the quarterly statewide performance report and the annual report to the federal government for federal fiscal year 2010 (10/1/2009 to 9/30/2010).

Thank you for all your efforts!

V5.4 training materials posted on CountyLink

All SSIS Version 5.4 Worker job aids and modules are available on the CountyLink>SSIS Resources>Training>**Job Aids** page. These training documents are available for mentors, coordinators, supervisors and trainers to use within their agencies as training materials and resources. New Version 5.4 materials include:

The **Client Eligibility (V5.4)** module and the **Foster Care Extension for Youth in Placement (V5.4)** job aid describe IV-E Foster Care Extension and non-IV-E Foster Care Extension for youth ages 18-20.

The **Supplemental Health Care Eligibility(V5.4) module** instructs caseworker entry of DD Screenings.

The **New Staff Qualifications** job aid guides entering two new Staff Qualifications into SSIS Admin for DD Screening and Child Safety/ Permanency Professional.

The **Expanded Statewide Case Access** module describes the new automatic approval of Child Protection and Adult Protection remote viewing of workgroup information.

- E. A dozen new **Minnesota Youth in Transition Database (MNYTD)** materials describe adolescent independent living skills services. Besides the training module and PowerPoint presentation, there are directions for surveying youth in placement on their 17th birthday and up to 45 days beyond the birthday.

Client Eligibility module correction

The sentence, *"The child's income and resources are considered in determining reimbursement,"* has been deleted from page 15 of the Client Eligibility module. The only time AFDC eligibility for IV-E is determined based on the child's income is after age 18 when the youth returns to foster care.

Register now for training

New Worker Training (NWT) and VA/CEP Training sessions are scheduled during the final quarter of 2010. Register on **TrainLink** for:

- NWT Metro – November 2-4
- NWT Crookston – Nov. 16-18
- NWT Rochester – Dec. 14-16
- VA/CEP Metro – November 9

CountyLink Updates

- Fiscal Staff Qualifications job aid
- Additional V5.4 training materials
- What's New in SSIS V5.4?
- SWNDX Contact List

Upload Update

The October upload is due on Friday, October 29. This upload is for the AFCARS reporting period that starts April 1 and ends September 30.

Both the October and November uploads are for the federal reporting of social worker monthly face-to-face visits with children in foster care for the FFY ending September 30, 2010.

Other reports due in October:

- Title IV-E Abstract Report due 20th
- SEAGR due 30th
- TCM CSR due 30th