

Who will be notified of the report of abuse and be notified of the disposition of the CPS assessment?

- Law enforcement (by law, all reports of abuse must be reported to law enforcement)
- Office of Child Care (if you are a licensed in-home child care provider)
- The child's or young adult's attorney
- The Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)
- The child's or young adult's legal parents and their attorneys, unless notification may interfere with an investigation or jeopardize safety
- Juvenile Court
- State staff responsible for children or young adults placed in your home
- Others as needed or required by law

Will a CPS assessment affect my certification?

Your certifier will discuss next steps for your certification. The timing of this discussion and the next steps depend on the information gathered during the CPS assessment. Those steps can range from no further action, to additional training requirements or a change in your certification status.

*Adapted from the Foster Care & Adoption Resource Center.

Contact information

Your CPS worker is:

Telephone number:

The CPS supervisor is:

Telephone number:

Your certification worker is:

Telephone number:

The certification supervisor is:

Telephone number:

Your foster parent/relative caregiver support person is:

Telephone number:

For more resources, please go to: <http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/Children/fostercare/Pages/index.aspx>

You can get this document in other languages, large print, braille or a format you prefer. Contact Child Protective Services at 503-378-3486. We accept all relay calls or you can dial 711.

What you need to know about a Child Protective Services assessment

Foster Parent or Relative Caregiver



The Oregon Department of Human Services, Child Welfare must investigate reports of abuse. This pamphlet answers questions you may have about a Child Protective Services (CPS) assessment of a certified foster parent or relative caregiver.

Why has a CPS assessment started?

The Department of Human Services (DHS) received a report that someone in your home abused a child or young adult in your care.

What should I expect during a CPS assessment?

- No added placements in your home. You will be on an inactive referral status and receive a letter with further details.
- A CPS worker will, and Law enforcement may, meet with you and your family.
- A CPS worker will interview everyone living in your home. This includes foster, adoptive, guardianship and birth children in your home. If appropriate, the caseworker may conduct interviews before contacting you.
- The child or young adult may receive medical attention or a medical exam as part of the assessment. The worker may ask you to schedule or take the child or young adult to a medical appointment.
- Depending on what is reported, the CPS worker must make contact within 24 hours or within five days of the report.
- The CPS worker will investigate the report and determine the disposition.
- Within 10 days of the conclusion of the CPS assessment, you will be notified of the disposition.

During a CPS assessment, DHS staff are expected to:

- Treat you with dignity and respect, free from discrimination.
- Accommodate your language or other special needs.
- Tell if you are the person alleged to be responsible for the abuse. They will give you general information about the report and tell you why the assessment is taking place.
- Let you know your right to have another foster parent or relative caregiver to support you during the CPS assessment.
- Notify you that you can discuss certification issues with your certifier. Your certifier cannot discuss details of the CPS assessment with you. You can discuss the CPS assessment with the CPS worker.
- Provide you with contact information for a supervisor should you have concerns regarding DHS' actions.

Children or young adults placed in your home may be removed for safety reasons

A child or young adult may be moved for well-being and permanency needs, even when there are no safety concerns.

What can I do during the CPS assessment?*

- Try to maintain a neutral attitude.
- Stay focused on understanding and following procedures. These are in place to resolve reports of abuse.
- Read documents carefully and ask questions about anything you do not understand.
- Give facts and documentation to the CPS worker about what may have caused the report to be made.

What is a CPS disposition?

The CPS assessment determines whether the alleged abuse occurred.

"Founded" or **"Substantiated"** means there is reasonable cause to believe abuse occurred.

"Unfounded" or **"Unsubstantiated"** means there is no evidence abuse occurred.

"Unable to determine" or **"Inconclusive"** means there is some indication abuse occurred, but there is insufficient evidence to conclude there is reasonable cause to believe abuse occurred.

Can I challenge the results?

You will be notified of the disposition. If it is determined you are responsible for abuse, you will receive a letter that explains your right to have the decision reviewed. There is only a review process if the results are "founded" or "substantiated."