



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES

COMMISSIONER
John J. Specia, Jr.

Date: June 02, 2014

To: Residential Child-Care Contractors

From: Lisa Black
Assistant Commissioner for Child Protective Services

Subject: Medical Consent and Psychotropic Medication Training Requirements

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform Residential Child-Care Contractors about the required Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) Medical Consent and Psychotropic Medication trainings, and the date the trainings need to be completed.

The trainings have been revised, and include information required by House Bill 915 targeted at:

- strengthening the informed consent process; and
- detailing the requirement for Medical Consenters to consider non-pharmacological interventions prior to consenting to psychotropic medications, or in addition to psychotropic medications when medications are needed.

Residential Child-Care Contractors serving as Medical Consenters for Children in DFPS conservatorship, and Children ages 16 and 17 years of age who have been designated by the court as their own Medical Consenter, must complete DFPS Medical Consent Training no later than August 31, 2014, and annually thereafter.

Medical Consent Training:

- Requires the Medical Consenter to complete and submit the Acknowledgement and Certificate of Completion of Medical Consent Training (Form 2759) to the Caseworker, each time a Child is placed or a Caregiver is designated as Medical Consenter for a Child; and
- Requires Children ages 16 and 17 years of age who have been designated by the court as their own Medical Consenter to complete the DFPS Medical Consent Training within seven days of the court's designation or if the Child has a non-emergency appointment with the Child's Health or Behavioral Healthcare provider within those seven days, but prior to such appointment and submit documentation, of successful completion of the DFPS Medical Consent Training to the Caseworker, within five days of completion.

Medical Consent Training and the Acknowledgement and Certification of Completion of Medical Consent Training (Form 2759) is located using the following hyperlink:

http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/child_protection/medical_services/medical-consent-training.asp

Residential Child-Care Contractors who administer psychotropic medications for Children in DFPS conservatorship, and Children ages 16 and 17 years of age who have been designated by the court as their own Medical Consenter and have been prescribed psychotropic medications must complete the DFPS Psychotropic Medication Training no later than August 31, 2014 and annually thereafter.

DFPS Psychotropic Medication Training:

- Requires documentation of successful completion of the DFPS Psychotropic Medication Training be retained in staff and foster parent records; and
- Requires Children ages 16 and 17 years of age who have been designated by the court as their own Medical Consenter to complete the DFPS Psychotropic Medication Training within seven days of the court's designation or if the Child has a non-emergency appointment with the Child's Behavioral Healthcare provider within those seven days, but prior to such appointment and submit documentation of successful completion of the DFPS Psychotropic Medication Training to the Caseworker, within five days of completion.

DFPS Psychotropic Medication Training is located:

http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Training/Psychotropic_Medication/default.asp.

DFPS Medical Services has also created a Medical Consenter Mailbox to answer any questions Caregivers and Medical Consenters have about the training or medical consent. The DFPS Medical Consenter mailbox address is Medical.Consenter@dfps.state.tx.us.