

Frequently Asked Questions about Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) & the MiSACWIS Enhancement

This list of questions was developed from the MiSACWIS enhancement trainings and from questions the analysts have received since FFPSA-Prevention has gone into effect.

Q: The Program Type in MiSACWIS shows IV-E Prevention for a parent but no children. How do I get this to show for the child instead?

A: This requires a help desk ticket as it is an issue on the back end and not something you can correct on your own. Please call the MiSACWIS help desk.

----- VERSION 1 QUESTIONS BELOW THIS LINE -----

Q: Where can I get a brief overview of FFPSA?

A: A FFPSA introductory webinar has been added to LMS. This webinar is about 15 minutes long and reviews FFPSA. Go to LMS ([State of Michigan LMS \(csod.com\)](https://csod.com)) and search “Family First Prevention Service Act Overview” to access the webinar.

Q: Who is a candidate for foster care?

A: The Federal Government defines candidates for title IV-E Prevention services as “A child who is a candidate for foster care ... but can remain safely at home ... with the receipt of services or evidence-based programs” and “a child in foster care who is pregnant or parenting.” Michigan was allowed to further clarify this definition and identified the following candidacy types:

A victim of confirmed abuse/neglect and siblings residing in the household	A child for whom abuse/neglect has not been confirmed but moderate to intensive risk for abuse/neglect exists	A child who was in a foster care placement and was returned to their parents or other relatives	A child with delinquent behaviors under the supervision of MDHHS
An infant born exposed to substances	A child of a parent who had been in foster care until the parent reaches age 26	A child at imminent risk of entering foster care as otherwise determined by a Tribe	A child whose adoption or guardianship arrangement is at risk of disruption or dissolution

Q: What if I have a foster care case who could benefit from these services and the goal is reunification but has not happened yet?

A: To qualify for the title IV-E funded prevention services, the child(ren) must be reunified with the parent. There are some service providers that can take families through other funding sources and prior to reunification – please connect with the service provider in your area to check capability and availability.

Q: How do I know if a service is promising, supported, or well-supported?

A: Please review the job aid [Matching a Provider for Case Services](#) to determine which category the service is under. (You can locate this job aid in MiSACWIS with the other job aides in the CPS and the FC categories)

Q: What services are currently available that are IV-E eligible?

A: There are home visiting services (Healthy Families America, Nurse Family Partnership, and Parents As Teachers) expanding with IV-E funding as well as Motivational Interviewing in Phase 1 counties. If your county has received any of these initial roll-out services, you will be notified by your leadership and/or Child Welfare Community Service Analyst.

Healthy Families America – Alcona, Kalamazoo, Lake, Luce, Wayne

Nurse Family Partnership – Wayne

Parents As Teachers – Calhoun, Ingham

Motivational Interviewing – Clare, Isabella, Livingston, Kalamazoo, Kent, Ogemaw, Roscommon

Q: It sounds like there are two ways to start a prevention record. When would I use a non-CPS intake record and when would the CPS/FC/JJ worker be responsible for adding the prevention record?

A: A case that is eligible for IV-E prevention services and has an open CPS ongoing, foster care, or juvenile justice case would have the prevention record added by the assigned worker and routed to the MDHHS supervisor for approval. This is done through the ongoing case, left-hand menu option Prevention.

For a family that may need prevention services (IV-E or non-IVE eligible service) and does not have an opening ongoing CPS, FC or JJ case (i.e. Category III open/close or IV, referral from Centralized Intake, etc.), a non-CPS intake will need to be created so an ongoing shell can be opened. The prevention worker will add the prevention eligibility information into MiSACWIS through the ongoing Case ID, left-hand menu option Prevention.

Q: When do I need to create the IV-E prevention program type?

A: The IV-E prevention program type must be added and approved before IV-E eligible services begin. If you are in a county with title IV-E prevention services, you should enter the prevention program type:

- At the end of the investigation if the youth falls under eligible candidacy type(s) and the family will be receiving these services.
- During the ongoing case if a youth is an eligible candidate and the family will be referred to these services.
- During the foster care case when the youth is reunified and will be receiving these services.
- During the foster care case when the youth is pregnant or parenting and receiving these services.
- If a caseworker is trained in Motivational Interviewing offered by MDHHS and has an open CPS ongoing case; serving a pregnant or parenting youth in foster care; or serving a child who is reunified with a parent..

Q: Can I refer the family to the service and add the IV-E Prevention Record later?

A: No – a family or child cannot begin title IV-E funded prevention services prior to the Prevention Record being approved by a MDHHS supervisor.

Q: Do I need to submit another DSA request to be a prevention worker?

A: No – the MiSACWIS team did a mass update to all FC and CPS profiles (workers and supervisors) to add prevention types to your profile.

Q: Does CWFS need to do anything for the FFPSA title IV-E funding?

A: No, CWFS handles a different part of the title IV-E funding.

Q: Who is the supervisor on a PAFC prevention record?

A: The supervisors would be assigned the same as your current process – the direct supervisor will be primary and the POS monitor and MDHHS supervisor will also be added on the case for purposes of routing items for approval. If you have any case specific questions, please email the Child Welfare Community Service Analyst at: MDHHS-FFPSAPrevention@michigan.gov

Q: Who is the prevention worker on an open ongoing or foster care case?

A: For an open ongoing case or open foster care case, the prevention worker is the assigned worker who is already working with the family. For any case specific questions, please email the Child Welfare Community Service Analyst at: MDHHS-FFPSAPrevention@michigan.gov

Q: Where can I find SRM 108?

A: As of 10/25/2021, SRM 108 is going through final review and should be published soon. Once published, you can find the policy in Policy Manuals in the Services Requirements section.

Q: Where can I find job aids?

A: Job aids are located on the **MiSACWIS help & training** link. At the top right of your MiSACWIS page, “big mama help” is titled **help & training**; clicking this link will open a second page with announcements. Job aids are sorted by category. In the left-hand menu **select the plus mark next to Announcements**, then the **plus mark next to MiSACWIS**, and then select the category of the job aid you are searching for. Prevention job aids for adding a non-CPS intake, maintaining a prevention case, and the IBPs 160 and 161 are located in the Prevention hyperlink. The **linking services job aid** for identifying providers classifications are saved in both the Children’s Protective Services (CPS) hyperlink and the Foster Care hyperlink.

Q: Why is there a special release form for Home Visiting services?

A: DHS-1555-HV was created to ensure the proper language for sharing information was contained within the Release of Information each time. This specific language is required for the service providers to share data and other information with MDHHS so the title IV-E funding can be reported/claimed to the Federal Government.

Q: For a Pregnant or Parenting youth in foster care who wants these services, what if the parent of the youth in foster care is absent and cannot sign the DHS-1555-HV?

A: Please follow your current office procedure for getting consent for treatment/services when a parent of a youth in foster care is absent.

Q: For the temporary Interim Business Processes (IBPs) 160 and 161, are the PAFCs routing to the Federal Compliance Division (FCD) directly or do they route to their monitor.

A: Please route the request(s) to your POS monitor.

Q: So, I want to be sure I'm understanding this correctly: a PAFC caseworker with an open foster care case would use these prevention service processes only to document the services provided to the case, but otherwise they would complete the normal foster care workflow. They would not be doing separate prevention services reports in SACWIS.

A: If the ongoing or foster care caseworker has a family who is eligible for and will be receiving IV-E prevention services, the worker would add the prevention program type onto the Ongoing Case ID (the one being used for the foster care case) and route to MDHHS for approval. You are correct about the service plan; prevention information is included in the already established ongoing or foster care case service plans.

It is recommended that staff and supervisors review the FFPSA Overview training in LMS to receive an introduction to FFPSA and an overview of who is eligible.

Q: What if a family refuses prevention services?

A: Prevention services are voluntary, if a family refuses to participate in these services, the prevention program type closes.

Q: Can we refer to IV-E prevention services with just a parent or does a child have to be connected?

A: These IV-E prevention services are based on eligibility of the child, so the child must be involved in the prevention plan. However, there may be other non-title IV-E prevention services available in your county.

Q: Why would I choose to use IV-E prevention services over Family Reunification Program for families that are reunified?

A: IV-E prevention services are additional options added to the current service array. All available services should be evaluated and reviewed with the family during a TDM or other similar meeting. The selected service should meet the family and child's immediate needs and the family must have a voice in service selection and agree to participate in the service.

Q: What if we have no jurisdiction over the child of a youth in care?

A: These are prevention programs and are not court ordered. If the pregnant or parenting youth in foster care is interested in participating in services and qualifies for the service, a referral should be made. This includes YAVFC youth. If the chosen service is IV-E eligible, the prevention record needs to be added to the MiSACWIS case.

Q: What if my Prevention service provider is not listed in MiSACWIS?

A: If you believe the provider of the IV-E prevention service is not added in MiSACWIS or if they are not coded for prevention services, please email the Child Welfare Community Services Analyst at MDHHS-FFPSAPrevention@michigan.gov. We are the only authorized staff who can add IV-E prevention providers to MiSACWIS.

Q: I'm a supervisor and still have questions that are not addressed in this FAQ, who do I ask?

A: Questions about FFPSA can be directed to the Child Welfare Community Services Analyst at MDHHS-FFPSAPrevention@michigan.gov

Q: I have a case specific question related to prevention – who do I ask?

A: Please connect with your Child Welfare Community Service Analyst at MDHHS-FFPSAPrevention@michigan.gov for questions, technical assistance, and support.

Q: I want some more information on IV-E prevention, where do I go?

A: Family First Prevention Services webpage on the intranet has helpful information - [Family First Prevention Services \(sharepoint.com\)](https://stateofmichigan.sharepoint.com/teams/insidedhhs/about/Offices-Dept/ChildrensServices/Pages/FFPS.aspx)
(<https://stateofmichigan.sharepoint.com/teams/insidedhhs/about/Offices-Dept/ChildrensServices/Pages/FFPS.aspx>)