

Is the electronic case management system referenced in the bills different from the current central registry system?

- There are no changes being made to the way central registry information is contained within the electronic case management system.
- The central registry system is maintained by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) and is used to keep record of all individuals identified as perpetrators of confirmed methamphetamine production, confirmed serious abuse or neglect, confirmed sexual abuse or confirmed sexual exploitation.

Does the MDHHS have plans to develop an automated system to provide public access to people who have applied for a central registry clearance?

- The MDHHS is currently in compliance with federal statute and Michigan’s Child Protection Law requiring the department to maintain a central registry system. The department’s registry is a confidential, internal electronic list. At this time, the department does not intend to change the current system or access but may consider this in the future.

Who has access to central registry?

- The only individuals who have access to central registry are select MDHHS staff with proper authorization.
- The only individuals and/or entities who may request and be provided central registry **information** are MDHHS staff, any individual requesting their personal status on CR with appropriate authorization, signature, and identification, certain employers, agencies, state officials and courts with a court order requesting information. See MCL 722.627 and 42 USC 671(a)(8) for specific language around confidentiality (Processes for each of these types of requests are identified below).
- The CPL requires the department to maintain a statewide electronic central registry; however, all information is to remain confidential unless specifically identified under 722.627 Sec 7 (2) a-x.

How can someone verify if they are on central registry?

- Individuals will continue to have access to their own information. Any individual can request a clearance be completed by going to their local DHHS office to make a formal, written request using the DHHS 1929, *Central Registry Clearance Request*, form. The individual must provide picture identification to verify their identity.

How might someone verify if an individual is on central registry through Wyatt’s Law?

- Effective Nov. 1, 2022, Public Act 64 of 2022 (Wyatt’s Law) provides that a parent or other person responsible for a child, **who has reason to believe another caregiver may place that child at risk**, may receive confirmation of central registry placement of that caregiver.

- Requests must be submitted using the MDHHS 1929-W, *Central Registry Clearance Request – Wyatt’s Law*, form.
- If the requester has an active Friend of the Court case, the request must be processed through Friend of the Court. If the requester does not have an active Friend of the Court case, an individual request can be submitted to the MDHHS-FOC CentralRegistryClearanceRequests@michigan.gov mailbox. The release of this otherwise confidential central registry record must be approved by the MDHHS director. Detailed instructions and required forms can be found on the [MDHHS Central Registry website](#).
- This statute is only intended for caregivers who believe a child is at risk. If the request is for another caregiver of the child, a parent or other guardian may utilize the process above by indicating what the risk is and submitting a completed request form. If there is no risk to a child from another caretaker, central registry information will not be released.

How might someone verify if a prospective employee is on central registry?

- An organization for whom a person is applying for employment for a childcare organization, licensing, or placement of children, or to act as a volunteer, may, with appropriate authorization and identification, request a central registry clearance.
- The prior law only allowed an individual or certain entities to request a clearance and the department was only allowed to indicate an individual was **not** listed on the registry. The new law has expanded to allow confirmation of an individual being placed on the registry.
- Authorized employers and agencies must follow the processes outlined on the [MDHHS website](#) to obtain a central registry clearance request.
- Upon written request, the department will provide confirmation of central registry placement to an individual, office or agency authorized to receive it.

If individuals are eligible for expungement from the central registry based on the new law, what will this process look like?

- MDHHS continues to make multi-faceted efforts to remove individuals who no longer meet central registry requirements. Individuals who were placed on central registry for abandonment, birth match, domestic violence, improper supervision, intra-familial sibling violence and physical neglect were automatically expunged from central registry on November 1, 2022. Other cases will need to be read manually to determine if central registry placement is still appropriate. If the case read determines that an individual should be expunged from the central registry, the individual will be removed from the record.
- Individuals will not be notified of the expungement due to the reform changes.
- Individuals may utilize the process outlined above to verify if they are listed on central registry.

Will MDHHS be issuing any public communication regarding the new laws or if an individual has been expunged from central registry due to the new laws?

- The department updated the [MDHHS Central Registry website](#) to include detailed information reflecting the new central registry reform laws and changes. The website provides an overview of the new laws, including hyperlinks to the legislation, the Central Registry Reform Flyer, clearance request forms and instructions for completing and submitting requests.
- There has also been an effort by the department to communicate these changes to the public via press releases and notifying staff of the changes and implications.

What does it mean if an individual is placed on central registry? What can an individual do if they do not agree with placement on central registry?

- There can be repercussions for placement on central registry, including limitations around placement of children, foster care licensing and volunteer and employment opportunities. Since the implementation of the Adam Walsh Act, which enacted additional safeguards to help ensure the safety of children, the department has complied with the provision to provide central registry results to licensing agencies or employers who require this information for decision making.
- An individual can request a central registry clearance and, if following a clearance, an individual believes their central registry record should be expunged due to the changes in Child Protection Law, they may request a review of that record.
- There is a fair and judicial process to request removal from central registry. The Child Protection Law and department policy requires the department to issue due process, via a written notification, to individuals who have been placed on central registry following a CPS investigation. Guidance is provided in the due process letter notifying an individual of placement on central registry. Michigan Administrative Hearing Systems conduct all administrative hearings when a request for expungement has been made.

Can you estimate how many names will be removed from central registry?

- An individual may be listed on central registry multiple times, so this is strictly an estimate at this time. Approximately 175,000 listings will be removed from central registry because of the new legislation; however, this number is subject to change daily due to a variety of factors.

There was confusion over categories no longer affecting central registry placement. Will a Cat. III substantiation for an egregious act result in a central registry placement? What about the role of the perpetrator?

- Central registry placement is not driven by the category of a case or the role of a perpetrator. If the case is confirmed for methamphetamine production, serious abuse or neglect, sexual abuse and/or sexual exploitation, it will result in central registry placement.

Does threatened harm of severe physical abuse, or threatened harm of sexual abuse, result in an automatic central registry placement?

- Threatened harm is not an egregious act that results in central registry placement.

How do you locate and change the egregious act identifier in MiSACWIS?

- A user selects Allegations/Findings link in the Investigation Tasks screen. Click on the select link next to the appropriate allegation type. An egregious act selection will be noted under the “Egregious Act?” column.
- To identify that an egregious act has occurred, select the “Egregious Act” check box on this screen.

The screenshot shows the 'Classification Information' screen in MiSACWIS. It includes an 'Investigation Header' with fields for ID, Name, Status (Open), Organization, Priority (I/24), and Category. Below is a table for 'Other Allegations on Investigation' with columns for Allegation, Alleged Victim, Alleged Perpetrator, Egri gious Act?, Child Death?, and Child Death Location. The 'Egri gious Act?' column shows 'No'. Below the table is the 'Allegation Details' section with dropdown menus for Allegation (Physical Abuse), Alleged Victim, and Alleged Perpetrator. The 'Egri gious Act?' checkbox is checked, and the 'Intake Egri gious Act:' field is set to 'No'. There are also fields for Child Death? and Child Death Location. At the bottom are 'Apply', 'Save', and 'Cancel' buttons.

What guidance is available regarding reports disposed of prior to Nov. 1, 2022 but approved on Nov. 1, 2022?

- Effective Nov. 1, 2022, the MDHHS must now classify a confirmed case of methamphetamine production, confirmed serious abuse or neglect, confirmed sexual abuse or confirmed sexual exploitation as a central registry case.
- The law is retroactive for all prior investigations. This means any case prior to Nov. 1, 2022 that resulted in central registry placement, but no longer meets criteria due to the new laws, would be expunged from central registry.

If a parent was placed on central registry because of a substantiated investigation regarding meth exposed children, can they now be removed from the registry?

- Central registry placement is required only for those situations of confirmed serious abuse or neglect, confirmed sexual abuse, confirmed sexual exploitation or confirmed methamphetamine production.
- Definitions for each can be found in Child Protection Law MCL 722.622 or policy [PSM 711-4, CPS Legal Requirements and Definitions](#).