



AdoptUSKids Support Services Assessment Tool

The *Support Services Assessment Tool* is an easy-to-use spreadsheet and companion guide designed to help administrators and other leaders assess and improve the services offered to foster, adoptive, and kinship families. Use it to plan and conduct a robust review of your support-service array and consider ways to strengthen your services.

Why should we assess our support services?

For support services to be truly valuable, they need to be both accessible and of high quality. Understanding the quality and accessibility of these services helps you determine what changes may be needed to meet families' needs.

How can this tool help me?

Engaging in system-wide assessment can be tough! The *Support Services Assessment Tool* is designed to make the process easier and to help you take action based on the results of your assessment.

Use the tool and companion guide to:

- Plan for a successful assessment
- Bring stakeholders together for open discussion and collaboration
- Break down communication barriers across your system
- Tailor your assessment to your unique system structure
- Assess support services for both quality and accessibility
- Highlight areas of strength in your system

Service	Provided (yes/no)	Adoption/ permanency-competent	Trauma-informed	Designed with family and youth input and feedback	Family-focused (e.g., engages the whole family appropriately)	Outcome-evaluated/ evidence-based (with positive results)	[Other items identified by the child welfare system]	Average
Scale: 1=Poor; 2=Fair; 3=Good; 4=Excellent								
Information and referral								
Information (newsletters, websites, etc.)	yes	4.0	3.0	1.0	2.0	2.0		2.4
Navigation and referral	yes	3.0	4.0	2.0	1.0	3.0		2.6
Warmline for prospective foster/adoptive parents	no							0.0
								0.0
Average information and referral		3.5	3.5	1.5	1.5	2.5	0.0	2.5

- Identify service gaps and areas for improvement
- Understand and report on the results of your assessment
- Create an action plan based on your assessment results to drive system improvement

Let's get started!

The *Support Services Assessment Tool* is available at adoptuskids.org/for-professionals.

Get help.

AdoptUSKids offers free capacity-building services to states, tribes, and territories. We may be able to help you use this tool to assess your support-service array.

Contact us at consultation@adoptuskids.org.



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