

## Oregon Safety Model Practice Comparison Matrix

Terms	Definition, Concept, or Activity		Practice Change	
	<i>Previous</i>	<i>Oregon Safety Model</i>	<i>Previous Practice</i>	<i>Oregon Safety Model</i>
Initial contact	Initial Safety Assessment	"Initial contact" means the first face-to-face contact between a CPS worker and a family. The initial contact includes face-to-face contact with the alleged child victim, his or her siblings, parent or caregiver, and other children and adults living in the home; accessing the home environment; identifying safety threats; and determining if a protective action is needed.	Make face to face contact or document attempted efforts to contact alleged victim, primary parent/caregiver and siblings and other children living in the home.	Have face to fact contact or document attempts to have contact with alleged victim, parent/caregiver, siblings, and all children and adults living in the home. Contact, if possible, with the alleged victim is required in response timeframe. If contact is not possible within assigned response time, document efforts and continue to make efforts to contact throughout the assessment.
Safety Threats (Impending and present danger)	Safety Threats	16 universal safety threats. "Safety threat" means family behavior, conditions, or circumstances that could result in harm to a child	Many safety threats are not as precise.	16 universal safety threats that focus on family behavior, condition and/or circumstance. The Oregon Safety Model impending safety threats guide assists the worker in applying "safety threshold criteria (imminence, observable, severity and out of control). Child vulnerability is considered in the context of the specific safety threat.
Vulnerable Child	Child Vulnerabilities.	"Vulnerable child" means a child who is unable to protect him or herself. This includes a child who is dependent on others for sustenance and protection. A vulnerable child is defenseless, exposed to behavior, conditions, or circumstances that he or she is powerless to manage, and is susceptible and accessible to a	Vulnerability was not used in a dynamic way within the context of evaluating the safety threats and parent/caregiver willingness and ability to protect.	Vulnerability is used dynamically within the context of safety threats and parent or caregiver can and will protect.

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Vulnerable Child (continued)		threatening parent or caregiver. Vulnerability is judged according to physical and emotional development, ability to communicate needs, mobility, size, and dependence. Vulnerability is not judged by age.		
Parent/Caregiver can and will protect	Protective capacities	<p>The CPS worker must determine whether a parent or caregiver can or cannot and will or will not protect the child against identified safety threats.</p> <p>(a) If the CPS worker determines that the parent or caregiver can and will protect the child, then the child is safe, and the CPS worker must continue the activities required to sufficiently complete the CPS assessment.</p> <p>(b) If the CPS worker determines that the parent or caregiver cannot or will not protect the child, the CPS worker must initiate a protective action.</p> <p>This begins the process of looking at parental protective capacity.</p>	Protective capacity was considered during the CPS assessment process, but was not fully evaluated in a comprehensive way to develop change strategies and an action plan.	The Parent/Caregiver willingness and ability to protect is considered in a dynamic way at the conclusion of the CPS assessment process when safety related information has been gathered to determine whether or not the child is safe or unsafe.

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Protective Action	Initial Safety Plan	“Protective action” means an immediate, same day, short-term plan sufficient to protect a child from a safety threat until the completion of the CPS assessment.	The “initial safety plan” was the first set of actions or interventions that describe how a child’s safety is achieved by eliminating or managing a safety threat.	The protective action is put in place to restore safety for the child while the CPS worker is completing the CPS assessment and gathering more detailed safety related information. The protective action is never in place after the CPS assessment is completed. If ongoing safety intervention is needed, the protective action is reviewed and a sufficient ongoing safety plan is developed.
Safety Analysis	Safety Decision	The Safety Analysis is completed after all the necessary safety related information is gathered for the CPS assessment, including disposition.	N/A	The purpose of completing the safety analysis when all safety related information is gathered is to fully and accurately understand and explain how safety threats are occurring in the family and to determine the necessary level of ongoing safety intervention required to assure child safety. The safety analysis conclusion is that the child is safe or that the child is unsafe.

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CPS Disposition	CPS Disposition	As part of completing the CPS assessment, the CPS worker must determine whether there is reasonable cause to believe child abuse or neglect occurred. The possible determinations are: (a) "Founded," which means there is reasonable cause to believe that child abuse or neglect occurred. (b) "Unfounded," which means no evidence of child abuse or neglect was identified or disclosed. (c) "Unable to determine," which means there are some indications of child abuse or neglect, but there is insufficient data to conclude that there is reasonable cause to believe that child abuse or neglect occurred.	Determining the CPS Disposition has not changed, but the disposition previously was a major factor in determining whether services were provided and a safety plan was developed.	The CPS Disposition is the determination of whether or not abuse or neglect occurred.  The safety analysis conclusion that a child is safe or unsafe determines whether services are provided and a safety plan is developed.
Ongoing Safety Plan	Initial Safety Plan	"Ongoing safety plan" means a documented set of actions or interventions that manage a child's safety after the Department has identified one or more safety threats and determined the parent's or caregiver's protective capacities are insufficient to protect a child. An ongoing safety plan can be in-home or out-of-home and is adjusted when necessary to provide the least intrusive interventions.	Develop and initial safety plan when a safety threat exists considering risk influences and caregiver protective capacity.	Develop when, after safety analysis, at the conclusion of the CPS assessment when the CPS worker concludes that the child is unsafe. A child safety meeting is used to develop the ongoing safety plan by reviewing the protective action, determining the least intrusive interventions and confirming the suitability of safety service.  *Is a written document with specific

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Ongoing Safety Plan (continued)				<p>criteria for sufficiency.</p> <p>*Is approved by a supervisor.</p> <p>*Is a dynamic plan, is reviewed every thirty days, and changes as protective capacity changes (+ or -).</p> <p>*Is also reviewed at specific points in time (see 413-080-0055(1)(b)(A thru E))</p>
Child Safety Meeting	Team Decision Meeting (TDM)	"A Child Safety Meeting" is a facilitated meeting held at the conclusion of a CPS assessment for the purpose of developing an ongoing safety plan.	TDM held prior to or shortly after out-of-home placement.	<p>Child Safety Meeting held to develop the ongoing safety plan at conclusion of CPS assessment.</p> <p>Used to determine the least intrusive interventions to manage child safety.</p> <p>Must rule out in-home safety plan as feasible before establishing out-of-home safety plan.</p>

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Protective Capacity Assessment	A parent's or caregiver's strengths or abilities to manage existing safety threats, prevent additional safety threats from arising, or stop risk influences from creating a safety threat.	The behavioral, cognitive, and emotional characteristics that can specifically and directly be associated with a person's ability to care for and keep a child safe.	Assess protective capacity during CPS assessment to determine ability to manage safety threats, prevent additional safety threats, stop risk influences.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. During CPS assessment, justify a parent or caregiver's ability and willingness to protect a child and participate in an ongoing safety plan if safety threat is identified.</li> <li>2. Building on the information gained during the CPS assessment, the ongoing worker assesses parent's protective capacity in three domains, behavioral, cognitive, and emotional and determines the impact on the parent's ability to care for and keep a child safe. The assessment is completed in the context of a <i>collaborative relationship</i> with the parent to identify what must change.</li> <li>3. During ongoing case management protective capacity is assessed at each contact with the parents. It is dynamic and changing, and, as the family progresses, impacts changes in the safety plan and how Child Welfare intervenes to manage child safety.</li> </ol>

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Oregon Family Decision Meeting (OFDM)	The statutory Family Decision Meeting that must be considered after 30 days of out-of-home placement. The OFDM is described in ORS 417.365 to 417.375. The purpose of the OFDM is to establish a plan that may include a permanency plan, concurrent permanency plan, placement recommendation, and service recommendation and agreements, which provide for the safety, attachment, and permanency needs of the child.	The family decision-making meeting as defined in ORS 417.365, and is a family-focused intervention facilitated by professional staff that is designed to build and strengthen the natural care giving system for the child. The purpose of the family decision-making meeting is to establish a plan that provides for the safety, attachment, and permanency needs of the child.	Considered or held 30 to 60 days after out-of-home placement	Considered or held 30-60 days after out-of-home placement. Focus is specific on gathering family's ideas on ways to achieve expected outcomes and manage child safety. Family's ideas are incorporated into the case plan to the extent they will achieve those outcomes. Minimal change, but provides the meeting participants with the specific criteria for expected outcomes, safety plans, child safety.

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Case Plan	"Service Plan" means the services and activities designed to achieve goals for child safety, a permanent home, and child well-being.	"Case plan" means a goal oriented, time limited individualized plan for the child and the child's family, developed by the Department and the parents or legal guardians, that identifies the family behaviors, conditions, or circumstances, safety threats to the child, and the expected outcomes that will improve the protective capacity of the parents or legal guardians. The family plan described in ORS 417.375(1) is incorporated into the case plan to the extent that it protects the child, builds on family strengths, and is focused on achieving permanency for the child within a reasonable time.	Varies throughout the field. May include change goals in a Service Plan or Service Agreement. Various forms utilized throughout the state.	Case plan developed out of the work of the Protective Capacity Assessment. Identified the diminished protective capacities that need to change in order for parent to protect and care for a child.  Aligns several parts of overall plan including expected outcomes (long term changes), conditions for return (safety threshold for child returning home), ongoing safety plan, visitation plan, permanency and concurrent permanency plan.
Action Agreement	"Service Agreement" means a written, signed statement developed jointly by the Department, the legal parents or legal guardians, and other family members when appropriate that identifies change	"Action Agreement" means a written document developed between the Department and a parent or legal guardian that identifies one or more of the services or activities in which the parent or legal guardian will participate to achieve an expected outcome.	Focus on general safety, permanency, and child well-being goals.	Focus on agreement to engage in services and activities to achieve specific (expected) outcome identified in the case plan.  Is directly linked to one or more expected outcomes.

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Action Agreement (continued)	goals based upon strengths and child needs, states clear expectations, identifies permanent and concurrent plans, and establishes services and timeframes.			

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Conditions for return	None	"Conditions for return" mean a written statement of the specific behaviors, conditions, or circumstances that must exist within a child's home before a child can safely return and remain in the home with an in-home ongoing safety plan.	<p>No current definition or term.</p> <p>No defined practice or policy.</p> <p>Practice is unique to the case, court, branch, unit, caseworker.</p> <p>No defined way for parents to know when a child will return home</p>	<p>Is not dependent upon the parents completion of services or <b>achieving</b> outcomes</p> <p>Is a set of behaviors, conditions or circumstances that must be present to manage safety in the home with supports and services to the parents.</p> <p>Is not dependent upon the parent's completion of services or <b>achieving</b> outcomes.</p> <p>Is a part of the case plan, and made available to parents, court, and parties to the case.</p> <p>Is the benchmark for a caseworker in making the safety decision to return a child to the parents' home.</p>

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Documentation and use of the case plan	147 form series	333 form series, which is the documentation of the child's case plan	<p>147a Initial Sub Care 147b Initial Non-sub care 147c Six month sub care 147d Six-month Non-sub care</p> <p>Used for reporting to court (in part) and administrative review</p>	<p>Is the comprehensive written documentation of Child Welfare case plan.</p> <p>Is developed with the family as much as possible.</p> <p>Is the written document that guides casework for each particular family.</p> <p>Is focused on the unique circumstances of the family.</p> <p>Is reviewed every 90 days.</p> <p>333a used for cases when safety threat and child out of home</p> <p>333b when safety threat, child in home with safety plan, but court gives child welfare custody.</p> <p>333c when safety threat, child in home with safety plan, parents retain custody.</p> <p>Used for documentation and administrative review.</p>

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Measuring Progress			Documented on the 147b or 147d but not a clearly defined process in rule.	<p>Documented on the 333 series in narrative text measuring progress on the expected outcomes of the case plan. Specific domains used to measure progress, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Status of Safety Threats</li> <li>• Progress toward enhancing protective capacities</li> <li>• Provision and use of services</li> <li>• Willingness and readiness to change</li> <li>• Safety Management</li> </ul> <p>Meet with the family at least every 90 days to review progress in meeting expected outcomes, documented in either case notes or a case plan update.</p>
Case Closure			Determined by court, change goals may change during the course of a case, through additional service agreements.	<p>Caseworker recommends case closure to the court when the parent has achieved or made significant progress toward the expected outcomes, and can sustain child safety in the home. Measured by specific criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Caseworker observations of the child and the parents in the home</li> <li>• Receipt of evaluations and reports from service providers</li> </ul>

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Case Closure (continued)				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports from participants in the ongoing safety plan</li> <li>• Measured progress on the extent the expected outcomes have been achieved</li> <li>• Consultation with others participating with the family to sustain child safety.</li> </ul>
Confirming Safe Environments (in out-of-home care)			Multiple sets of policies and rules that require different elements for assessment or confirmation by different child welfare staff (Face-to-face contact, Safety Standards, CPS assessment, Licensing Requirements, Adoption approval, and others)	<p>Assessment of a prospective caregiver based on standardized criteria. The determination is based upon what we learn about a family and our assessment of the quality and safety a caregiver <i>will</i> give to a child; a projection of safe care in the future.</p> <p>This is a shared responsibility among all CW staff, particularly the assigned caseworker and certification staff when children are placed in the home. Confirming safety is an assessment of the quality of care and safety of the child or children who are currently in the home. It is an ongoing assessment process, because the environment is dynamic and changes as children and circumstances change; it is not static.</p>

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Confirming Safe Environments (in out-of-home care) (continued)				<p>Specific assessment criteria are applied during the required contacts with the foster parent, relative caregiver, or provider.</p> <p>Specific actions required subsequent to the monthly contact/assessment to confirm the safety of the child, or initiate support for the substitute caregiver, or take action to ensure the child's safety.</p>
Placement Support Plan (out-of-home care)		<p>"Placement support plan" means a documented set of actions or resources that is developed to assist a relative caregiver or foster parent to maintain conditions that provide safety and well-being for children or young adults in the home.</p>	<p>Currently caseworkers are using safety plans in substitute care, although there is no policy governing the use of safety plans, and when one is or is not appropriate.</p>	<p>Safety plans are not used in substitute care. If child safety cannot be assured in the out-of-home placement, action must be taken to move the child.</p> <p>A Placement Support Plan is a mechanism to support to a substitute caregiver who needs assistance in maintaining a safe environment.</p> <p>The Placement Support Plan is initiated by the certifier.</p>

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Family Support Services (FSS)	Preventive/Restorative (P/R) services	Services provided when no safety threat to a child	P/R services used with both voluntary and safety related cases	<p>Voluntary services with specific eligibility criteria for each type of FSS service case:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Voluntary Placement Agreement</li> <li>*Voluntary Custody Agreement</li> <li>*Post Adoption/Post Guardianship</li> <li>*Former foster child requests ILP</li> <li>*Court referral of pre-adjudicated delinquent</li> <li>*In home family support services (very limited, with specific criteria)</li> </ul> <p>Use Case Plan 333d for voluntary services with child in home</p> <p>Use Case Plan 333e with Voluntary Custody or Voluntary Placement</p> <p>If time-limited agreements would serve as an effective tool to move the case forward a Service Agreement can be used with FSS cases. In most instances the signed case plan will be the written agreement with the family (and the signed Voluntary Custody Agreement or Voluntary Placement Agreement in applicable cases)</p>