

## **Overview of the SCAN Policies Database**

The State Child Abuse and Neglect (SCAN) Policies Database compiles data on the definitions and policies that states use in their surveillance of child maltreatment, along with data on associated risk and protective factors. The SCAN Policies Database is funded by the Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation in collaboration with the Children's Bureau in the Administration for Children and Families at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The project team is led by Mathematica in partnership with Child Trends.

The project's purpose is to review and compile information from states' definitions and policies, to create a database of those definitions and policies (the SCAN Policies Database) that can be used for analysis. The database is a resource for researchers, analysts, and others who are interested in examining differences between states in their definitions and policies on child maltreatment.

### Content

The scope of the SCAN Policies Database includes information about state definitions and policies related to child abuse and neglect for all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. This information represents data collected, reviewed, and verified between May 2019 and July 2020. The data reflect the state definitions and policies for the calendar year 2019. The scope of topics in the SCAN Policies Database includes states' definitions of child abuse and neglect as well as information about policies related to reporting, screening, and investigating child maltreatment. Key aspects of the child welfare systems' response and context are also included.

The content in the database is organized into six domains. The state profiles, codebook, data collection protocol, and data file are also organized by these domains. In the protocol, each question is named with a prefix that identifies its associated domain. The six domains are listed below, with the identifying protocol number prefix.

Domain	Question prefix
Definitions	D
Reporting	R
Screening	S
Investigation	I
Child welfare response	W
Child welfare system context	С

### **State Profile**

This SCAN Policies Database state profile serves as a summary of the information collected about the definitions and policies for the identified state. Each profile is organized by topical domains, which contain a set of tables that depict the state's information for each variable within that domain.

This information was gathered through a document collection, review, and coding process conducted by the SCAN Policies Database team. Input from states on data collection was obtained through a confirmation and verification process. More information about the SCAN Policies Database data collection procedures can be found in the data user's guide and data collection protocol which are accessible from the Data Use Resources page <a href="https://www.scanpoliciesdatabase.com/data-use-resources">https://www.scanpoliciesdatabase.com/data-use-resources</a>.

The state profile presents responses for each variable with "yes," "no," "unknown," or other response as appropriate. The response of "unknown" was used for topics that could not be located from the state's available resources or verified with the state. In some cases, "logical skip" was used when a question was not applicable to a particular state given a related response on a preceding question.

#### Data use resources

Several data use resources are available to support users of the SCAN Policies Database:

- Data user's guide: The guide has detailed information about the data set, including the process used to collect and review the data, the scope of information included in the data set, guidance on using the data, such as how to link the data with other data sources; and notes about specific topics. This data user's guide also has two appendices. Appendix A provides a glossary of key terms. Appendix B summarizes the decisions made on the scope and variables to include in the SCAN Policies Database after a data quality assessment.
- **Codebook:** The codebook provides information about each variable in the data set, including variable names, labels, definitions, protocol number, variable type, and frequencies. The codebook has two appendices. Appendix A contains supplemental notes that are important for accurately interpreting and using the data. Appendix B is a comprehensive list of all state statutes and policy documentation sources used to collect data for the SCAN Policies Database for each state, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.
- **Data collection protocol:** The protocol has the questions used to collect information about states' statutes and policies as part of the data review and coding process. Appendix A provides a glossary of key terms.

These data use resources can be found on the SCAN Policies Database website (<u>https://www.scanpoliciesdatabase.com/data-use-resources</u>) or from National Data Archive for Child Abuse and Neglect (NDACAN) (<u>https://www.ndacan.acf.hhs.gov/</u>).

#### **More Information**

More information about the SCAN Policies Database can be found at <u>https://www.scanpoliciesdatabase.com</u>. General inquiries can be submitted to <u>SCANPoliciesDatabase@mathematica-mpr.com</u>.

# State Identifying Information

### Table I.A. State identifying information

	Response
a. State abbreviation	ОН
b. State Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) code 39	
c. Census region code Midwest	
d. State verified coding of information Yes	
e. State confirmed documents reviewed Yes	
f. State definitions and policies for calendar year	2019

# **Domain D: Definitions of child maltreatment**

### Table II.A. State's definition of child maltreatment

	Response
1. Types of maltreatment included in state definition	
a. Physical abuse	Yes
b. Excessive corporal punishment	Yes
c. Sexual abuse	Yes
d. Emotional maltreatment	Yes
e. Neglect	Yes
f. Inadequate clothing	Yes
g. Inadequate shelter	Yes
h. Malnourishment, inadequate food	Yes
i. Medical neglect, inadequate medical care	Yes
j. Failure-to-thrive	Yes
k. Educational neglect	Yes
I. Abandonment	Yes
m. Injurious environment. Likelihood of harm to child's health, physical well-being	Yes
n. Drug Lab. Child present within structure where methamphetamine is being created	Yes
o. Inadequate supervision. Failure to meet parent or caretaker responsibilities	Yes
<ul> <li>p. Drug or alcohol misuse. Parental drug or alcohol misuse causing harm to child</li> </ul>	Yes
q. Prenatal exposure to drugs or alcohol	Yes
<ul> <li>r. Illicit substance. Illegally providing a controlled substance to a child</li> </ul>	Yes
s. Human trafficking, involuntary servitude, sexual servitude	Yes
t. Female genital mutilation	No
u. Shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma	Yes
v. Failure to protect. Failure to protect from harm	Yes
w. Domestic violence. Exposure to domestic violence	Yes
x. Factitious disorder by proxy	No
y. Institutional abuse/neglect	Yes
z. Other definition (specify)	Yes - Violation of out-of-home placement laws; Out- of-home care child neglect
2. Subtypes of maltreatment included in state definition	
a. Subtypes of maltreatment considered abuse	Abuse include sexual abuse, endangerment, physical abuse, emotional maltreatment, and out-of-home care child abuse

Table II.A (continued)

		Response
b.	Subtypes of maltreatment considered neglect	Neglect includes abandonment, inadequate parental responsibilities, malnourishment, educational neglect, medical neglect, failure to protect, emotional maltreatment, violation of out-of-home placement laws, and out-of-home care child neglect
	Subtypes of maltreatment considered other than abuse or neglect	Not applicable
3.	Level of harm included in state's definition of child maltreatment	
a.	Inflicts harm	Yes
b.	Imminent danger or substantial risk of harm	Yes
4.	Differences in level of harm included in state's definition of child maltreatment by type of maltreatment	Νο
5.	Type of harm or injury specified in state's definition of child maltreatment	
a.	Death, bodily injury, impairment of physical condition	Yes
b.	Impairment of mental or emotional condition	Yes
C.	Harmful environment, conditions	Yes
d.	Type of harm or injury not specified	No
e.	Other (specify)	No
6.	Variation in extent of injury or harm by maltreatment type in the state's definition of child maltreatment	Νο
7.	Perpetrator identified as part of state's definition of child maltreatment	Yes
8.	Types of perpetrators specified as part of state's definition of child maltreatment	
a.	Any adult	No
b.	Parent	Yes
C.	Guardian	Yes
d.	Caregiver/caretaker	No
e.	Family member/parent paramour	No
f.	Household member	No
g.	Person responsible for child	Yes
h.	Other (specify)	No

### Table II.A (continued)

	Response
9. Types of perpetrators vary by type of maltreatment	Yes
10. Explanation of variation in types of perpetrator by maltreatment type	Sexual abuse can be perpetrated by anyone; The perpetrators of physical abuse include someone acting in loco parentis or person having custody or control
11. Child age included in definition of child maltreatment	Yes
12. Specific child age in definition of child maltreatment	Under age 18 and up to 21 if in the care of the agency and variability over 18
13. Variability of child age by type of maltreatment	Yes - A child includes persons under 18 or persons up to age 21 who a juvenile court has jurisdiction over and has adjudicated as an unruly child prior to age 18; Trafficking applies to children under 16; Endangerment applies to mentally or physically handicapped children under 21

### Table II.B. Child maltreatment definition exemptions

		Response: Yes/No/Unknown
1.	Exemption included in state's definition of child maltreatment	
a.	Financial issues, financial inability to provide for a child	No
b.	Discipline, physical discipline as long as it is reasonable and causes no bodily injury to the child	Yes
C.	Safe haven exemption, newborn relinquished or abandoned in accordance with infant safe haven laws	Yes
d.	Infant testing positive drugs – medical, newborn with positive test for controlled substance as a result of parent's medical treatment	No
e.	Religious observance, parent relies on spiritual or religious forms of medical treatment	Yes
f.	Other exemption (specify)	Yes - Child's exposure to a methamphetamine lab is through no fault of the parent/caretaker (e.g. Methamphetamine lab located in an apartment complex)
2.	Safe haven exemption included in state's definition of child maltreatment	
a.	Must leave a child at specific safe haven locations	Yes
b.	Child must be left by parent or parent's agent	Yes
C.	Child must be left by a certain age (specify)	Yes - 30 days old or younger
d.	No intent to return	Yes
e.	Child must be left unharmed	No
f.	Other (specify)	No

# Domain R: Reporting child abuse and neglect

### Table III.A. Reporting policies

	Response
1. Statewide centralized reporting	No
2. How reporting is decentralized	
a. Each county or region has its own reporting hotline	Yes
b. Some counties or regions have own reporting hotline	No
c. During some times of the day, counties or regions have their own reporting hotline	No
d. Other (specify)	No
3. Standard for reporting child maltreatment	
a. Known abuse and neglect	Yes
b. Reasonable cause to believe a child was abused or neglected	Yes
4. Universal mandated reporting	No
5. Required training for mandated reporters	Yes, all mandated reporters
6. Penalties for failure to report	Yes, all mandated reporters
7. Specific penalties for failure to report	
a. Criminal charges	Yes
b. Civil charges	Yes
c. Professional licensure suspended or revoked	No
d. Other (specify)	No
8. Penalties for false reporting	Yes
9. Specific penalties for false reporting	
a. Criminal charges	Yes
b. Civil charges	No
c. Professional license suspended or revoked	No
d. Other (specify)	No
e. Unknown	No
10. Immunity for reporters of child abuse and neglect	Yes
11. Information requested at the time of report	
a. Identifying information of child	Yes
b. Location/contact information of child and family	Yes
c. Type/severity of suspected maltreatment	Yes
d. Date of suspected maltreatment	No
e. Identifying and other information of alleged perpetrator(s)	No
f. Identifying and other information of reporter	No
g. Identifying information of child's parents, guardian, or caregiver/caretaker	Yes
h. Identifying and other information of family/household members	No
i. Information on prior maltreatment	No
j. Other (specify)	No
12. Anonymity of reporter	
a. All reporters (including mandated reports) can stay anonymous	Yes

Table III.A (continued)

	Response
b. The general public can be anonymous (mandated reporters cannot remain anonymous)	No
c. Reporters (including mandated reporters) cannot be anonymous	No
d. Unknown	No
13. Tribal involvement in accepting reports of tribal cases	
a. Tribes are not involved	No
b. Tribes accept reports (specify tribes)	No
c. Collaboration of tribes with state/local public child welfare agency accept reports (specify tribes)	Yes - Tribes are not specified
d. Unknown	No

### Table III.B. Types of mandated reporters

	Response	Response	Response
1. Types of mandated reporters	Included in state's definition of mandated reporters	Training required <sup>1</sup>	Subject to penalties for failure to report <sup>2</sup>
a. Foster parents	Yes	Yes	Yes
b. School staff – teachers	Yes	Yes	Yes
c. School bus drivers or other transportation staff	Yes	Yes	Yes
d. Before/after school program staff	No	Logical Skip	Logical Skip
e. Child care staff	Yes	Yes	Yes
f. Camp counselors, directors, or administrators	Yes	Yes	Yes
g. Athletic coaches or staff	No	Logical Skip	Logical Skip
h. Medical or dental professionals	Yes	Yes	Yes
i. Substance abuse disorder treatment providers	No	Logical Skip	Logical Skip
j. Mental health, counselors, or other social service professionals	Yes	Yes	Yes
k. Police or other law enforcement	Yes	Yes	Yes
I. Emergency medical technicians, firefighters, or other emergency personnel	No	Logical Skip	Logical Skip
m. Judges	No	Logical Skip	Logical Skip
n. District attorneys or other attorneys	Yes	Yes	Yes
o. Guardian ad litems or Court-appointed special advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
p. Other court personnel	No	Logical Skip	Logical Skip
q. Shelter staff	No	Logical Skip	Logical Skip
r. Those who work in fields processing or monitoring print, film, or computer images	No	Logical Skip	Logical Skip
s. Religious clergy	No	Logical Skip	Logical Skip
t. Volunteers	No	Logical Skip	Logical Skip

Table III.B (continued)

u. Other type of mandated	Yes - Coroner; Agent of a county	Yes - Coroner; School	Yes - Coroner;
reporter (specify)	humane society; Anyone	psychologist; Agent of a	School
	administering spiritual treatment	county humane society;	psychologist;
	other than a cleric of a well-	Anyone administering	Agent of a
	recognized religion; Employee of a	spiritual treatment other	county humane
	county department of job and family	than a cleric of a well-	society; Anyone
	services who is a professional and	recognized religion;	administering
	who works with children and	Employee of a county	spiritual
	families; Superintendent or regional	department of job and	treatment other
	administrator employed by the	family services who is a	than a cleric of
	department of youth services;	professional and who	a well-
	Superintendent, board member, or	works with children and	recognized
	employee of a county board of	families; Superintendent	religion;
	developmental disabilities;	or regional administrator	Employee of a county
	Investigative agent contracted with by a county board of developmental	employed by the department of youth	department of
	disabilities; Employee of the	services; Superintendent,	job and family
	department of developmental	board member, or	services who is
	disabilities; Employee of a facility or	employee of a county	a professional
	home that provides respite care;	board of developmental	and who works
	Employee of an entity that provides	disabilities; Investigative	with children
	homemaker services; Employee of a	agent contracted with by a	and families;
	qualified organization; A host family;	county board of	Superintendent
	A person performing the duties of an	developmental disabilities;	or regional
	assessor; Third party employed by a	Employee of the	administrator
	public children services agency to	department of	employed by
	assist in providing child or family	developmental disabilities;	the department
	related services; Administrator or	Employee of a facility or	of youth
	employee of a certified child care	home that provides respite	services;
	agency or other public or private	care; Employee of an	Superintendent,
	children services agency	entity that provides	board member,
		homemaker services;	or employee of
		Employee of a qualified organization; A host	a county board of
		family; A person	developmental
		performing the duties of	disabilities;
		an assessor; Third party	Investigative
		employed by a public	agent
		children services agency	contracted with
		to assist in providing child	by a county
		or family related services;	board of
		Administrator or employee	developmental
		of a certified child care	disabilities;
		agency or other public or	Employee of the
		private children services	department of
		agency	developmental
			disabilities;
			Employee of a
			facility or home
			that provides
			respite care;
			Employee of an
			entity that
			provides

Table III.B (continued)

Response	Response	Response
		homemaker
		services;
		Employee of a
		qualified
		organization; A
		host family; A
		person
		performing the
		duties of an
		assessor; Third
		party employed
		by a public
		children
		services agency
		to assist in
		providing child
		or family related
		services;
		Administrator or
		employee of a
		certified child
		care agency or
		other public or
		private children
		services agency

<sup>1</sup>Responses in this column can equal logical skip when the given type of mandated reporter is not included in the state's definition of mandated reporters or when no training is required for mandated reporters (Table III.A.5). Responses in this column can be yes when a state has universal mandated reporting (Table III.A.4) and all mandated reporters require training (Table III.A.5).

<sup>2</sup>Responses in this column can equal logical skip with the given type of mandated reporter is not included in the state's definition of mandated reporters or when no mandated reporters are subject to penalties (Table III.A.6). Reponses in this column can be yes when a state has universal mandated reporting (Table III.A.4) and when all adults or all mandated reporters are subject to penalties (Table III.A.6).

# Domain S: Screening reports of child abuse and neglect

## Table IV.A. Screening policies

	Response
1. Statewide centralized screening	No
2. How screening is decentralized	
a. Each county or region has its own screening unit	Yes
b. Some counties or regions have their own screening units	No
c. During certain times of the day, counties or regions have their own screening units	No
d. Other (specify)	No
3. Information required to screen in report	
a. Identifying information of child	Yes
b. Location/contact information of child and family	Yes
c. Type/severity of suspected maltreatment	Yes
d. Date of suspected maltreatment	No
e. Identifying and other information of alleged perpetrator(s)	Yes
f. Other (specify)	Yes - The name(s) and address(es) and phone numbers of child's parent, guardian, or custodian; Family members' race and ethnicity; Extent, frequency, and duration of the abuse, neglect or dependency; Perpetrator's access to the child; Child's current condition; Information on previous injuries, abuse, or neglect; Any other information that might be helpful in the following: (1) establishing the cause of the known or suspected injury, abuse, or neglect or the known or suspected threat of injury, abuse, or neglect or (2) the case circumstances that support the family is in need of public children's services agency (PCSA) services; Reporter's name, address, and contact information
g. Unknown	No

### Table IV.B. Screening Decision Process and Activities

			Conditions or types of
	Response	<b>Required cases</b>	cases
1. Decision processes used during screening			
a. Supervisory review	Yes	Required for all	—
b. Team-based decision	Yes	Required for all	—
c. Individual screener	No	Logical Skip	—
d. Other (specify)	No	Logical Skip	_
e. Unknown	No	_	_
2. Variability of decision process used for screening			
a. Consistent statewide	No	_	—
b. Varies locally	Yes		_
c. Unknown	No	_	—
3. Certain activities or information are required as part of screening	Yes		
4. Activities/information required as part of screening			
a. Safety or risk assessment	Yes	Required for all	Not applicable
b. Review agency records for prior involvement with child protective services	Yes	Required for all	Not applicable
c. Other (specify)	No	Logical Skip	Not applicable
5. Types of safety/risk assessment used during screening			
a. Structured Decision Making	No		—
b. Other (specify)	Yes - The Comprehensive Assessment and Planning Model- Interim Solution (CAPMIS) Safety Assessment	_	
6. Consistency of screening activities/information			
a. Consistent statewide	No		
b. Varies locally (specify)	Yes - Screening varies by county		
c. Unknown	No	_	—

#### Table IV.C. Screeners

	Response	
1. Screener of abuse and neglect reports		
a. Case workers (frontline staff)	Yes	
b. Case managers (supervisors)	Yes	
c. Staff in specialized screening unit	No	
d. Other (specify)	No	
2. Qualifications of screener		
a. Associate's degree	No	
b. Bachelor's degree	Yes	
c. Master's degree	No	
d. Training for screening (specify)	Yes - Caseworker and supervisor training, including in the area of human trafficking	
e. Years of experience (specify)	No	
f. Other (specify)	No	
g. Unknown	No	
3. Tribal involvement in screening process of tribal cases		
a. Tribes are not involved	Yes	
b. Tribes conduct screening (specify tribes)	No	
c. Collaboration of tribes with state/local public child welfare agency (specify tribes)	No	
d. Unknown	No	

# Domain I: Investigations of child abuse and neglect

### Table V.A. Investigations policies

	Response
1. Child maltreatment investigations lead to criminal penalties	Yes
2. Investigator for reports	
a. Case workers (frontline staff)	Yes
b. Case managers (supervisors)	No
c. Staff in specialized investigations unit	No
d. Law enforcement	Yes
e. Other (specify)	No
3. Qualifications of investigator	
a. Associate's degree	No
b. Bachelor's degree	Yes
c. Master's degree	No
d. Training for conducting investigations (specify)	Yes - Training in the area of human trafficking
e. Years of experience (specify)	No
f. Other (specify)	No
g. Unknown	No
4. Level of evidence required for substantiation (founded/indicated/confirmed)	
a. Preponderance of evidence	No
b. Credible or substantial evidence	No
c. Probable or reasonable cause	No
d. Other (specify)	No

### Table V.B. Required activities/information for investigation

			Conditions or types of
	Response	Required cases	cases
1. Certain activities/information required for the investigation process	Yes		
2. Specific activities or information required for investigation			
a. Review agency records for prior involvement with child protective services	Yes	Required for all	Not applicable
b. Visit to child's home	Yes	Required for all	Not applicable
c. Interview or observation of child victim	Yes	Required for all	Not applicable
d. Interview or observation of other children living in child's home	Yes	Required for all	Not applicable
e. Risk or safety assessment	Yes	Required for all	Not applicable
f. Evaluation of home environment or home study	Yes	Required for all	Not applicable
g. Interviews with child's parents, caregivers, or other adults residing in child's home	Yes	Required for all	Not applicable
h. Check of criminal records for adults in home	Yes	Required for all	Not applicable
i. Check of child welfare or central registry for prior child maltreatment allegations against adults in home	Yes	Required for all	Not applicable
j. Medical evaluation	No	Logical Skip	Not applicable
k. Mental health evaluation	No	Logical Skip	Not applicable
I. Interview alleged perpetrator	Yes	Required for all	Not applicable
m. Interview reporter or collateral source	Yes	Required for all	Not applicable
n. Other (specify)	No	Logical Skip	Not applicable

# Domain W: Child welfare response

### Table VI.A. Differential or alternative response

	Response	
1. Differential/alternative response		
a. No	No	
b. Yes—implemented statewide	Yes	
c. Yes—implemented in specific counties or regions	No	
(specify)		
d. Unknown	No	
2. Types of maltreatment eligible for differential/alternative response		
a. All types of maltreatment are eligible	No	
b. Only certain types of maltreatment are eligible	Yes	
c. Unknown	No	
3. Types of maltreatment <u>not</u> eligible for differential/alternative response		
a. Cases involving child fatalities	Yes	
b. Substance-exposed infants	No	
c. Physical abuse	Yes	
d. Sexual abuse	Yes	
e. Neglect	No	
f. Abandoned infants	No	
g. Other (specify)	No	
4. Eligibility for differential/alternative response determined by a risk determination		
a. No	No	
b. Yes	Yes	
c. Other (specify)	No	
d. Unknown	No	
5. Tools used to determine risk for differential/alternative response	Yes - Not specified	
6. Risk level eligible for differential/alternative response		
a. No risk	No	
b. Low risk	No	
c. Moderate risk	No	
d. Other (specify)	No	
e. Unknown	Yes	
7. Other types of cases or conditions eligible for differential/alternative response		
a. No immediate safety concerns	Yes	
b. No prior reports of child abuse or neglect	No	
c. Other (specify)	Yes - Only intrafamilial relationship between victim and alleged perpetrator	

	Response
8. When is determination made for differential/alternative response	
a. At time of screening to screen-out to differential response	No
b. After a report is screened-in	Yes
c. Other (specify)	No
9. Referrals to community services for cases engaged in differential response	
a. No	Yes
b. Yes—for all cases	No
c. Yes—when families express interest	No
d. Yes—when there is a determination of risk	No
e. Yes—other (specify)	No

### Table VI.B. In-home services and foster care

	Response
1. In-home services provided for	
unsubstantiated cases to maintain intact families	
a. No	No
b. Yes—implemented statewide	No
c. Yes—implemented in specific counties or regions	No
d. Unknown	Yes
2. In-home services provided post reunification	
a. No	No
b. Yes—implemented statewide	Yes
c. Yes—implemented in specific counties or regions	No
d. Unknown	No
3. Tribal involvement in foster care for tribal cases	
a. Tribes do not provide foster care	Yes
b. Tribes provide foster care (specify tribes)	No
c. Unknown	No
4. Foster care extension for those older than 18 years	Yes
5. Age youth are allowed to remain in extended foster care	
a. Age 21	Yes
b. Other (specify)	No
6. Foster care case management staff	
a. State/county public agency staff	Yes
b. Contracted provider staff	Yes
c. Tribal agency staff	Yes
d. Unknown	No
7. Qualifications of foster care case managers	
a. Associate's degree	No
b. Bachelor's degree	Yes
c. Master's degree	No
d. Training for case management (specify)	Yes - In-service case management training
e. Years of experience (specify)	No
f. Other (specify)	No
g. Unknown	No

## Table VI.C. Permanency

	Response
1. Kinship guardianship as a permanency option	Yes
2. Subsidized guardianship	Yes
3. Subsidized kinship guardianship	Yes
4. Subsidized adoption	Yes

# Domain C: Child welfare system context

### Table VII.A. Child welfare system context

	Response
1. State or county-administered child welfare system	
a. State-administered	No
b. County-administered	Yes
c. Hybrid (partially administered by the state and partially administered by the counties)	No
d. Unknown	No
2. State operates under legal consent decree or other court-ordered monitoring	No

## **Supplemental Notes on State**

#### Reporting

People can report to the Public Children Services Agency (PCSA) or a peace officer in the county in which the child resides or in which the abuse or neglect is occurring or has occurred. If the person making the report is a peace officer, the officer shall make it to the public children services agency in the county in which the child resides or in which the abuse or neglect is occurring or has occurred.

#### Screening

State document indicates the PCSA shall attempt to obtain, at a minimum, the identified screening information from a reporter upon receipt of referral information to determine an intake category and arrive at a screening decision, but receipt of all listed information is not required in order to screen in a report.

#### Investigations

As part of the investigation, the PCSA may complete other activities, though they are not required. These activities include:

- 1. Taking photographs of areas of trauma on the child's body
- **2.** Taking photographs of the child's environment with the parent, guardian, or custodian's consent
- **3.** Attempting to secure a medical examination or psychological evaluation or both of the child with consent of the child's parent, guardian, or custodian or with a court order
- **4.** Attempting to secure any relevant records, including but not limited to school, mental health, and medical records

#### Child welfare Response

Cases not eligible for differential response includes the following:

- 1. Reports requiring a specialized assessment as identified by rule adopted by the department
- **2.** Reports requiring a third party investigative procedure as identified by rule adopted by the department
- 3. Reports containing allegations that could result in charges of felony child endangering
- 4. Reports containing allegations that could result in charges of homicide
- **5.** The family requests a pathway change from the alternative response pathway to the traditional response pathway
- **6.** If alternative response assessments cannot be completed because the family refused to engage in the assessment process
- **7.** The PCSA files a complaint with the juvenile court alleging the child is an abused, neglected, or dependent child

## **State Statutes and Policy Documentation Sources**

Juvenile Court, Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 21-2151 (2019).

- Kidnapping and Extortion, Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 29-2905 (2019).
- Offenses Against the Family, Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 29-2919 (2019).
- Ohio Administrative Code. (2019). *Chapter 5101:2-1 Children services definitions of terms*. Retrieved November 27, 2019, from http://codes.ohio.gov/oac/5101%3A2-1
- Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. (2007). *Child protective services worker manual*. Retrieved May 31, 2019, from http://emanuals.jfs.ohio.gov/pdf/pdfbooks/ChildProtectiveServicesWorkerManual.pdf
- Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. (2018). *Agency plan for Title IV-E of the Social Security Act foster care and adoption assistance, state of Ohio*. Retrieved January 31, 2018, from http://jfs.ohio.gov/ocf/2018-Ohio-Title-IV-E-State-Plan-amended-1-30-18.stm
- Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. (2019). *Family, children and adult services manual*. Retrieved May 14, 2019, from http://emanuals.jfs.ohio.gov/pdf/pdf-books/FamilyChildrenandAdultServicesManual.pdf#pagemode=bookmarks
- Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. (2019). *Ohio practice profiles*. Retrieved August 1, 2019.

Ohio Works First Program, Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 5107 (2019).

Penalties and Sentencing, Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 29-2929 (2019).

Sex Offenses, Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 29-2907 (2019).