



Texas Child-Centered Care (T3C) System:

Preview of the DRAFT T3C Interim Credential Applications

DFPS Stakeholder Webinar

October 7, 2024



Welcome & Agenda

- Thank you for joining today's webinar hosted by the DFPS T3C Project Management Office.
- Today we will be providing information on the Interim Credential to include:
 - A review of provider eligibility criteria to qualify to apply for the Interim Credential.
 - A preview and high-level walk through of the DRAFT Interim Credential Application.



Before We Get Started

- Today's Webinar is being recorded, and the recording along with a copy of the PowerPoint presentation will be posted on the DFPS T3C Webpage: https://www.dfps.texas.gov/Texas_Child_Centered_Care/whats_new.asp.
- The TEAMS chat feature for this Webinar is not enabled, if you have questions about today's presentation or about the DRAFT Interim Credential Application, the *T3C System Blueprint*, or the T3C System in general, please e-mail them to dfpstexaschildcenteredcare@dfps.texas.gov. This mailbox is closely monitored, and we will respond to your questions.
- The T3C Project Management Office maintains a current list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on the DFPS T3C System webpage. We encourage everyone to routinely review the FAQs to learn more about the effort.



Residential Childcare Provider Credentialing

- To be “Credentialed” means that the GRO or CPA has met the qualifications/requirements to provide a particular T3C Service Package or Add-On Service, as determined by DFPS.
- The provider “applies” to become Credentialed to provide one or more specific T3C Service Packages or Add-On Services.
- DFPS reviews the provider’s application/s and issues the Credential/s to the GRO or CPA, making the provider eligible to deliver a particular Service Package or Add-On Service.
- Once Credentialed, the GRO or CPA can contract with SSCC(s) and/or DFPS to provide the Service Package or Add-On Service. Becoming Credentialed is not optional. All providers that intend to deliver residential childcare services to children, youth, and young adults in DFPS conservatorship and extended foster care (except for Supervised Independent Living services) will have to transition to the T3C System by August 2027.
- Reminder: For CPA’s DFPS will Credential the Agency, and the Credentialed CPA will be responsible for Credentialing individual foster family homes for each Service Package and Add-On Service.



The Three Types of T3C Credentials/Processes

1. Interim Credential:

- To obtain this type of Credential, the eligible CPA or GRO will have to demonstrate that they meet **SOME** of the requirements fully, and that they have a defined plan to meet all other requirements within a certain timeframe.
- This process is time-limited and exists as a path to help current providers transition to T3C.
- The Interim Credential Application process ***will no longer be available to providers after October 2025.***
- ***Today's webinar only focuses on this type of Credential.***

2. Full Credential:

- To obtain this type of Credential, the CPA or GRO must meet **ALL** the requirements to deliver the specific T3C Service Package/s or Add-On Service/s.
- Issued to the provider for a multi-year period.
- The Department anticipates releasing requirements for the Full Credential by the end of October 2024.

3. Re-Credential Process:

- This is the process used to renew the CPA or GRO's Full Credential, prior to expiration and through a demonstration that the provider continues to meet **ALL** the requirements and performance expectations associated with the Service Package/s or Add-On Service/s.
- Re-Credentialing requirements are not anticipated to be released until July 2025.



Essential Documents Necessary to Complete the Interim Credential Application Process

Two documents that are essential to the process of applying for the Interim Credential are:

1. The latest copy of the *T3C System Blueprint* that can be found by visiting:
https://www.dfps.texas.gov/Texas_Child_Centered_Care/documents/t3c_blueprint.pdf
2. The Interim Credential Application, the DRAFT of which can be found by visiting:
[DFPS - What's New with Texas Child-Centered Care](#)

Please note that there is an Interim Credential Application for Child Placing Agencies (CPAs) and an Interim Credential Application for General Residential Operations (GROs).

How to Access a Copy of the **DRAFT** T3C System Blueprint

The screenshot shows the website <https://www.dfps.texas.gov>. The navigation menu at the top includes: Home, Child Investigations, Child Services, Adoption & Foster Care, Prevention, Adult Protection, Doing Business, Data & Reports, and Texas Child-Centered Care. The Texas Child-Centered Care menu item is circled in red. Below the navigation is the DFPS logo and the text "Texas Department of Family and Protective Services". A search bar and a "Report Abuse" button are also visible. The main content area features a banner for the "Annual Plan" and a section for "Texas Child-Centered Care (T3C)". Under the "GENERAL INFORMATION" section, there is a "What's New" link. Below this is a section titled "What's New with Texas Child-Centered Care" which lists "What's New" items, including a "DRAFT of Interim Credential Application forms" with links to "Child Placing Agencies (CPA) Interim Credential Form" and "General Residential Operations (GRO) Interim Credential Form". A highlighted link points to the "Texas Child-Centered Care (T3C) System Blueprint (July 2024) and Change Log". Below this is a section for "October 2024 New DRAFT of Interim Credential Application Forms" with a detailed description of the draft forms and their availability.

1) Visit www.dfps.texas.gov

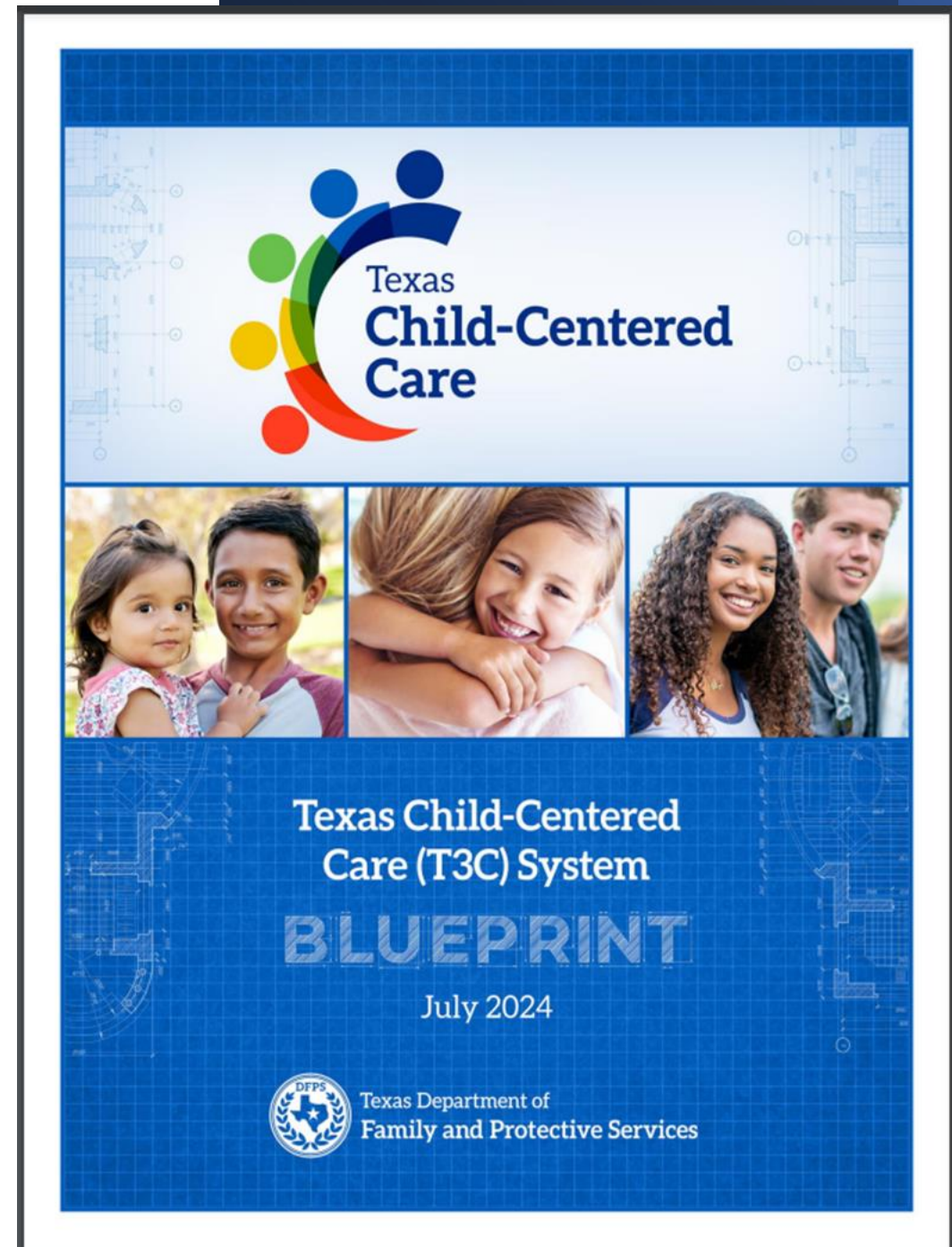
2) Look for Texas Child Centered Care on top of Page

3) Under General Information Click on "What's New"

4) Click on the link titled "Texas Child-Centered Care (T3C) System Blueprint"

The *T3C System Blueprint*

- Make sure you are accessing the most recent version. New editions are released quarterly. Next edition will be released later this month.
- The *Blueprint* contains all the requirements for each of the 24 Service Packages and Add-On Services.



How to Access a Copy of the **DRAFT** T3C Interim Credential Application for Child Placing Agencies

The screenshot shows the DFPS website with several annotations. A blue arrow points from the URL <https://www.dfps.texas.gov> to the first instruction. An orange arrow points from the 'Texas Child-Centered Care' dropdown menu in the top navigation bar to the second instruction. A green arrow points from the 'What's New' link in the 'GENERAL INFORMATION' section to the third instruction. A red arrow points from the 'Child Placing Agencies (CPA) Interim Credential Form' link in the 'What's New' section to the fourth instruction.

1) Visit www.dfps.texas.gov

2) Look for Texas Child Centered Care on top of Page

3) Under General Information Click on "What's New"

4) Click on the link titled "Child Placing Agencies, (CPA) Interim Credential Form"

T3C DRAFT Interim Credential Application for Child Placing Agencies (CPAs)

- The current posted CPA Interim Credential Application is intended as a preview DRAFT of what will be posted as a final version later this month.
- DFPS may make minor modifications, but the content will not change substantially.
- If you are a CPA, please make sure that you are accessing the **CPA Application Form K-900-3501**.
- A single CPA Application can be used to apply for any one or all 9 of the Foster Family Home Service Packages and any one or all 3 of the Add-On Services at the same time, as identified in the *T3C System Blueprint*.
- Adding a new Service Package or Add-On at a future date will require submission of new CPA Application.

TEXAS CHILD-CENTERED CARE SYSTEM

INTERIM CREDENTIAL APPLICATION FOR CHILD PLACING AGENCIES

Purpose: Child Placing Agencies (CPA) will use this form to apply for the *Interim Credential*, to provide Residential Childcare Services under the Texas Child-Centered Care (T3C) System. The Interim Credential is designed to assist current residential childcare Providers, that meet certain eligibility requirements, with the transition to the T3C System. **The Interim Credential Application is time-limited and is anticipated to be available for Providers to apply for from October 2024 through October 2025.**

Providers that obtain an Interim Credential will be required to meet and obtain a Full Credential for each Service Package and Add-On Service within an established timeframe.

Providers that do not qualify for, or who opt not to pursue the Interim Credential, may still apply for the Full Credential when the T3C Full Credential Application is posted, which is anticipated for release in January 2025.

Step-by-Step Provider Instructions for Completing the Interim Credential Application:

1. **Determine the T3C Foster Family Home Service Package(s) and Add-On Services that the Provider Is Seeking to Provide:** Review the latest edition of the *T3C System Blueprint* to determine which of the nine available Foster Family Home Service Packages and three Add-On Services the Provider is seeking to obtain an Interim Credential to provide. A listing of all nine of the Service Packages and the three Add-On Services can be found under the section titled "T3C Foster Care Continuum and Full Array of Services" of the current *T3C System Blueprint*, located here: https://www.dfps.texas.gov/Texas_Child_Centered_Care/T3C_System_Blueprint.asp.
Providers should read the Service Package and Add-On Service requirements fully to ensure a complete understanding of *all* requirements. The requirements for each Service Package are in the section titled, "Child Placing Agency/Foster Family Home T3C Service Packages" and Add-On Service requirements are in the section titled, "Child Placing Agency/Foster Family Home T3C Add-On Services" in the latest edition of the *T3C System Blueprint*. Providers may apply to provide one and up to all nine of the Service Packages and three Add-On Services in a single Interim Credential Application. Alternatively, a Provider may submit a subsequent Interim Credential Application(s) in the future to add additional Service Packages and Add-On Services, until the option ends in October 2025.
2. **Verify Provider's Eligibility for the Interim Credential:** Not all Providers are eligible to apply for the Interim Credential. Prior to completing the Application for the Interim Credential, the Provider should thoroughly review the eligibility requirements found in the latest edition of the *T3C System Blueprint*, under the section titled, "The Interim Credential".
3. **Review the Interim Credential Application:** Providers are encouraged to read, review, and become familiar with the entire Interim Credential Application prior to initiating completion of the first section of the Application. Sections of the Application build upon each other, so it is important to read through in full before beginning to complete the Application. As the CPA reviews the Application, special attention should be paid to which of the requirements the Provider must have in place or meet at the time of submission of the Application (commonly referred to in the *T3C System Blueprint* and the Interim Credential Application as "**In Place @Time of Application for Interim Credential**"), requirements the Provider must have a specific plan and timeline for meeting during the time between issuance of the Inactive Interim Credential and before submission of the Application for the Full Credential (commonly referred to in the *T3C System Blueprint* and the Interim Credential Application as "**Plan Only @ Time of Application**"), and requirements the Provider must have a specific plan and timeline for meeting in no more than 120 calendar days from issuance of the Inactive Interim Credential (commonly referred to in the *T3C System Blueprint* and the Interim Credential Application as "**In Place on 1st Day Operating under an Active Interim Credential**"). More information can be found on the three Interim Credential category requirements in the *T3C System Blueprint*, in the section titled "The Interim Credential", as well as *Appendix II.A* and *Appendix II.B*.
4. **Complete the Interim Credential Application:** While the Application is designed to allow for a single submission to obtain an Interim Credential for more than one Service Package and Add-On Service, the Provider will be required to demonstrate the ability to specialize in/provide each distinct Service Package and

How to Access a Copy of the **DRAFT** T3C Interim Credential Application for General Residential Operations

https://www.dfps.texas.gov

The screenshot shows the website's navigation menu with 'Texas Child-Centered Care' highlighted in a red circle. Below the header, the 'Texas Child-Centered Care (T3C)' section is visible. On the left, the 'GENERAL INFORMATION' sidebar has 'What's New' highlighted in yellow. The main content area features a 'What's New with Texas Child-Centered Care' section with a list of links, where 'General Residential Operations (GRO) Interim Credential Form' is highlighted in yellow. A red arrow points from this link to the 'What's New' section of the page below.

1) Visit www.dfps.texas.gov

2) Look for Texas Child Centered Care on top of Page

3) Under General Information Click on "What's New"

4) Click on the link titled "General Residential Operations (GRO Interim Credential Form"

GENERAL INFORMATION

- What's New
- About T3C

Overview

What is Texas Child-Centered Care?

Texas Child-Centered Care, or T3C, represents a complete transformation of the foster care system. It is the result of a multi-year effort directed by the Texas Legislature, supported by DFPS in collaboration with the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), and guided by countless residential childcare providers and other child welfare stakeholders.

T3C replaces the Service Level System, with a universal child assessment tool and placement process, twenty-four clearly defined Service Packages and three Add-On

SUBSCRIBE

Sign up for T3C News:

email address required

Contact Us

Email T3C if you have other questions or need more information.

What's New with Texas Child-Centered Care

DFPS Home > Texas Child Centered Care > This Page

GENERAL INFORMATION

- What's New
- About T3C
- How Does T3C Work?
- Goals of the T3C System
- T3C Terminology
- Service Package Descriptions
- Foster Care Methodological Rates
- Transitioning
- T3C System Blueprint
- Frequently Asked Questions



What's New

DRAFT of Interim Credential Application forms:

- [Child Placing Agencies \(CPA\) Interim Credential Form](#)
- [General Residential Operations \(GRO\) Interim Credential Form](#)

See the most recent edition of the [Texas Child-Centered Care \(T3C\) System Blueprint](#) (July 2024) and [Change Log](#).

If you were not able to attend past T3C System Blueprint webinars, the recordings and presentations are available in the T3C [webinar archive](#).

October 2024

New DRAFT of Interim Credential Application Forms

DFPS is excited to share a **DRAFT** of the Interim Credential Applications for Child Placing Agencies and General Residential Operations. As outlined in the July 2024 *T3C System Blueprint*, having Interim or Full Credential is necessary to offer any one of the twenty-four Service Packages or three Add-On Services under the Texas Child-Centered Care (T3C) System.

T3C DRAFT Interim Credential Application for General Residential Operations (GROs)

- The current posted GRO Interim Credential Application is intended as a preview DRAFT of what will be posted as a final version later this month.
- DFPS may make minor modifications, but the content will not change substantially.
- If you are a GRO, please make sure that you are accessing the **GRO Application Form K-900-3502**.
- A single GRO Application can be used to apply for any one or all 9 of the GRO Tier I Service Packages and any one or all 6 of the GRO Tier II Service Packages at the same time, as identified in the *T3C System Blueprint*.
- Adding a new GRO Tier I or Tier II Service Package at a future date will require submission of new GRO Application.

TEXAS CHILD-CENTERED CARE SYSTEM

INTERIM CREDENTIAL APPLICATION FOR GENERAL RESIDENTIAL OPERATIONS

Purpose: General Residential Operations (GRO) will use this form to apply for the **Interim Credential**, to provide Residential Childcare Services under the Texas Child-Centered Care (T3C) System. The Interim Credential is designed to assist current residential childcare providers, that meet certain eligibility requirements, with the transition to the T3C System. **The Interim Credential Application is time-limited and is anticipated to be available for Providers to apply for from October 2024 through October 2025.**

Providers that obtain an Interim Credential will be required to meet and obtain a Full Credential for each Service Package within an established timeframe.

Providers that do not qualify for, or who opt not to pursue the Interim Credential, may still apply for the Full Credential when the T3C Full Credential Application is posted, which is anticipated for release in January 2025.

Step-by-Step Provider Instructions for Completing the Interim Credential Application:

1. **Determine the Tier I T3C Treatment/Transition Service Packages and/or the Tier II T3C Stabilization Support Service Packages that the Provider Is Seeking to Provide:** Review the latest edition of the *T3C System Blueprint* to determine which of the nine available Tier I T3C Treatment/Transition Service Packages and/or six available Tier II T3C Stabilization Support Service Packages that the Provider is seeking to obtain an Interim Credential to provide. A listing of all fifteen of the Service Packages can be found under the section titled "T3C Foster Care Continuum and Full Array of Services" of the current *T3C System Blueprint*, located here: https://www.dfps.texas.gov/Texas_Child_Centered_Care/T3C_System_Blueprint.asp.
Providers should read the Service Package requirements fully to ensure a complete understanding of **all** requirements. The requirements for each Service Package are in the section titled, "General Residential Operations – Tier I T3C Treatment/Transition Service Packages" and "General Residential Operations – Tier II T3C Stabilization Support Service Packages" in the latest edition of the *T3C System Blueprint*. Providers may apply to provide one and up to all fifteen of the Service Packages in a single Interim Credential Application. Alternatively, a Provider may submit a subsequent Interim Credential Application(s) in the future to add additional Service Packages, until the option ends in October 2025.
2. **Verify Provider's Eligibility for the Interim Credential:** Not all Providers are eligible to apply for the Interim Credential. Prior to completing the Application for the Interim Credential, the Provider should thoroughly review the eligibility requirements found in the latest edition of the *T3C System Blueprint*, under the section titled, "The Interim Credential".
3. **Review the Interim Credential Application:** Providers are encouraged to read, review, and become familiar with the entire Interim Credential Application prior to initiating completion of the first section of the Application. Sections of the Application build upon each other, so it is important to read through in full before beginning to complete the Application. As the GRO reviews the Application, special attention should be paid to which of the requirements the Provider must have in place or meet at the time of submission of the Application (commonly referred to in the *T3C System Blueprint* and the Interim Credential Application as "**In Place @Time of Application for Interim Credential**"), requirements the Provider must have a specific plan and timeline for meeting during the time between issuance of the Inactive Interim Credential and before submission of the Application for the Full Credential (commonly referred to in the *T3C System Blueprint* and the Interim Credential Application as "**Plan Only @ Time of Application**"), and requirements the Provider must have a specific plan and timeline for meeting in no more than 120 calendar days from issuance of the Inactive Interim Credential (commonly referred to in the *T3C System Blueprint* and the Interim Credential Application as "**In Place on 1st Day Operating under an Active Interim Credential**"). More information can be found on the three Interim Credential category requirements in the *T3C System Blueprint*, in the section titled "The Interim Credential", as well as *Appendix II.A* and *Appendix II.B*.
4. **Complete the Interim Credential Application:** While the Application is designed to allow for a single submission to obtain an Interim Credential for more than one Service Package, the Provider will be required to demonstrate the ability to specialize in/provide each distinct Service Package independently. This is important, because as DFPS evaluates the Interim Credential Application, staff will be assessing each Service



The Interim Credential: High-Level Overview

- DFPS will post the *final* Interim Credential CPA and GRO Applications in October 2024.
- Eligible providers will complete the Application and gather required supporting documents.
- The provider will register on a Credentialing Provider platform, which is organized as a Microsoft SharePoint site.
- This SharePoint site will allow for DFPS and Youth for Tomorrow to review documents and share feedback with the Provider as the Application is being processed.
- Upon initial review, if the Provider meets all requirements, an Inactive Interim Credential will be issued by DFPS.



The Interim Credential: High-Level Overview (Continued)

- The Provider will have up to 120 days to meet certain remaining requirements, sign and return the T3C Verification Form.
- Upon verification of remaining documents and receipt of T3C Verification Form, DFPS will issue the Active Interim Credential, which is good for a period of 12 full calendar months.
- The Provider's existing contract(s) with the SSCC or DFPS will be amended to include the Credentialed Service Package/s and/or Add-On Service/s.
- Existing children being served by the provider will transition (when possible) to the T3C Service Package and Add-Service, and the provider will begin accessing payment under the T3C System.
- The provider will submit status reports updating on progress being made on the implementation plans presented in Interim Application to become Fully Credentialed.



Getting Started

- For purposes of today's webinar, we are going to focus on the CPA Interim Credential Application process.
- If you are a GRO, you would follow a similar process, but instead reference the requirements for the GRO Service Package(s) in the *T3C System Blueprint* and the GRO Interim Credential Application.
- The Interim Credential Application provides step-by-step instructions for completing the Interim Credential Applications including the process for:
 1. Determining which Service Package(s) and Add-On Service(s) to apply for and provide.
 2. Verifying eligibility to apply for the ***Interim*** Credential.
 3. How to review requirements associated with the Interim Credential by Service Package and Add-On Service.
 4. Completing and submitting the Interim Credential Application.

Determining Which Service Package(s) & Add-On Service(s) include in the Interim Credential Application

- Each Service Package and Add-On Service must be addressed independently in the application- meaning the provider must have a program designed to address the unique needs of the child population as described in the Service Package Description.
- Page 36 of the July 2024, T3C System Blueprint contains a list of all categories.
- Providers should review each Service Package and Add-On Service against these categories to determine the agency's ability and interest in providing the distinct Package or Add-On Service:
 - **Child Placing Agency/Foster Family Home T3C Service Package** requirements can be found on ***Pages 39-137 of the T3C System Blueprint.***
 - **Child Placing Agency/Foster Family Home T3C Add-On Service** requirements can be found on ***Pages 138-153 of the T3C System Blueprint.***
 - **General Residential Operations-Tier I Treatment/Transition Service Package** requirements can be found on ***Pages 154-283 of the T3C System Blueprint.***
 - **General Residential Operations-Tier II T3C Stabilization Support Service Package** requirements can be found on ***Pages 284-382 of the T3C System Blueprint.***

General Residential Operations- Tier II T3C Stabilization Support Service Packages

Information contained in the charts below outline the parameters/requirements associated with the Tier II Service Packages. The incorporation of these parameters/requirements are consistent with or may exceed the state's Minimum Licensing Standards for a General Residential Operation and are not intended to change the existing character of the childcare operation. Providers may elect to become Credentialed to provide more than one T3C Service Package in a General Residential Operation Tier I or a Tier II setting.

Service Package Name	Tier II: Sexual Aggression/Sexual Offender Services to Support Stabilization		
Setting	Facility-Based Setting		
Permit Type	General Residential Operation- Multiple Services General Residential Operation- Residential Treatment Center <i>Permit Type may vary by operation, and is dependent on Permit Services offered, General Residential Operation should consult with CCR and Licensing Representative to determine Permit Type needed.</i>		
Permit Services	<u>Treatment Services</u> Emotional Disorder	<u>Programmatic Services</u> Transitional Living <i>(If offering Service Package to youth 14 and older)</i>	<u>Special Services</u> Young Adult Care <i>(If General Residential Operation provides Extended Foster Care services)</i>
Service Package Description	A highly structured, trauma-informed facility that, in addition to providing a child's basic living needs, including food, clothing, shelter, education, vocation, transportation, recreation, and extracurricular needs, has an intensive treatment program that specializes in providing and coordinating Time-limited Services to support the emotional stability, well-being, and therapeutic needs of children, youth, and young adults who are experiencing challenges with a lack of impulse control, and may present with one or more of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-going, socially, and developmentally inappropriate displays of sexualized behavior; or 		

Verify Provider's Eligibility for the Interim Credential

- Not all Provider's are Eligible to apply for the Interim Credential.
- Prior to completing the Interim Credential Application, the provider should thoroughly review the eligibility requirements found in the latest edition of the *T3C System Blueprint*, beginning on page 31 under the section titled "Provider Eligibility for the Interim Credential".

CPA and GRO eligibility for Interim Credential includes:

1. Having a valid Active Permit;
2. Having an Active Residential Child Care Contract with DFPS and/or subcontract with at least one SSCC;
3. Meeting pre-defined performance expectations; and
4. Having experience serving children with similar needs.

Providers approved for an Interim Credential to provide a particular Service Package or Add-On Service are required to become fully Credentialed before the Interim Credential expires on the last day of the twelfth calendar month after the issuance of the Active Interim Credential status. The Active Interim Credential for any one Service Package or Add-On Service is issued to the eligible provider one time only and is not renewable.

DFPS anticipates that the Application for the Interim Credential will be available in September 2024, and providers will be able to submit completed Applications with the required attachments beginning in October 2024. **Applications for the Interim Credential will be accepted through the end of October 2025, at which time the Interim Credential will no longer be an option. All providers seeking to offer a T3C System Service Package or Add-On Service after October 2025, will be required to apply for the Full Credential.** Additional guides and specific submission instructions will be provided on the DFPS T3C webpage in September 2024, along with the Application.

Provider Eligibility for the Interim Credential

In order for a residential childcare provider to be eligible to apply for the Interim Credential, they must meet **all** of the following criteria on the day that the Application for the Interim Credential (specific to the Service Package or Add-On Service) is submitted:

1. Active Permit:

- The residential child care provider must have a "Full" Permit issued by HHSC-CCR (or similar body for out of state providers) to support the Permit Type required for the Service Package. A provider operating under an "Initial" Permit may qualify for the Interim Credential if that same provider already holds a "Full" Permit for another similar type of operation.
- The residential child care provider's Permit must include all applicable Treatment Services required for each Service Package at the time of application for the Interim Credential, unless hiring certain staff is the only barrier. If hiring certain staff is the only barrier, the provider will be required to have these staff hired and in place before providing services under an active T3C Interim Credential (see APPENDIX II.A: T3C Interim Credential Requirements for more information on staffing requirements).
- The provider may be issued an Interim Credential if the Programmatic and Special Services required for each Service Package or Add-On Service is in process of being added to the Permit by HHS-CCR at the time of application for the Interim Credential. If HHS-CCR denies the addition of services to the Permit, the provider's Interim Credential will subsequently be revoked.



Aligning Requirements Between *Blueprint* and the *Interim Application*

- Providers should read, review, and become familiar with the entire Interim Credential Application prior to initiating completion of the first Section.
- To successfully complete the Interim Application the Provider must understand which of the 3 categories a specific task, activity, staffing plan, personnel, and infrastructure applies to. Appendix II.A (page 388 of the *T3C System Blueprint*) and page Appendix II.B (page 428 of the *T3C System Blueprint*) list requirements by dependent category.



1. Those that are required to be **In Place @ Time of Application.**
 - Requirement must be fulfilled at the time of submission of the Interim Credential Application.
 - Provider must submit documentation to support that the requirement has been met.



2. Those that are required to be **In Place on 1st Day Operating under an Active Interim Credential.**
 - Provider must submit a specific plan with a timeline detailing how the requirement will be fulfilled in no more than 120 calendar days after the date that the provider receives notification of the issuance of the Inactive Interim Credential.
 - Provider can complete and submit any requirement under this milestone and timeframe at the time of Application instead of waiting until after the Inactive Interim Credential has been awarded.



3. Those that are required to be submitted as a **Plan Only @ Time of Application.**
 - Any requirement that allows the Provider to submit a specific plan with a timeline detailing how the requirement will be fulfilled between the time that the Inactive Interim Credential is issued, and when the Provider must obtain the Full Credential- by last day of the 12th calendar month following issuance of the Active Interim Credential.



Completing the Interim Credential Application: Application Sections

- The Interim Credential Application is organized using Sections that align to the Section requirements found in Appendix II.A of the *T3C System Blueprint*.
- Sections of the CPA (will vary some for the GRO Application) Interim Credential Application include:
 - Number 1 Child Placing Agency Interim Application
 - Section I: Contractor Information
 - Section II: Questions Required for All Service Packages:
 - Section II. A. (Residential Child Care) Permit Services
 - Section II. B. Information Technology (IT) Systems
 - Section II. C. Evidence-Informed Treatment Model(s)
 - Section II. D. Logic Model(s)
 - Section II. E. Human Trafficking Prevention Training
 - Section II. F. Staffing Requirements
 - Section II. G. Policies, Procedures, and Practices
 - Section III: Required Questions that are Service Package/Add-On Service Dependent:
 - Section III. A. Human Trafficking Prevention Training
 - Section III. B. Information Technology (IT) System
 - Section III. C. Staffing Requirements
 - Section III. D. Policies, Procedures, & Practices
 - Section IV. Implementation Plan
 - Section V. Attachments Required
 - Section VI. Certification

Completing the Interim Credential Application: Format Requirements

• Directions for Completing/Submitting the Interim Credential Application:

- Some questions allow narrative responses in the Application itself.
- Some questions allow the option for or require submission of documents.
- The Application requires specific naming conventions to be used for the file when uploading documents.
- Implementation Plans in Section IV will only be accepted in text form in the Interim Credential Application.

Add-On Service independently. This is important, because as DFPS evaluates the Interim Credential Application, staff will be assessing each Service Package and Add-On Service independently to ensure that the requirements are met to support an Interim Credential being issued for each Service Package and Add-On Service that is sought. To properly complete the Interim Credential Application, the Provider should review and refer to the specific requirements for each Service Package and Add-On Service as outlined in the *T3C System Blueprint*. The Interim Credential Application form must be completed in its entirety before it is submitted to DFPS.

Directions for Completing/Submitting the Interim Credential Application:

- While the Application provides room for narrative responses to some questions in Sections II and III, Providers can opt to, and in some cases will be required to, submit clearly labeled separate files containing the documented responses. See # 1 and 2 below under "File Names and Format for Submission of Responses in Application" for details.
- Implementation Plans must be entered into Section IV of the Application form and will not be accepted in any other format.
- The completed Interim Credential Application, and all supporting/required documentation, must utilize the file naming convention specified in this Application. This application and all associated documentation must be submitted via upload to the online T3C Credential Provider Portal platform which will be linked from the T3C website beginning in October 2024.

File Names and Format for Submission of Responses in Application:

Following the description of the requirement(s), the Provider will click on the gray field at the end of the Section/Sub-section, and:

1. Specify the file name (for information on naming conventions, please see below) where the relevant information can be found;
2. List the page number(s) that are responsive to the required information in the uploaded document; and
3. Highlight the section of the uploaded information, if it is a part of a larger handbook, policy, procedure, etc.

Please note: The CPA can provide more details to help guide the DFPS Credentialing staff to the required information for review, which will streamline processing of the Provider's Application.

The Provider will be able to upload files up to 250mb in the following file types: Adobe portable document format (.pdf), Microsoft office documents (such as .doc; .docx; .xls; or .ppt), and images (such as .bmp; .gif; .jpg; .jpeg; .png; and .tif). Files created in other operating systems and not saved as .pdf will not be able to be reviewed.

For consistency, a standardized list of file names has been developed. File names should be no more than 50 characters total in length. When uploading a document as a part of the Application process, the Provider must choose from and use the DFPS developed file type that corresponds to the required information. The file name must be included by the Provider in each response to the question to include the "Version" number starting with the number 1 for the first submission, and 2 for the next Version (if required to submit and update the same document) and so on.

A listing of the Sections in the Application and the relevant file naming conventions are listed below:

- > **Number 1. Child Placing Agency Interim Application:** This is DFPS Form K-909-3501, the Application that the Provider completes and submits when seeking to provide one or more of the Foster Family Home Service Packages and/or Add-On Services under the T3C System. The completed application may include narrative, as well as citations for where information can be found in uploaded supporting documentation.

- o Required File Naming Convention When Uploading this Document:

Number_1_CPA_Interim_App_V#(x)

For Example: "Number_1_CPA_Interim_App_V1"

Section I: Contractor Information

- Provider completes text field information on their agency and declares which Service Package(s) and Add-On Service(s) are included in the Application.
- Gray Field indicates text should be entered.
- Some items will include drop down lists to choose from.

SECTION I: CONTRACTOR INFORMATION	
Legal Name of Contractor: [Gray Field]	DBA Name (if applicable): [Gray Field]
Name of individual(s) listed as Contractor's designated Controlling Person(s): [Gray Field]	Name of individual with Contractor's designated Signature Authority for current CPA Contract: [Gray Field]
Name and phone number of primary contact for T3C System Credential purposes: [Gray Field]	
Contractor Emails for T3C Credential purposes: Email 1 (primary): [Gray Field] Email 2 (backup): [Gray Field]	
Current CPA Contract Number if Provider contracts directly with DFPS (also include Contract Number for Treatment Family Foster Care if currently contracted with DFPS for this service): [Gray Field]	How many SSCCs are you currently contracting with? Choose an item.
DFPS Region of CPA's Headquarters: Choose an item.	
Has CPA been contracted with DFPS and/or an SSCC, and ONLY provided services under a Child Specific Contract (CSC) at some time over the last year? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, please provide the Agency Account ID(s) (found on the CSC(s)). [Gray Field]	Does the CPA's Permit include all the Permit Services identified in the T3C System Blueprint for the specific Service Package(s) and Add-On Service(s) being applied for? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If no, please provide documentation of progress with obtaining required Permit Services from HHSC-Child Care Regulation (HHSC-CCR) and include the date the request for addition of any required Permit Services was submitted to HHSC-CCR. [Gray Field]
CPA Permit/License Number: [Gray Field]	If any part of the CPA is operating under an Initial Permit (aka Provisional License), please identify the Permit/License Number of operation with current Full Permit: [Gray Field]

Section II: Questions Required for All Service Packages

- Determine which category the requirement is assigned to.
- Provider should “Click on the Box” in response to questions where this represents the CPA’s status or application.
- In sections and subsections where there is a gray text field that reads “Click to indicate pages and file name”, if applicable, the provider should list the page number(s) DFPS should review along with the relevant file name where the information can be found.
- Remember when uploading documents, to use the file name found in the Instructions section of the Interim Application. The file name is what DFPS staff reviewing the application will be looking for to conduct the review for the relevant section.



Texas Department of Family and Protective Services
Form K-909-3501
September, 2024

SECTION II: QUESTIONS REQUIRED FOR ALL SERVICE PACKAGES
Please note that the requirements of Section II apply to ALL Service Packages

A. PERMIT SERVICES

Requirement Category for the **Interim Credential** (as found in T3C System Blueprint, Appendix II): **"In Place @ Time of Application for Interim Credential."**

1) To qualify for the Interim Credential, the CPA must meet the following requirements at the time of application submission:
a) Have "Full" Permit issued by HHSC-CCR (or similar body for out of state Providers) to support the Permit Type required for each Service Package(s). A "Provisional" Permit may qualify for the Interim Credential if that same residential childcare Provider already holds a "Full" Permit for another similar type of operation. **The Provider will submit a copy of the CPA's Permit(s) to demonstrate compliance.**

Texas Department of Family and Protective Services
Form K-909-3501
September, 2024

Application Contents: The Interim Credential Application is made up of six Sections and related sub-Sections:

Section I: Contractor Information This Section includes a series of questions related to the operation. Responses for this Section are included as text in the application.

Section II: Questions REQUIRED FOR ALL Service Packages This Section includes a series of questions that must be completed for every Service Package. Dependent on the question, responses may be required as text in the application and/or document upload.

Section II. A. (Residential Child Care) Permit Services This is a copy of the CPA's current Permit that includes the Permit Type and lists all Treatment, Programmatic, and Special Services that the agency is verified to provide.

- **Required File Naming Convention When Uploading this Document:**
Sect_II_A_Permit_Serv_License_(current details)_V#(x)
For Example: "Sect_II_A_Permit_Serv_License_10_01_2024_V1"

Page 9 of 56

Section II: Questions Required for All Service Packages (Continued)

- Sections II and III include requirements that can be submitted as a "Plan Only @ Time of Application for Interim Credential." As a reminder, this means that a provider may submit an implementation plan and timeline for completing the Application during the Active Interim Credential period.
- Providers opting to pursue the Implementation Plan, should click on the box affirming the response and then click on the hyperlink in the relevant section.
- Providers should then enter the necessary detailed text in the box as outlined in Section IV Implementation Plans. This must be included as a text field only.
- After completing the text field in the Implementation Plan Section, the provider should click on the hyperlink at the bottom of the page to return to the prior section



SECTION IV: IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (CONTINUED)

B. CATEGORY OF REQUIREMENT: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) SYSTEM

Tasks for Inactive Interim Credential (up to 120 days, from the date when Interim Credential is issued until the day provider submits documentation of completion for all requirements to be In Place on 1st Day Operating under an Active Interim Credential)
 Note- This time frame could include the time required for provider to amend their Contract to include T3C Service Packages Credentialed for, and discussions with caseworkers and child's support network to determine the best Service Package to meet the child's needs.
Tasks for this Category: Not Applicable

Enter a detailed, bulleted list of Specific Tasks with anticipated start and end time frames under this Category that will be completed during the Inactive Interim Credential to work towards preparing for Active Interim Credential. Be sure to include all relevant tasks, such as: drafting, finalizing, and approval of policies and procedures; communicating changes and training staff and/or Caregivers; etc.

1st Quarter Active Interim Credential Tasks (for completion within the first three months of Active Interim Credential)
 Note- If not completed during the Inactive Interim Credential period, provider will need to have Contract amended to include T3C Service Packages Credentialed for. Be aware that currently placed children will not be automatically moved to T3C Service Packages electronically on the first date of Active Interim Credential. Providers should account for potential delays in receipt of T3C rate reimbursements when identifying time frames for obtaining funds necessary to purchase and pay for specific items.
Tasks for this Category: Not Applicable

Enter a detailed, bulleted list of Specific Tasks with anticipated start and end time frames under this Category that falls during the identified period of time to work towards preparing for the Full Credential Review. Be sure to include all relevant tasks, such as: drafting, finalizing, and approval of policies and procedures; communicating changes and training staff and/or Caregivers; etc.

2nd Quarter Active Interim Credential Tasks (for completion within the second three months of Active Interim Credential)
Tasks for this Category: Not Applicable

Enter a detailed, bulleted list of Specific Tasks with anticipated start and end time frames under this Category that falls during the identified period of time to work towards preparing for the Full Credential Review. Be sure to include all relevant tasks, such as: drafting, finalizing, and approval of policies and procedures; communicating changes and training staff and/or Caregivers; etc.

3rd Quarter Active Interim Credential Tasks (for completion within the third three months of Active Interim Credential)
Tasks for this Category: Not Applicable

Enter a detailed, bulleted list of Specific Tasks with anticipated start and end time frames under this Category that falls during the identified period of time to work towards preparing for the Full Credential Review. Be sure to include all relevant tasks, such as: drafting, finalizing, and approval of policies and procedures; communicating changes and training staff and/or Caregivers; etc.

4th Quarter Active Interim Credential Tasks (for completion within the final three months of Active Interim Credential)
 Note- You must account for submission of Application for Full Credential with adequate time for DFPS review prior to Active Interim Credential expiration on the last day of the twelfth calendar month following date of Active Interim Credential issuance.
Tasks for this Category: Not Applicable

Enter a detailed, bulleted list of Specific Tasks with anticipated start and end time frames under this Category that falls during the identified period of time to work towards preparing for the Full Credential Review. Be sure to include all relevant tasks, such as: drafting, finalizing, and approval of policies and procedures; communicating changes and training staff and/or Caregivers; etc.

[Click here to return to B. Information Technology \(IT\) Services](#)

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Section V: Attachments Required & Section VI Certification

- Provider will confirm clicking on the box, that the correct file naming conventions have been used as a part of the upload and that all required documents have been included.
- Once the application is complete, the designated signature authority for the CPA will sign the application, this can be handwritten and scanned, an electronic signature, or a digital signature.

SECTION V: ATTACHMENTS REQUIRED

In addition to this completed and signed Application, you will need to submit various documents (as applicable), utilizing the naming convention specified:

Application Section Number-Document Category Details or Type Version Number

- Number_1_CPA_Interim_App_V#(x)
- Sect_II_A_Permit_Serv_License_(details)_V#(x)
- Sect_II_B_Info_Tech_(details)_V#(x)
- Sect_II_C_Treat_Model_(details)_V#(x)
- Sect_II_D_Logic_Model_(details)_V#(x)
- Sect_II_E_HT_Prev_(details)_V#(x)
- Sect_II_F_Staff_(details to include sub-section)_V# (x)
- Sect_III_A_HT_Prev_(details)_V#(x)
- Sect_III_B_Info_Tech_(details)_V#(x)
- Sect_III_C_Staff_(details to include sub-section)_V#(x)
- Sect_III_D_Pol_Proc_(details)_V#(x)

Note- Provider will be able to upload files up to 250mb in the following file types: Adobe portable document format (.pdf), Microsoft office documents (such as .doc; .docx; .xls; or .ppt), and images (such as .bmp; .gif; .jpg; .jpeg; .png; and .tif). Files created in other operating systems and not saved as .pdf will not be able to be reviewed.

PRIVACY STATEMENT

DFPS values your privacy. For more information, read our [Privacy and Security Policy](#).

SECTION VI - CERTIFICATION

I certify that the information provided in this Application is to the best of my knowledge, complete and accurate, that the named legal entity has authorized me, as its representative, to submit this Application, and that the legal entity complies with all eligibility requirements.

I have informed DFPS of any changes to information or documents previously submitted regarding the named legal entity.

Signature of Contractor Designated Signature Authority:

Date:

X

Name of Designated Signature Authority (Printed):

Note: Signature can be handwritten and scanned, an electronic signature, or a digital signature, but a scripted font is not a legal or electronic signature and will not be accepted.



Please Remember

- Each Service Package and Add-On Service is Distinct- while there may be some policies/procedures, model(s), etc. that are common across your agency/organization– having a clearly defined program that is designed to meet the custom needs of children (based on the specific Service Package/ Add-On Service) through targeted services/interventions/treatment is required under the T3C System.
- The T3C System does not replace any of the requirements associated with your permit and minimum standards.
- Being Credentialed qualifies a provider to offer a specific Service Package and Add-On Service but is not the same as having a residential or SSCC contract to serve children, youth, and young adults. Once Credentialed, the provider's DFPS and/or SSCC Residential Contract(s) will have to be amended to serve children under the new Service Package or Add-On Service.
- The placement process changes under the T3C System- using a *Collaborative Universal Screening/Services Planning Process*, the child's needs dictate the type of Service Package to be sought, and providers are identified based on whether they are Credentialed *and* Contracted to provide the Service Package.
- The Interim Credential was designed to help existing providers transition to the new T3C System. The Interim Credential is issued one-time only per Service Package and is time limited. DFPS anticipates that the application period for the Interim Credential will open in October 2024 and will close in October 2025. After October 2025, applications will only be accepted for the Full Credential- meaning a provider will have to meet the full set of requirements associated with the Service Package at the time of application.



Closing

- On behalf of the T3C Project Management Office, thank you so much for attending today's webinar.
- We would love to hear from you! Please email any questions, comments, or feedback about the T3C System Blueprint or Interim Credential Application or this webinar to dfpstexaschildcenteredcare@dfps.texas.gov.
- As a reminder we will be posting a copy of the PowerPoint and a recording of the webinar on the DFPS T3C webpage, which can be accessed by following https://www.dfps.texas.gov/Texas_Child_Centered_Care/
- If you have not already done so, please make sure to subscribe for news and updates on T3C on the DFPS webpage by registering your email address

The screenshot shows the DFPS website header with the logo and navigation links. The main content area is titled "Texas Child-Centered Care (T3C)". A red arrow points from the text in the previous slide to a yellow "SUBSCRIBE" button in the right-hand sidebar. Below the button is a sign-up form for Texas Child-Centered Care News, including an email address input field and a "Submit" button.