



Texas Child-Centered Care (T3C) System:

The T3C System Blueprint, 10th Edition **Change Log Review**

DFPS Stakeholder Webinar

May 11th, 2026

Welcome

- Thank you for joining today's webinar hosted by the DFPS T3C Project Management Office.
- Today we will be reviewing changes made to the *T3C System Blueprint*, 10th Edition that was released by DFPS on April 29th, 2026.





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, so if you have questions about today's presentation or about 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, with newly added or updated questions marked. We encourage everyone to routinely review the FAQs to learn more about the effort.
- To access a copy of the **latest** version of the *T3C System Blueprint* please visit: https://www.dfps.texas.gov/Texas_Child_Centered_Care/documents/t3c_blueprint.pdf

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

1) Visit www.dfps.texas.gov

2) Look for and click “Texas Child-Centered Care” on top of the page

3) Under General Information, Click on “What’s New”

4) Click on either of the links titled “T3C System Blueprint”

The screenshot shows the website dfps.texas.gov/Texas_Child_Centered_Care/whats_new.asp. The navigation menu includes: I am, Child Investigations, Child Services, Adoption & Foster Care, Prevention, Adult Protection, Doing Business, Data & Reports, Texas Child-Centered Care, and En Español. The main header features the DFPS logo and the text "Texas Department of Family and Protective Services". A search bar is located on the right. A yellow banner at the top states: "The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services is currently undergoing Sunset review. [Learn more about the Sunset process, our current review, and provide feedback.](#)". Below this is a blue banner titled "What's New with Texas Child-Centered Care". The breadcrumb trail reads: "DFPS Home > Texas Child Centered Care > This Page". The main content area has a "What's New" section with a photo of children. The text reads: "See the Full Credential Application Forms and link to the T3C Credentialing Platform on the [Full Credentialing](#) page. As of January 1, 2026, the Interim Credential is no longer available as an application route for providers. Any Provider who started completing the Interim Credential Application but was unable to submit it, needs to re-evaluate their completed responses for purposes of moving the information to the Full Credential Application. The webpage for the [Interim Credentialing](#) has been updated to reflect only relevant ongoing information. Comprehensive information on the Interim Credential is still available in the [T3C System Blueprint](#). See the most recent edition of the [Texas Child-Centered Care \(T3C\) System Blueprint](#) 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](#)." Below this is a section for "January 2026" titled "T3C System Blueprint Update". A left sidebar contains a "GENERAL INFORMATION" menu with items: What's New, About T3C, How Does T3C Work?, Goals of the T3C System, T3C Terminology, Service Package Descriptions, Foster Care Methodological Rates, Rates & Timeframes, T3C System Blueprint, Frequently Asked Questions, and CANS 3.0 Assessment. A "PROVIDER INFORMATION" section is also visible at the bottom of the sidebar.



The T3C System Blueprint & Change Log

- *The Blueprint* is a guide for Texas foster care stakeholders to gain an understanding of the framework and parameters inherent in each of the twenty-four (24) Service Packages and three (3) Add-On Services.
- A webinar that walks stakeholders through how to read the *T3C System Blueprint* is posted on the DFPS T3C webpage and can be accessed by visiting: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rw8cJR5OTB4&feature=youtu.be>
- The document will be updated quarterly (January, April, July, October) to include revisions (if necessary) and provide detailed information related to transition and implementation of the T3C System.
- The Service Packages and Add-On Services are defined in the *Blueprint*, and there should not be substantive changes to requirements. Updates between editions are intended to provide additional clarification to language, largely based on stakeholder questions submitted through the FAQ process.
- Sections related to readiness/implementation, resource opportunities, credentialing, contract oversight and monitoring are intended to change between Editions, as more information becomes available.
- With the release of each quarterly edition of the *T3C System Blueprint*, DFPS will release an updated version of the “Change Log”. The purpose of the *T3C System Blueprint Change Log* is to provide detailed information on changes made to the *T3C System Blueprint* between published versions, for ease in tracking and to ensure transparency.
- The *T3C System Blueprint Change Log* can be accessed by visiting the following: https://www.dfps.texas.gov/Texas_Child_Centered_Care/documents/t3c_blueprint_change_log.pdf.



The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services is currently undergoing Sunset review. [Learn more about the Sunset process, our current review, and provide feedback.](#)

Texas Child-Centered Care (T3C) System Blueprint

DFPS Home > Texas Child Centered Care > This Page



The Blueprint is a guide for Texas foster care stakeholders to gain an understanding of the framework and parameters inherent in each of the twenty-four Service Packages and three Add-On Services.

The *Texas Child-Centered Care System Blueprint* is a product of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) and is updated quarterly (January, April, July, October) to include revisions (if necessary) and provide detailed information related to transition and implementation of the T3C System. Included with each revision, is a Change Log that details any changes made in the document.

The transition to this new system is an iterative process where lessons will be learned, and modifications will be made for continued improvement, so the *T3C System Blueprint* will be the primary vehicle for communicating changes.

Any changes made will be described in the Change Log.

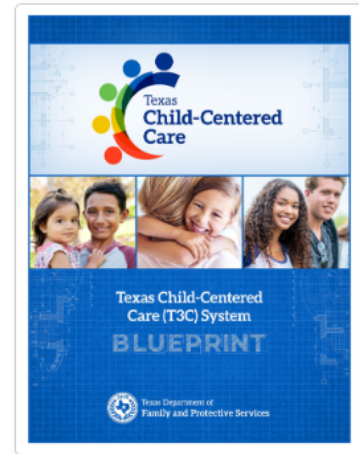
Blueprint Revisions

Current Edition:

- [January 2026 Blueprint](#)
- [Change Log](#)

Past Blueprint Editions:

- [October 2025 Blueprint](#)



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](#)
- [Rates & Timeframes](#)
- [T3C System Blueprint](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [CANS 3.0 Assessment](#)

PROVIDER INFORMATION

- [General Information](#)

How to Access a Copy of the T3C System Blueprint *Change Log*

1) Visit www.dfps.texas.gov

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

3) Under General Information Click on "T3C System Blueprint"

4) Click on the link titled "Change Log"

How to Read the Change Log

The Cover Page will always include the “As of” date, so that it is clear when the log was last updated.

The Change Log will be refreshed quarterly and will show a running list of all changes made between editions.

The Change Log reflects the following:

Item number- running list of numerical changes

Date of Change- reflects date of edition where change was made

Prior Page Number- where changed content was located in prior edition

Previous Language- language used in prior edition that is changing.

New Page Number- where changed content is reflected in latest edition.

Revised Language- reflects changes made to language.

- Bold – denotes changed text
- Italicized and Bold – denotes new text
- Strike through and Bold – denotes deleted text

T3C System Blueprint Change Log

As of January 2026

Item	Date of Change	Prior Page Number/s	Previous Language	New Page Number/s	Revised Language
1	January, 2026	22	<u>Roles and Responsibilities of the SSCC or DFPS Placement Team under T3C</u>	22	<u>Roles and Responsibilities of the SSCC or DFPS Placement Team under T3C</u> <i>Graphic edited to align with current Tier II requirements.</i>
2	January, 2026	23	<u>Example of the Placement Selection Process Under the T3C System</u>	23	<u>Example of the Placement Selection Process Under the T3C System</u> <i>Graphic edited to align with current Tier II requirements.</i>
3	January, 2026	26	<u>As a Provider, What Should I Be Doing to Prepare for Transition to the T3C System?</u> [New bullet point added]	26	<u>As a Provider, What Should I Be Doing to Prepare for Transition to the T3C System:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Visit T3C Ready at https://tacfs.org/t3c-ready/ an initiative of the Single Source Continuum Contractors (SSCCs) and the Texas Alliance of Child & Family Services (TACFS). T3C Ready has valuable information to help providers actively prepare for the transition, including a T3C Readiness Assessment tool, learning opportunities, and other resources. Many previously held T3C Learning Sessions have been recorded and are available for providers at the TACFS Online Learning Center. Please watch the website for upcoming planned in person and virtual T3C Ready Accelerator Sessions.</i> • <i>TACFS and DFPS are excited to partner together in virtual T3C Office Hours! T3C Office Hours are regularly scheduled and allow Licensed Providers to drop in and ask any questions about T3C. Whether you have a question about T3C requirements, updated Blueprints, credentialing, FAQs, Rates & Funding, Events & Training, or anything else T3C, drop in and ask us! T3C</i>



What changed between the 9th and 10th
Editions of the *T3C System Blueprint*?

Item 1.

Commonly Used Terms

Reason for Change:

A definition for Discharge, for the purposes of T3C, was added. This is to distinguish that a child changing Service Package while remaining in the same placement is different from a discharge from the placement.

Item	Date of Change	Prior Page Number/s	Previous Language	New Page Number/s	Revised Language
1	April, 2026	12	<u>Commonly Used Terms</u> [New Term Added]	12	<u>Commonly Used Terms</u> <i>Discharge: For purposes of T3C, the point at which the placement of a child in DFPS custody ends with one permitted residential provider that holds a T3C Credential, and responsibility for care of the child moves to another placement whether or not a permitted residential provider. As required by the child's specific Service Package at the time of the discharge, this initiates the 6-month Aftercare period. A child who remains in the same permitted placement, but changing Service Packages is not considered a discharge.</i>

- **Discharge:** For purposes of T3C, the point at which the placement of a child in DFPS custody ends with one permitted residential provider that holds a T3C Credential, and responsibility for care of the child moves to another placement whether or not a permitted residential provider. As required by the child's specific Service Package at the time of the discharge, this initiates the 6-month Aftercare period. A child who remains in the same permitted placement, but changing Service Packages is not considered a discharge.

Item 2. Full Credentialing: New Providers and the Full Credential

Reason for Change:
 Edited to reflect the change to past tense from when the requirement was initially added.

Item	Date of Change	Prior Page Number/s	Previous Language	New Page Number/s	Revised Language
2	April, 2026	40	<p><u>Full Credentialing: New Providers and the Full Credential</u> All new providers applying for a Full Credential to deliver one or more of the GRO Tier II Service Packages must maintain a census of 16 or fewer children and youth residing on each premises where services are provided, as a part of the operation's Permit that is attached to the provision of the GRO Tier II services. Used in this context, a "new" provider is defined as an operation that is not currently serving children or youth under an active DFPS or SSCC residential childcare contract. Pending applications to provide GRO services under an SSCC and/or DFPS contract will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis to determine applicability prior to January 1st, 2025. This provision applies to both in-state and out-of-state operations.</p>	41	<p><u>Full Credentialing: New Providers and the Full Credential</u> All new providers applying for a Full Credential to deliver one or more of the GRO Tier II Service Packages must maintain a census of 16 or fewer children and youth residing on each premises where services are provided, as a part of the operation's Permit that is attached to the provision of the GRO Tier II services. Used in this context, a "new" provider is defined as an operation that is was not currently serving children or youth under an active DFPS or SSCC residential childcare contract before January 1st, 2025. Pending applications to provide GRO services under an SSCC and/or DFPS contract will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis to determine applicability prior to January 1st, 2025. This provision applies to both in-state and out-of-state operations.</p>

Item 3. Service Package and Add-On Service Descriptions

Reason for Change:

Added a guideline to bring provider’s attention to an important aspect of planning their IT tracking and reporting, if they will be providing multiple Service Packages and/or Add-On Services.

Item	Date of Change	Prior Page Number/s	Previous Language	New Page Number/s	Revised Language
3	April, 2026		<u>Service Package and Add-On Service Descriptions</u> [New Bullet Added]	49	<u>Service Package and Add-On Service Descriptions</u> <i>Providers becoming Credentialed for multiple Service Packages should have a way to track when a child’s Length of Service changes due to a change in Selected Service Package. As part of the IT System, Providers must be able to track, by service package, the average length of service for children admitted, based on the time from admission to discharge, as a required metric. If a child changes service package because their needs change, the provider’s Anticipated Length of Service data for that service package may be skewed if the IT system cannot identify that change</i>



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 DFPS or SSCC residential child care 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 in order 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.**



- 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 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 T3C overview webpage by registering your email address

The screenshot shows the DFPS website header with the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services logo and name. Below the header is a blue banner for "Texas Child-Centered Care (T3C)". The main content area includes a "SUBSCRIBE" button in a yellow box, a search bar, and a "Report Abuse" button. The "Overview" section is visible, with the heading "What is Texas Child-Centered Care?" and a brief description of the program. A red arrow points from the text in the previous slide to the "SUBSCRIBE" button.