



# Texas Child-Centered Care (T3C) System Blueprint Change Log As of July, 2024

The purpose of the *T3C System Blueprint* is to provide detailed information on changes made to the *T3C System Blueprint* between published versions.

If you have questions related to these changes, or anything else related to T3C, please email them to [dfpstexaschildcenteredcare@dfps.texas.gov](mailto:dfpstexaschildcenteredcare@dfps.texas.gov).

To view the *T3C System Blueprint* in its entirety please visit:  
[https://www.dfps.texas.gov/Texas\\_Child\\_Centered\\_Care/whats\\_new.asp](https://www.dfps.texas.gov/Texas_Child_Centered_Care/whats_new.asp)

3<sup>rd</sup> Edition July, 2024

2<sup>nd</sup> Edition April, 2024

1<sup>st</sup> Edition February, 2024

Item	Date of Change	Prior Page Number/s	Previous Language	New Page Number/s	Revised Language
1.	July, 2024	4	<b><u>Letter from the DFPS Commissioner</u></b>	5	[updated to reflect progression of transition since <i>T3C System Blueprint</i> was published in February, 2024]
2.	July, 2024	Not Applicable	<b><u>Commonly Used Terms</u></b> [new bullet point and term inserted]	9	<b><u>Commonly Used Terms</u></b> ➤ <b><i>Active Interim Credential: The provider has met all necessary requirements to operate under the Active Interim Credential specific to the approved Service Package or Add-On Service, and contingent on contract amendment(s), may begin serving children under T3C. The Active Interim Credential period starts when the provider receives DFPS' approval that they have satisfied all requirements identified as "Required to be In Place on 1st Day Operating under Active Interim Credential" (see APPENDIX II.A: T3C Interim Credential Requirements). The Active Interim Credential period expires on the last day of the twelfth calendar month after the date that DFPS issues initial approval. To avoid a lapse in service and for the provider to continue to provide the specific Service Package or Add-On Service to children and youth in DFPS conservatorship, the provider must meet all requirements, apply for, and obtain the Full Credential by the time the Active Interim Credential expires. During the Active Interim Credential period, the provider must supply status reports on their progress towards meeting all of the requirements to obtain the Full Credential for the Service Package or Add-On Service.</i></b>

3.	July, 2024	Not Applicable	<p><b><u>Commonly Used Terms</u></b>                  [new bullet point and term inserted]</p>	12	<p><b><u>Commonly Used Terms</u></b></p> <p>➤ <b><i>Inactive Interim Credential: Provider has met the criteria for the Service Package or Add-On Service based on completion of the requirements that are identified as "Required to be In Place @ Time of Application for Interim Credential" (see APPENDIX II.A: T3C Interim Credential Requirements). The Inactive Interim Credential period starts when the provider receives written confirmation from DFPS that they have satisfied all of the requirements identified as "Required to be In Place @ Time of Application for Interim Credential" (see APPENDIX II.A: T3C Interim Credential Requirements). The purpose of the Inactive Interim Credential is to allow time for the provider to complete all requirements that need to be "In Place on 1<sup>st</sup> Day Operating under Active Interim Credential" for the specific Service Package or Add-On Service. The Inactive Interim Credential is limited to 120 calendar days. If the provider is unable to meet all of the requirements necessary to move to the Active Interim Credential status by the 120<sup>th</sup> calendar day, they must start the application process for the Interim Credential again.</i></b></p>
4.	July, 2024	11	<p><b><u>Commonly Used Terms</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Interim Credential:</b> An initial, short-term Credential that can be applied for by General Residential Operations and Child Placing Agencies that meet certain eligibility requirements. Within state and federal statute and regulatory requirements, DFPS-approved providers could start</li> </ul>	13	<p><b><u>Commonly Used Terms</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Interim Credential:</b> An initial, short-term Credential that can be applied for by General Residential Operations and Child Placing Agencies that <b>currently have a Residential Childcare Contract with either DFPS or with at least one SSCC, and</b> meet certain eligibility requirements. Within state and federal</li> </ul>

			<p>providing T3C Service Packages and Add-On Services based on evaluation of a comprehensive plan, but prior to meeting all of the requirements to become fully Credentialed. Providers approved for the Interim Credential would subsequently be required to become fully Credentialed within a set time frame. The Interim Credentialing process will be time-limited and will be eliminated as an option to providers during the latter part of the transition to T3C.</p>		<p>statute and regulatory requirements, DFPS-approved providers could start providing T3C Service Packages and Add-On Services based on evaluation of a comprehensive plan, but prior to meeting all of the requirements to become fully Credentialed. Providers approved for the Interim Credential <b><i>in a particular Service Package or Add-On Service are <del>would</del> subsequently be required to become <del>fully</del> Credentialed before the Interim Credential expires on the last day of the twelfth calendar month after the date of issuance for the Active Interim Credential. The Interim Credential for any one Service Package is issued to an eligible provider one time only and is not renewable.</i></b> The Interim Credentialing process will be time-limited <b><i>during the transition</i></b> and <b><i>DFPS anticipates that it</i></b> will be eliminated as an option to providers <b><i>after October 2025. The Interim Credential is divided into two status periods, starting with the Inactive Interim Credential, and followed by the Active Interim Credential.</i></b></p>
5.	July, 2024	17	<p><b><u>The CANS 3.0 Assessment</u></b> Under the T3C System, children ages 3 and up will receive a CANS 3.0 Assessment upon the occurrence of any of the following events:...</p>	19	<p><b><u>The CANS 3.0 Assessment</u></b> Under the T3C System, children, <b><i>youth, and young adults</i></b> ages 3 <b><i>through 21 and up</i></b> will receive a CANS 3.0 Assessment upon the occurrence of any of the following events:...</p>
6.	July, 2024	21	<p><b><u>What is the State Doing to Prepare for Transition?</u></b> For a high-level overview of the T3C System implementation deliverables and timeline in FY 2024, please see the appendix to this report.</p>	23	<p><b><u>What is the State Doing to Prepare for Transition?</u></b> For a high-level overview of the T3C System implementation deliverables and timeline in FY 2024, please see <del>the appendix</del> <b><i>Appendix I</i></b> to this report.</p>
7.	July, 2024	22	<p><b><u>As a Provider, What Should I Be Doing to Prepare for Transition to the T3C System?</u></b></p>	24	<p><b><u>As a Provider, What Should I Be Doing to Prepare for Transition to the T3C System?</u></b></p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visit T3C Ready at <a href="http://www.T3CReady.org">www.T3CReady.org</a> an initiative of the SSCCs and the Texas Alliance of Child &amp; Family Services. T3C Ready contains valuable information to help providers actively prepare for the transition, including details on the two types of grant funds available for Fiscal Year 2024 to be utilized for T3C transition needs. ACH Child and Family Services-Our Community Our Kids (ACH-OCOK) has entered into a contract with DFPS to administer the FY 2024 funds. ACH-OCOK anticipates releasing a Request for Applications (RFA) in early May 2024, notify grant awardees in mid-June 2024, and to distribute grant funds early July 2024. Please watch the website for additional information.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visit T3C Ready at <a href="http://www.T3CReady.org">www.T3CReady.org</a> an initiative of the SSCCs and the Texas Alliance of Child &amp; Family Services. <b>T3C Ready contains valuable information to help providers actively prepare for the transition, including a T3C Readiness Assessment tool, training opportunities and other resources.</b> <del>T3C Ready contains valuable information to help providers actively prepare for the transition, including details on the two types of grant funds available for Fiscal Year 2024 to be utilized for T3C transition needs. ACH Child and Family Services-Our Community Our Kids (ACH-OCOK) has entered into a contract with DFPS to administer the FY 2024 funds. ACH-OCOK anticipates releasing a Request for Applications (RFA) in early May 2024, notify grant awardees in mid-June 2024, and to distribute grant funds early July 2024. Please watch the website for additional information.</del></li> <li>• <b>Apply for the T3C Provider Transition Grants. In state fiscal year 2024 ACH Child and Family Services-Our Community Our Kids (ACH-OCOK) entered into a contract with DFPS to administer the FY 2024 Provider Transition Grants. The first round of T3C Provider Transition Grants RFA was released on May 8, 2024 and closed on May 24, 2024. Award notifications occurred the week of June 17. 229 applications were received from 143 unique organizations. 80 awards were made of grants ranging from \$9,500 to \$150,000. Providers from every region and catchment area of the state are receiving awards. Collectively, organizations receiving the grant awards have indicated</b></li> </ul>
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					<p><b>their intent to Credential across the full array of T3C service packages. There will be additional opportunities for grant funding in state fiscal year 2025. More information is coming soon, so please visit the T3CReady.org website.</b></p>
8.	July, 2024	27	<p><b><u>The Credentialing Process</u></b> This list and step-by-step process is anticipated to be released in the summer of 2024.</p>	29	<p><b><u>The Credentialing Process</u></b> <b>While information on the Interim Credential is being released in this edition of the T3C System Blueprint, details on <del>This list and the</del> step-by-step process for the Full Credential is anticipated to be released in the next edition of the T3C System Blueprint released in October <del>summer</del> of 2024.</b></p>
9.	July, 2024	28	<p><b><u>The Credentialing Process</u></b> DFPS anticipates providing updated information regarding both the Credentialing and re-Credentialing process, including the estimated timeline to begin the process and the expected timeline for completing the process, in the July 2024 <i>T3C System Blueprint</i>.</p>	30	<p><b><u>The Credentialing Process</u></b> DFPS anticipates providing updated information regarding both the <b>Full</b> Credentialing and re-Credentialing process, including the estimated timeline to begin the process and the expected timeline for completing the process, in the <b>October <del>July</del> 2024 T3C System Blueprint</b>.</p>
10.	July, 2024	27	<p><b><u>The Credentialing Process</u></b> DFPS anticipates establishment of an Interim Credentialing process. It is anticipated that providers will have the ability to apply for the Interim Credential if they have experience operating in Texas, meet performance expectations as defined by DFPS, and have a demonstrated record of serving children with like needs to the Service Package(s) and/or Add-On Service(s) for which they are applying. Within state and federal statute and regulatory requirements, DFPS approved providers could start providing T3C Service packages and Add-On Services based on evaluation of a comprehensive plan and prior to meeting all of the requirements to become fully</p>	30	<p>[information moved out from under <b><u>The Credentialing Process</u></b>, and edited to become part of new subsequent section <b><u>The Interim Credential</u></b>] <b>What is an Interim Credential? Existing General Residential Operations and Child Placing Agencies that meet certain eligibility criteria will be able to apply for an initial, short-term Interim Credential. The purpose of the Interim Credential is to assist current providers in making the transition between the current foster care system (based largely on the Service Level structure) to the T3C System. DFPS anticipates establishment of an Interim Credentialing process. It is anticipated that providers will have the ability to apply for the Interim</b></p>

			<p>Credentialed. Providers approved for the Interim Credential would subsequently be required to become fully Credentialed within a set time frame. The Interim Credentialing process will be time limited and will be eliminated as an option to providers during the latter part of the transition to T3C.</p>		<p><del>Credential if they have experience operating in Texas, meet performance expectations as defined by DFPS, and have a demonstrated record of serving children with like needs to the Service Package(s) and/or Add-On Service(s) for which they are applying.</del> Within state and federal statute and regulatory requirements, DFPS-approved providers could start providing T3C Service Packages and Add-On Services based on evaluation of a comprehensive plan and prior to meeting all the requirements to become fully Credentialed.</p> <p>Providers approved for <del>thean</del> Interim Credential <b>to provide a particular Service Package or Add-On Service are would</b> subsequently be required to become <b>F</b>ully Credentialed <b>before the Interim Credential expires on the last day of the twelfth calendar month after the issuance of the Active Interim Credential status</b> <del>within a set time frame.</del> <b>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.</b> <del>The Interim Credentialing process will be time-limited and will be eliminated as an option to providers during the latter part of the transition to T3C.</del></p> <p><b>DFPS anticipates that the Application for 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</b></p>
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					<p><i>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.</i></p>
11.	July, 2024	Not Applicable	Not Applicable – New Subsection under the new Section <b>The Interim Credential</b> [inserted after <b>The Credentialing Process</b> ]	31	<p><b><u>The Interim Credential Provider Eligibility for the Interim Credential</u></b></p> <p><i>In order for a residential childcare provider to be eligible to apply for the Interim Credential, they must meet <u>all</u> 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:</i></p> <p><b>1. Active Permit:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>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.</i></li> <li>● <i>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</i></li> </ul>



					<p><b>information on staffing requirements).</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>• 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.</b></li></ul> <p><b>2. Active Residential Child Care Contract:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>• The residential child care provider must have an actively utilized standard residential child care contract with DFPS and/or an SSCC at the time of application.</b></li><li><b>• The residential child care provider may be serving children under "child-specific contract(s)" only at the time of application, but in addition must maintain a standard residential child care contract(s) with DFPS and/or an SSCC.</b></li></ul> <p><b>3. Performance Expectations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>• The residential child care provider has not been issued notification of intent to Revoke, Deny, or Involuntarily Suspend the license or permit at the time of application.</b></li><li><b>• The residential child care provider is not on Probation (or similar degree of consequence for out of state providers) at the time of application.</b></li><li><b>• The residential child care provider is not currently subject to contractual remedy, or other corrective actions related to placement safety, such as</b></li></ul>
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					<p><b>Safety Checks, Placement Suspension, or Corrective Action Plan for Failure to Report Abuse/Neglect without a contractor plan acceptance letter. If a contractor plan acceptance letter issued by the holder of the relevant contract (DFPS and/or SSCC) is in place at the time of application, then this would not be a bar.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>The residential child care provider does not have a history of termination of contract for cause (with DFPS and/or an SSCC), or for convenience initiated by DFPS.</b></li> <li>● <b>The residential child care provider is not on a vendor hold with the State of Texas at the time of application.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>4. Experience serving children with like needs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>The residential child care provider has at least six months of experience actively caring for children with like needs to those identified in the Service Package Description section for the specific Service Package, based on history of Service Levels of Care provided and/or consideration of historical Permit Type and Permitted Services offered.</b></li> </ul>
12.	July, 2024	Not Applicable	Not Applicable – New Subsection under the new Section <b>The Interim Credential</b> [inserted after <b>The Credentialing Process</b> ]	32	<p><b><u>The Interim Credential Meeting the Programmatic/ Staffing/ Infrastructure Requirements for the Interim Credential</u></b></p> <p><b><i>The tasks, activities, staffing plans, personnel and infrastructure requirements specific to each Service Package and Add-On Service for the Interim Credential are distributed across three categories depending on when they are required to be in place, as indicated in APPENDIX II.A: T3C</i></b></p>

					<p><b>Interim Credential Requirements.</b> <b>Those milestones are:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ <b>Required to be In Place @ Time of Application for Interim Credential – Any requirement that must be fulfilled at the time of submission of the Application for the Interim Credential. Providers will submit documentation supporting that the requirement has been met for review with their Application.</b></li><li>➤ <b>Required to be In Place on 1st Day Operating under an Active Interim Credential – Any requirement that allows the provider to 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. A provider does have the ability to be working towards completion of these plans during the time that the Application for Interim Credential is being reviewed, but it is not required. A provider also has the ability to complete and submit any requirement under this milestone and time frame at the time of Application for Interim Credential instead of waiting until after they have been awarded the Interim Credential. If the provider submits plans without the required level of specificity for action steps and time frames, they will have their Application returned for enhancements prior to Interim Credential award.</b></li><li>➤ <b>Required submission of a Plan Only @ Time of Application – Any</b></li></ul>
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					<p><i>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 will submit the Application for Full Credential with documentation of all required items for review. The provider’s plan can indicate submission for the Full Credential review any time before the expiration of the Active Interim Credential on the last day of the twelfth calendar month following issuance.</i></p> <p><i>The T3C System Blueprint, APPENDIX II.B: Service Package Dependencies for T3C Interim Credential Requirements can be used to identify which Service Package(s) and Add-On Service(s) a particular requirement is related to, as identified in the “Service Package Dependent” column of APPENDIX II.A.</i></p>
13.	July, 2024	Not Applicable	Not Applicable – New Subsection under the new Section <b>The Interim Credential</b> [inserted after <b>The Credentialing Process</b> ]	33	<p><b><u>The Interim Credential</u></b>  <b><u>The Inactive and Active Credential Status</u></b>  <i>The Interim Credential is divided into two status periods, starting with the Inactive Interim Credential, and followed by the Active Interim Credential.</i>  <i>The Inactive Interim Credential is issued to a qualifying provider after it has been determined that they are eligible and meet all of the requirements necessary at the time of application. During the Inactive Interim Credential period, the provider must complete all of their plans to fulfill the requirements identified as “Required to be In Place on 1st Day Operating under Active Interim Credential” (see</i></p>

					<p><b>APPENDIX II.A: T3C Interim Credential Requirements).</b></p> <p><b>The Inactive Interim Credential is valid for up to 120 calendar days and failure to submit documentation of completion of all required plans to move to the Active Interim Credential status by that deadline will result in the provider losing their Interim Credential, and having to re-apply for a new Interim Credential with an updated eligibility review.</b></p> <p><b>Once the provider has satisfied all requirements identified as "Required to be in Place on 1st Day Operating under Active Interim Credential", the provider will be issued the Active Interim Credential, allowing for T3C paid placements into the Credentialed T3C Service Package(s) and Add-On Service(s) to be entered for children currently in placement, as well as acceptance of new placements into the Credentialed Service Packages. The Active Interim Credential status period must end by the expiration of the Interim Credential on the last day of the twelfth calendar month after the Active Interim Credential is issued.</b></p> <p><b>The provider does not need to wait the entire term of the Active Interim Credential to apply for and obtain the Full Credential for the Service Packages awarded the Interim Credential.</b></p> <p><b>There should be no expectation of extensions or renewals to the Active Interim Credential, although DFPS reserves the right to, for good cause as determined by the Department, issue one extension of up to six months.</b></p> <p><b>Failure to meet the requirements and obtain the Full Credential by the deadline will result in the loss of the</b></p>
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					<p><b><i>Interim Credential and it’s resulting ability to offer T3C services, as well as one or more Contract Actions, up to and including Contract Termination. In order to ensure that providers are making sufficient timely progress towards submission for and award of the Full Credential, the provider will be required to submit status assessment reports during the Active Interim Credential period until the Full Credential is issued. A provider’s failure to submit a report timely, and/or if the provider reports insufficient progress on the plan or is having difficulties meeting the timelines established in their submitted plan will result in follow up and potential interventions with the provider, up to and including the possibility of contract action.</i></b></p>
14.	July, 2024	Not Applicable	Not Applicable – New Subsection under the new Section <b>The Interim Credential</b> [inserted after <b>The Credentialing Process</b> ]	34	<p><b><u>The Interim Credential Interim Credential T3C Verification Form</u></b>  <b><i>After the provider has met all requirements of Inactive Interim Credential and before the Active Interim Credential is issued, the provider will be provided the T3C Verification form to review, sign, and return to the Department. This form will outline expectations associated with the Active Interim Credential, including the time frames, reporting requirements, possible compliance monitoring or other interventions, and consequences of not meeting their specified plans to have all requirements in place by certain milestones.</i></b>  <b><i>The T3C Verification Form will require the signatures of both the CEO/Chair of the provider’s Governing Body, and their Designee that signed the Application, as applicable. The purpose of the T3C Verification Form is to ensure</i></b></p>

					<p><i>that all relevant individuals are informed and understand the parameters associated with the Active Interim Credential. Once the T3C Verification Form is received by the Department, the provider will be eligible for the Active Interim Credential, and subject to contract amendments, can begin providing the specific Service Package(s) and/or Add-On Service(s).</i></p>
15.	July, 2024	Not Applicable	Not Applicable – New Subsection under the new Section <b>The Interim Credential</b> [inserted after <b>The Credentialing Process</b> ]	35	<p><b><u>The Interim Credential</u></b>  <b><u>Prioritization of Interim Credential Applications</u></b>  <i>DFPS intends to prioritize the review of Interim Credential Applications based on a T3C Service Packages that meet the greatest need for capacity at this time.</i>  <i>Applying for an Interim Credential in one or more of the following Service Packages will result in that Application being a higher priority for review:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>CPA/Foster Family Home: Short-term Assessment Support Services</i></li> <li>● <i>CPA/Foster Family Home: T3C Treatment Foster Family Care Support Services</i></li> <li>● <i>CPA/Foster Family Home: Mental &amp; Behavioral Health Support Services</i></li> <li>● <i>CPA/Foster Family Home: Complex Medical Needs or Medically Fragile Support Services</i></li> <li>● <i>CPA/Foster Family Home: Sexual Aggression/Sex Offender Support Services</i></li> <li>● <i>GRO Tier I: Mental &amp; Behavioral Health Treatment Services to Support Community Transition</i></li> <li>● <i>GRO Tier II: Aggression/Defiant Disorder Services to Support Stabilization</i></li> </ul>

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>GRO Tier II: Sexual Aggression/Sex Offender Services to Support Stabilization</b></li> <li>• <b>GRO Tier II: Complex Mental Health Services to Support Stabilization</b></li> </ul>
16.	July, 2024	252	<p><b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b> [new bullet point inserted]</p>		<p><b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>The Tier I: Intellectual or Developmental Disability (IDD)/Autism Spectrum Disorder Treatment Services to Support Community Transition Service Package necessitates a custom care plan for the child that should incorporate support and guidance from a Registered Nurse on how to care for the individual medical needs of the child, to include administering medication and the use of medically necessary equipment.</i></b></li> </ul>
17.	July, 2024	262	<p><b><u>Quality Assurance and Continued Stay Guidelines</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The services continue to support the child’s individual need for safety, improved well-being, and permanency in accordance with the child and family Service Plans.</li> </ul>		<p><b><u>Quality Assurance and Continued Stay Guidelines</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The services continue to support the child’s individual need for safety, improved well-being, and permanency in accordance with <b><i>the child’s care plan, and</i></b> the child and family Service Plans.</li> </ul>
18.	July, 2024	Not Applicable	<p>Not Applicable – New Appendices added [inserted after APPENDIX: T3C System Implementation Deliverable and Timeline, which has been renamed APPENDIX I: T3C System Implementation Deliverable and Timeline]</p>		<p><b><u>APPENDIX II.A: T3C Interim Credential Requirements</u></b> [new graphic matrix added]</p> <p><b><u>APPENDIX II.B: Service Package Dependencies for T3C Interim Credential Requirements</u></b> [new graphic matrix added]</p>



Item	Date of Change	Prior Page Number/s	Previous Language	New Page Number/s	Revised Language
1.	April, 2024	5	<p><b><u>Purpose of the Blueprint</u></b>                      ... DFPS will include a summary of changes and a redlined version to show modifications made between versions for ease and to ensure transparency.</p>	5	<p><b><u>Purpose of the Blueprint</u></b>                      ... DFPS will include the <b><i>T3C System Blueprint Change Log</i></b> <del>a summary of changes and a redlined version</del> to show modifications made between versions for ease in tracking and to ensure transparency.</p>
2.	April, 2024	11	<p><b><u>Commonly Used Terms</u></b>                      [new bullet point and term inserted]</p>	11	<p><b><u>Commonly Used Terms</u></b>                      ➤ <b><i>Interim Credential: An initial, short-term Credential that can be applied for by General Residential Operations and Child Placing Agencies that meet certain eligibility requirements. Within state and federal statute and regulatory requirements, DFPS-approved providers could start providing T3C Service Packages and Add-On Services based on evaluation of a comprehensive plan, but prior to meeting all of the requirements to become fully Credentialed. Providers approved for the Interim Credential would subsequently be required to become fully Credentialed within a set time frame. The Interim Credentialing process will be time-limited and will be eliminated as an option to providers during the latter part of the transition to T3C.</i></b></p>
3.	April, 2024	14	<p><b><u>Commonly Used Terms</u></b>                      ➤ <b>Treatment Model:</b>... Except for the General Residential Operation Tier II Service Packages, the provider’s Treatment Model can be one they have developed independently or one they have purchased, so long as it</p>	14	<p><b><u>Commonly Used Terms</u></b>                      ➤ <b>Treatment Model:</b>... <del>Except for the General Residential Operation Tier II Service Packages,</del> The provider’s Treatment Model can be one they have developed independently or one that they have purchased, so</p>

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			meets the core elements listed above and is Evidence-informed...		long as it meets the core elements listed above and is Evidence-informed, <b>or a Promising Practice, or is Evidence-based...</b>
4.	April, 2024	Not Applicable	Not Applicable – New Section [inserted after Commonly Used Terms]	16	<p><b><u>System Roles and Responsibilities Under T3C</u></b></p> <p><i>The Texas foster care system is an inter-agency and interdependent system. Each agency has a unique and specific role in the system that is defined by law, rule, statute or contract, and the T3C system strives to ensure that roles and responsibilities remain clearly defined. Most of the responsibilities identified are consistent with previously established responsibilities for each entity, however, a few have been added that are specific to the T3C credentialing, service delivery, and oversight processes.</i></p> <p>[new graphic illustration inserted]</p>
5.	April, 2024	16	<p><b><u>Selecting a Placement Under the T3C System</u></b></p> <p>While the CANS 3.0 Assessment <b>recommended</b> Service Package, and other supporting documentation will be used to inform the process, the knowledge and professional judgement of the SSCC or DFPS staff working to secure placement based on the individual child’s needs and best interest will be the basis for the selection of the <b>actual</b> Service Package and placement type.</p>	18	<p><b><u>Selecting a Placement Under the T3C System</u></b></p> <p>While the CANS 3.0 Assessment <b>recommended</b> Service Package, and other supporting documentation will be used to inform the process, the knowledge and professional judgement of the SSCC or DFPS staff working to secure placement based on the individual child’s needs and best interest will be the basis for the <b>selected</b> <del>of the actual</del> Service Package and placement type.</p>
6.	April, 2024	18	<p><b><u>Example of the Placement Selection Process Under the T3C System</u></b></p> <p>While the CANS 3.0 Assessment <b>recommended</b> Service Package, and</p>	19	<p><b><u>Example of the Placement Selection Process Under the T3C System</u></b></p> <p>While the CANS 3.0 Assessment <b>recommended</b> Service Package, and</p>

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			<p>other supporting documentation will be used to inform the process, the knowledge and professional judgement of the SSCC or DFPS staff working to secure placement based on the individual child’s needs and best interest will be the basis for the selection of the <b>actual</b> Service Package and placement type.</p>		<p>other supporting documentation will be used to inform the process, the knowledge and professional judgement of the SSCC or DFPS staff working to secure placement based on the individual child’s needs and best interest will be the basis for the <b>selected</b> <del>of the actual</del> Service Package and placement type.</p>
7.	April, 2024	21	<p><b><u>As a Provider, What Should I Be Doing to Prepare for Transition to the T3C System?</u></b>                      [new bullet point inserted]</p>	22	<p><b><u>As a Provider, What Should I Be Doing to Prepare for Transition to the T3C System?</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visit T3C Ready at <a href="http://www.T3CReady.org">www.T3CReady.org</a> an initiative of the SSCCs and the Texas Alliance of Child &amp; Family Services. T3C Ready contains valuable information to help providers actively prepare for the transition, including details on the two types of grant funds available for Fiscal Year 2024 to be utilized for T3C transition needs. ACH Child and Family Services-Our Community Our Kids (ACH-OCOK) has entered into a contract with DFPS to administer the FY 2024 funds. ACH-OCOK anticipates releasing a Request for Applications (RFA) in early May 2024, notify grant awardees in mid-June 2024, and to distribute grant funds early July 2024. Please watch the website for additional information.</li> </ul>
8.	April, 2024	25-26	<p><b><u>The Credentialing Process</u></b>                      Based on the vision for the T3C System and stakeholder feedback, some of the assumptions that are being used to guide the development of this process include:...</p>	27	<p><b><u>The Credentialing Process</u></b>                      [information moved out of bulleted area, up to become its own reformatted paragraph]  <b>DFPS anticipates considering</b> establishment of an <b>Interim initial short-term alternate</b> Credentialing</p>

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			<p>➤ Considering establishment of an initial short-term alternate Credentialing process for providers that have experience operating in Texas, are in good standing with CCR and SSCC/DFPS Contracts and have a demonstrated record of serving children with like needs to the Service Package(s) and/or Add-On Service(s) for which they are applying. Within state and federal statute and regulatory requirements, providers qualifying under this short-term, alternate process could start providing T3C Service Packages and Add-On Services based on evaluation of a comprehensive plan and prior to meeting all the requirements to become fully Credentialed. If approved, these providers would be required to become fully Credentialed within a set time frame. The initial short-term alternate Credentialing process would be time-limited and would be eliminated as an option to providers during the transition to T3C.</p>		<p>process. <b><i>It is anticipated that providers will have the ability to apply for the Interim Credential if they</i></b> have experience operating in Texas, <b><i>meet performance expectations as defined by DFPS,</i></b> <del>are in good standing with CCR and SSCC/DFPS Contracts</del> and have a demonstrated record of serving children with like needs to the Service Package(s) and/or Add-On Service(s) for which they are applying. Within state and federal statute and regulatory requirements, <b><i>DFPS-approved providers</i></b> could start providing T3C Service Packages and Add-On Services based on evaluation of a comprehensive plan, but prior to meeting all of the requirements to become fully Credentialed. <b><i>Providers approved for the Interim Credential would subsequently</i></b> be required to become fully Credentialed within a set time frame. The <del><i>Interim initial short-term alternate</i></del> Credentialing process will be time-limited and will be eliminated as an option to providers during <b><i>the latter part of the</i></b> transition to T3C.</p>
9.	April, 2024	27	<p><b><u>The Credentialing Process</u></b>                      ... DFPS anticipates providing updated information regarding both the Credentialing and re-Credentialing process, including the estimated timeline to begin the process and the expected timeline for completing the process, in the next iteration of the <i>T3C System Blueprint</i>.</p>	28	<p><b><u>The Credentialing Process</u></b>                      ... DFPS anticipates providing updated information regarding both the Credentialing and re-Credentialing process, including the estimated timeline to begin the process and the expected timeline for completing the process, in the <b><i>July 2024 next iteration of the T3C System Blueprint</i></b>.</p>
10.	April, 2024	29	<p><b><u>Service Package and Add-On Service Descriptions</u></b></p>		<p><b><u>Service Package and Add-On Service Descriptions</u></b></p>

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			[new #7 added, renumbered subsequent numbers]		<b>7. For all Service Packages, the Child Placing Agency or General Residential Operation must be licensed for all of the Permit Services listed. General Residential Operations have two possible Permit Types listed for each Service Package, but the provider is only required to have one or the other of them.</b>
11.	April, 2024	37, 48, 52, 58, 60, 68, 72, 80, 84, 91, 95, 103, 106, 115, 119, 127, 156, 185, 288, 304, 320, 336, 353, 371	<b><u>Admission Guidelines</u></b> and <b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b> In addition to and/or consistent with Statutory and Minimum Standards Requirements:...	38, 49, 53, 59, 61, 69, 73, 81, 85, 92, 96, 104, 108, 117, 121, 129, 159, 188, 293, 309, 325, 341, 358, 376	<b><u>Admission Guidelines</u></b> and <b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b> In addition to, and/or consistent with Statutory and Minimum Standards Requirements:...
12.	April, 2024	38, 48, 68, 80, 92, 104, 115, 127, 156, 171, 186, 200, 228, 242, 257, 272, 289, 305, 321, 337, 354, 372	<b><u>Quality Assurance and Continued Stay Guidelines</u></b> [new introduction to bullet points inserted]	39, 49, 69, 81, 93, 105, 117, 129, 159, 174, 189, 203, 231, 246, 262, 277, 294, 310, 326, 342, 359, 376	<b><u>Quality Assurance and Continued Stay Guidelines</u></b> <b><i>Quality Assurance and Continued Stay Guidelines incorporated in the provider's policy and procedures, that include:</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On-going review and...</li> </ul>
13.	April, 2024	47, 57, 67, 79, 102, 125	<b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b> ... All Case Management functions must be performed by an employee of the Child Placing Agency.	48, 58, 68, 80, 103, 127	<b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b> ... All <b><i>Treatment Director and</i></b> Case Management functions must be performed by <b><i>actual employees</i></b> <del>an</del> <i>employee</i> of the Child Placing Agency.
14.	April, 2024	48	<b><u>Admission Guidelines</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child Placing Agency admissions staff have reviewed the child's information and determined that the child's needs align with services offered by the</li> </ul>	49	<b><u>Admission Guidelines</u></b> [bullet points were separated] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child Placing Agency admissions staff have reviewed the child's information and determined that</li> </ul>

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			<p>Child Placing Agency and selected Caregivers. The Child Placing Agency and Foster Family Home are Credentialed to provide the Substance Use Support Services Package.</p>		<p>the child’s needs align with services offered by the Child Placing Agency and selected Caregivers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Child Placing Agency and Foster Family Home are Credentialed to provide the Substance Use Support Services Package.</li> </ul>
15.	April, 2024	52	<p><b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child Placing Agency must coordinate and ensure that comprehensive assessments, evaluations, screenings, and treatment services are provided within 21 days of admission (for children aged 5 and under) and 30 days of admission (for children aged 5 and older) and be based on the child’s individual need(s) (dependent on eligibility, services should be authorized and paid for through STAR Health.)...</li> </ul>	53	<p><b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child Placing Agency must coordinate and ensure that comprehensive assessments, evaluations, screenings, and treatment services are provided within 21 days of admission (for children aged 5 and under) and 30 days of admission (for children aged <b>6 5</b> and over), and be based on the child’s individual need(s) (dependent on eligibility, services should be authorized and paid for through STAR Health.)...</li> </ul>
16.	April, 2024	53	<p><b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The child’s CANS 3.0 Assessment must be administered in accordance with the requirements, but no later than 21 days (for children between the ages of 3 and 5) 30 days (for children aged 5 and older) after entering the placement...</li> </ul>	54	<p><b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The child’s CANS 3.0 Assessment must be administered in accordance with the requirements, but no later than 21 days (for children between the ages of 3 and 5) or 30 days (for children aged <b>6 5</b> and older) after entering the placement...</li> </ul>
17.	April, 2024	91, 113	<p><b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b></p> <p>... All Case Management functions, and the responsibilities of the Registered Nurse, must be performed by actual employees of the Child Placing Agency.</p>	92, 115	<p><b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b></p> <p>... All <b><i>Treatment Director and</i></b> Case Management functions, and the responsibilities of the Registered Nurse, must be performed by actual employees of the Child Placing Agency.</p>
18.	April, 2024	101	<p><b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child Placing Agency must have a Treatment Director whose responsibilities include supervision of Licensed Therapist(s) on staff.</li> </ul>	102	<p><b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>The</i></b> Child Placing Agency must have a Treatment Director whose responsibilities include supervision</li> </ul>

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					of Licensed <b>Therapists</b> <i>Therapist(s)</i> on staff.
19.	April, 2024	108	<b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b> [new bullet point inserted]	109	<b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>The Intellectual or Developmental Disability (IDD)/Autism Spectrum Disorder Support Services Package necessitates a custom care plan for the child that should incorporate support and guidance from a Registered Nurse on how to care for the individual medical needs of the child, to include administering medication and the use of medically necessary equipment.</i></b></li> <li>• Child Placing Agency must have case manager level...</li> </ul>
20.	April, 2024	153	<b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The General Residential Operation must have a Treatment Director that is responsible for evaluating, assessing, and providing direction to the Child Placing Agency’s Case Management staff on necessary services that the child, youth, or young adult receiving the Tier I: Basic Child Care Operation Service Package may require as a part of his or her Service Plan.</li> </ul>	156	<b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The General Residential Operation must have a Treatment Director that is responsible for evaluating, assessing, and providing direction to the <b><i>General Residential Operation’s</i></b> <del>Child Placing Agency’s</del> Case Management staff on necessary services that the child, youth, or young adult receiving the Tier I: Basic Child Care Operation Service Package may require as a part of his or her Service Plan.</li> </ul>
21.	April, 2024	154	<b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b> ... All Direct Delivery Caregiver and/or Cottage Parent and Case Management functions must be performed by an employee of the operation.	157	<b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b> ... All <b><i>Treatment Director</i></b> , Direct Delivery Caregiver and/or Cottage Parent, and Case Management functions must be performed by <b><i>actual employees</i></b> <del>an employee</del> of the operation.
22.	April, 2024	168, 184, 198, 213,	<b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b>	171, 187, 201, 216,	<b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b>

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		239, 254, 270, 287, 302, 318, 335, 369	... All Direct Delivery Caregiver and Case Management functions must be performed by an employee of the operation.	243, 259, 274, 291, 307, 323, 339, 374	... All <b>Treatment Director</b> , Direct Delivery Caregiver, and Case Management functions must be performed by <b>actual employees</b> <del>an</del> <i>employee</i> of the operation.
23.	April, 2024	170	<b><u>Admission Guidelines</u></b> In addition to Statutory and Minimum Standards Requirements:...	173	<b><u>Admission Guidelines</u></b> In addition to, <b>and/or consistent with</b> Statutory and Minimum Standards Requirements:...
24.	April, 2024	205	<b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The General Residential Operation must coordinate and ensure that comprehensive assessments, evaluations, screenings, and treatment services are provided within 30 days of admission; services should be customized based on individual strengths and needs (dependent on eligibility, services should be authorized and paid for through STAR Health)...</li> </ul>	208	<b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The General Residential Operation must coordinate and ensure that comprehensive assessments, evaluations, screenings, and treatment services are provided within <b>21 days of admission (for children aged 5 and under) and 30 days of admission (for children aged 6 and over)</b>; services should be customized based on individual strengths and needs (dependent on eligibility, services should be authorized and paid for through STAR Health)...</li> </ul>
25.	April, 2024	206	<b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The child’s CANS 3.0 Assessment must be administered in accordance with the requirements, but no later than 30 days after entering the placement (unless a CANS 3.0 Assessment was completed within the prior 90-day period and remains valid)...</li> </ul>	209	<b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The child’s CANS 3.0 Assessment must be administered in accordance with the requirements, but no later than <b>21 days after admission (for children between the ages of 3 and 5) and 30 days after admission entering the placement (for children aged 6 and over)</b>, unless a CANS 3.0 Assessment was completed within the prior 90-day period and remains valid...</li> </ul>
26.	April, 2024	219	<b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b> [new bullet point inserted]	222	<b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>The Tier I: Complex Medical Needs Treatment to Support Community Transition Service</b></li> </ul>



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					<p><b><i>Package necessitates a custom care plan for the child that should incorporate support and guidance from a Registered Nurse on how to care for the individual medical needs of the child, to include administering medication and the use of medically necessary equipment.</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The child’s CANS 3.0 Assessment...</li> </ul>
27.	April, 2024	226	<p><b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b>                      ... All Direct Delivery Caregiver and Case Management functions, and the responsibilities of the Registered Nurse, must be performed by actual employees of the agency.</p>	229	<p><b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b>                      ... All <b><i>Treatment Director</i></b>, Direct Delivery Caregiver, and Case Management functions, and the responsibilities of the Registered Nurse, must be performed by actual employees of the <b><i>operation</i></b> agency.</p>
28.	April, 2024	244	<p><b><u>Treatment Services</u></b>                      Intellectual or Development Disability                       Autism Spectrum Disorder                       Emotional Disorders</p>	249	<p><b><u>Treatment Services</u></b>                      Intellectual or <b><i>Developmental Development</i></b> Disability                       Autism Spectrum Disorder                       Emotional Disorders</p>
29.	April, 2024	253	<p><b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b>                      • The General Residential Operation must have a Treatment Director whose responsibilities include supervision of the Licensed Therapist(s) on staff.</p>	258	<p><b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b>                      • The General Residential Operation must have a Treatment Director whose responsibilities include supervision of the Licensed <b><i>Therapists</i></b> <del>Therapist(s)</del> on staff.</p>
30.	April, 2024	273	<p><b><u>Aftercare Services</u></b>                      • The Tier I: Human Trafficking Victim Treatment Services to Support Community Transition Service Package requires the planning and provision of Aftercare Services.</p>	278	<p><b><u>Aftercare Services</u></b>                      • The Tier I: Human Trafficking Victim/<b><i>Survivor</i></b> Treatment Services to Support Community Transition Service Package requires the planning and provision of Aftercare Services.</p>
31.	April, 2024	277	<p><b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b>                      • ... Therapy services must be provided by a Licensed Sex Offender</p>	282	<p><b><u>Service Package Expectations</u></b>                      • ... Therapy services must be provided by a Licensed Sex</p>

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			Treatment Provider (LSOTP) or Qualified Credentialed Counselor (QCC), unless the Service Planning team determines a different type of therapist is needed to meet the child’s custom needs...		Offender Treatment Provider (LSOTP) <del>or Qualified Credentialed Counselor (QCC)</del> , unless the Service Planning team determines a different type of therapist is needed to meet the child’s custom needs...
32.	April, 2024	286	<p><b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Licensed Sex Offender Treatment Provider (LSOTP) or Qualified Credentialed Counselor (QCC) to oversee treatment and service planning for children, youth, and young adults</li> </ul>	291	<p><b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Licensed Sex Offender Treatment Provider (LSOTP) <del>or Qualified Credentialed Counselor (QCC)</del> to oversee treatment and service planning for children, youth, and young adults</li> </ul>
33.	April, 2024	352	<p><b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b></p> <p>... All Direct Delivery Caregiver and Case Management functions, and the responsibilities of the Registered Nurse, must be performed by an employee of the operation.</p>	356	<p><b><u>Staffing Requirements</u></b></p> <p>... All <b>Treatment Director</b>, Direct Delivery Caregiver, and Case Management functions, and the responsibilities of the Registered Nurse, must be performed by <b>actual employees</b> <del>an employee</del> of the operation.</p>
34.	April, 2024	357	<p><b><u>Treatment Services</u></b></p> <p>Emotional Disorders</p> <p>Intellectual or Development Disability</p> <p>Autism Spectrum Disorder</p>	362	<p><b><u>Treatment Services</u></b></p> <p>Emotional Disorders</p> <p>Intellectual or <b>Developmental</b> <del>Development</del> Disability</p> <p>Autism Spectrum Disorder</p>