

# Assessment in Family-Centered Child Protective Services – Module IV

## Competencies

### Topic 114

#### Safety, Risk and Family Assessment

##### Skill Set 114-01 Ability to make a safety determination

114-01-001

Knows the purpose of the safety assessment

114-01-002

Understands the components, strengths and limitations of the safety tool

114-01-003

Understands the individual, family and environmental factors often associated with imminent harm

114-01-004

Understands individual, family and environmental strengths that can protect children

114-01-005

Understands the complex interactions of safety and protective factors in assessing safety

114-01-006

Knows what information must be gathered when assessing child safety

114-01-007

Knows strategies to gather information from immediate and extended family members to assess safety

114-01-008

Knows how to elicit information from key informants, case records, community professionals and other sources to expand and verify information collected from family members

114-01-009

Can conduct individual and family interviews to gather and verify information about safety and protective factors

114-01-010

Can use the standardized safety assessment tool to accurately document the safety determination of a child

114-01-011

Can identify strengths and resources in the immediate and extended family, neighborhood and community that are protective factors

114-01-012

Can use information about present safety factors to establish an appropriate level of safety intervention

**Skill Set 114-02 Ability to assess risk of future maltreatment**

114-02-001

Knows the purpose of risk assessment

114-02-002

Understands the importance of using formal risk assessment technologies to increase the validity of conclusions about risk

114-02-003

Understands the components, strengths and limitations of risk assessment instruments and technologies

114-02-004

Understands how safety assessment fits within the continuum of risk assessment strategies

114-02-005

Understands the individual, family and environmental risk factors often associated with increased risk of future maltreatment to children

114-02-006

Understands individual, family and environmental strengths that can often mitigate risk and protect children from future maltreatment

114-02-007

Understands the complex interactions of risk and protective factors in creating an overall estimate of risk

114-01-008

Knows what information must be gathered when screening an initial referral to identify children who may be at imminent risk of serious harm

114-02-009

Knows strategies to gather information from immediate and extended family members about risk and protective factors in the family

114-02-010

Knows how to gather information from collateral contacts, case records, community professionals and other sources to expand and verify information collected from family members

114-02-011

Can conduct individual and family interviews to gather and verify information about risk factors present in the family and their environment

114-02-012

Can use standardized risk assessment tools to accurately document the risk of future maltreatment for a child

114-02-013

Can identify strengths and resources in the immediate and extended family, neighborhood and community that can mitigate risk

114-02-014

Can use information about present risk factors to establish an appropriate level of services to meet the needs of the family

**Skill Set 114-03 Ability to conduct comprehensive family assessments for purposes of case planning and service delivery**

114-03-001

Knows the importance of a holistic approach to a family assessment that addresses contributors to maltreatment, family strengths/protective capacities and family needs

114-03-002

Knows the liabilities and potential dangers to children of basing decisions, case plans and services on an insufficient or inaccurate assessment

114-03-003

Knows the importance of conducting assessments in collaboration with family members to increase the depth, accuracy and relevance of assessment findings

114-03-004

Knows the full range of individual, family and environmental problems, strengths and resources to be addressed in a comprehensive family assessment

114-03-005

Understands how family needs, problems and environmental conditions may interact to increase the potential for child maltreatment

114-03-006

Understands how protective capacities, including family resilience, coping skills and interfamilial and community supports, can help families prevent recurrences of maltreatment

114-03-007

Understands how cultural factors and differences in parenting practices can complicate a family assessment and potentially lead to inaccurate conclusions about families

114-03-008

Understands the benefits of using open-ended interview strategies to engage families and to obtain more thorough and accurate assessment information

114-03-009

Understands how preconceived expectations, misjudgments based on insufficient information, and worker ethnocentrism may bias a worker's interpretation of individual and family behavior, attitudes and communications

114-03-010

Understands the potential harm to families and children of drawing conclusions based on inaccurate or insufficient information

114-03-011

Understands the importance of documenting thorough, summarized case assessment information in the family's case record

114-03-012

Knows how to select and sequence activities to maximize family members' comfort and participation in the assessment

114-03-013

Can analyze, compare and integrate assessment information from various sources, test the accuracy of information, and draw relevant conclusions upon which to base case decisions

114-03-014

Can help families identify specific risk factors that may contribute to future child maltreatment in the family

114-03-015

Can help families identify personal and family strengths, extended family networks and community/neighborhood resources to ensure children's safety and promote constructive change

114-03-016

Can document assessment findings and conclusions in a thorough, summarized assessment report

**Skill Set 114-04 Ability to design and implement safety plans to protect children at imminent danger of serious harm**

114-04-001

Knows the role and importance of safety planning in child welfare practice

114-04-002

Knows the necessary components of a safety plan and how it differs from a case plan to guide service delivery

114-04-003

Understands concepts of safety planning and how these affect reasonable efforts

114-04-004

Knows how to engage and involve immediate and extended family members in safety planning activities

114-04-005

Knows how to build on the strengths and protective capacities of family members in safety planning

114-04-006

Knows how to access agency and community supportive services and resources to help keep children safe in their own families

114-04-007

Knows how to determine when out-of-home placement is the only viable option to ensure a child's safety

114-04-008

Knows how to determine when removal of the perpetrator from the home is the most appropriate safety plan for a child

114-04-009

Can work jointly with families to develop and implement a safety plan to protect children at risk of imminent harm

114-04-010

Can plan and use in-home supportive services to prevent out-of-home placement