Sacramento County Department of Child, Family and Adult Services (DCFAS)

Child Protective Services

Psychological/Psychiatric Testing and Evaluations and Bonding Assessments Minimum Qualifications (MQ's)

Open Enrollment (#CPS/050)

Sacramento County DCFAS has developed the following minimum qualifications (MQ's) required to be an enrolled contractor to provide case record reviews and conduct clinical interviews for the purpose of evaluation. The goal is to conduct psychological testing and evaluations for children and parents/caretakers referred to DCFAS as a result of alleged neglect and/or physical, emotional, or sexual abuse of children. DCFAS staff will consider testing results and evaluations to determine the most appropriate case plan for a family and for making dispositional recommendations to Sacramento County Courts.

Objectives:

1. Services to be provided are to:
    a. Determine whether a parent is suffering from a mental disability that renders them incapable of utilizing services under Welfare Institutions Code 361.5(b)(2).
    b. Identify parent or caregiver risk factors that may potentially result in injury or harm to a child.
    c. Determine if a parent or caregiver can be successfully treated to prevent harm to a child in the future.
    d. Assess both current and potential functional abilities of a parent or caregiver to meet the needs of a child, including an evaluation and description of the relationship between a parent or caregiver and a child.
    e. Assess a parent or caregiver's ability to provide reasonable protection for a child.
    f. Determine the existence and extent of psychopathology, treatment and placement needs of a child.
2. Bonding assessments are provided to determine the detriment/benefits to a child of a proposed termination of parental rights under Welfare and Institutions Code 366.26. Assessments will address:
    a. Assessing if a significant parent/child relationship exists. Including a description of the parent/child relationship.
    b. Assessing if the benefits a child would receive from a continued relationship with the parent would outweigh the benefits in a permanent home with adoptive parents.
    c. Assessing if the relationship between a child and the parent is sufficiently strong that the child would suffer from termination of the relationship.
    d. Assessing if termination of parental rights and adoption would result in substantial interference with sibling relationships.
    e. Assessing if ongoing contact with a sibling is in a child's best interest, including the child's long-term emotional interest, compared to the benefits of legal permanence through adoption.

Agencies/individuals interested in contracting with Sacramento County DCFAS for Psychological/Psychiatric Testing and Evaluations and Bonding Assessments must complete the form on the following page and submit to Barbara Oleachea oleacb@saccounty.net / (916) 876-9989. This open enrollment process is non-binding; the County cannot provide a guarantee of the number of referrals made.

INFORMATION – PSYCHOLOGICAL/PSYCHIATRIC TESTING AND EVALUATIONS AND BONDING ASSESSMENTS (#CPS/050)	
Legal Entity/Individual Name	
Name of authorized contracting official	
Date	
Contact Information	
Contact Person / Title	
Address	
Telephone	
Fax	
Email Address	

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS – PSYCHOLOGICAL/PSYCHIATRIC TESTING AND EVALUATIONS AND BONDING ASSESSMENTS (#CPS/050)

1. You or your agency must meet one of the following requirements:

   a. Currently a California Board Certified Psychologist who has a doctoral degree in psychology and at least five years of postgraduate experience in the diagnosis and treatment of emotional and mental disorders.

   ☐ Yes ☐ No

   and/or

   b. Physician and surgeon, who must be certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology.

   ☐ Yes ☐ No

   and/or

   c. A certificate of medical examiner issued by the State Department of State Hospitals as described in section 6750 of the California Welfare and Institution Code.

   ☐ Yes ☐ No