

NEW YORK STATE
OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES
CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING INDICATORS TOOL
To be used for the comprehensive screening

This tool is used in the identification of victims of sex trafficking and children and youth at risk of sex trafficking as part of normal case work with all children and youth in the care, custody, or supervision of the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS), local departments of social services (LDSSs), and voluntary agencies (VAs) per [Requirements to Identify, Document, Report, and Provide Services to Child Sex Trafficking Victims](#)¹ and [Child Sex Trafficking/Commercially Sexually Exploited Children \(CSEC\)](#). This tool is to be used as a more comprehensive assessment of risk and victimization when any one or more indicator is recorded on form [OCFS-3921](#). Like form [OCFS-3921](#), this is not a questionnaire. **The youth and the youth's family should not be asked these questions.** Instead, this form is to be completed by the worker based on the information gathered in the course of normal client interactions.

Populations

This tool is to be applied in all instances, regardless of age, when a child or youth is in the care, custody, or supervision of OCFS, LDSS, or VA AND when one or more indicator is present on form [OCFS-3922](#). For more information, please refer to [15-OCFS-ADM-16](#) and [Child Sex Trafficking/Commercially Sexually Exploited Children \(CSEC\)](#).

When to Complete the Tool

The tool MUST be completed and documented in CONNECTIONS or JJIS when one or more indicator was identified using form [OCFS-3921](#). In addition to the screening requirements as defined in [15-OCFS-ADM-16](#) and [Child Sex Trafficking/Commercially Sexually Exploited Children \(CSEC\)](#) this tool may also be used when a child's circumstances change or new information is learned about the child.

Completion of the Tool

The information about the indicators below is to be collected through the routine process of investigation or case work. The tool should be completed based on the information already gathered as part of the investigation for Child Protective Services cases or in the case record. All children identified as victims must receive services to address the needs identified and law enforcement must be notified using form [OCFS-3922](#) in accordance with [15-OCFS-ADM-16](#) (for LDSSs and VAs) or [Child Sex Trafficking/Commercially Sexually Exploited Children \(CSEC\)](#) (for juvenile justice) policies.

¹ [15-OCFS-ADM-16](#)

Name of Youth: _____ DOB: ____ / ____ / ____
 Name of Person _____
 Completing Form: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / ____
 Agency: _____

Child Meets Federal Definition of a Child Sex Trafficking Victim - ONE or more of these indicators:	Yes	No
Child needs to be documented as a trafficking victim in CONNECTIONS or JJIS (for DJJOY) and trafficking response protocol followed (see policy or desk aid ¹).		
Child reports engaging in commercial sex act(s) (a sex act where something of value is received).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Child reports he/she has been prostituted or trafficked.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
There are photos or videos of the child being victimized and/or being used to advertise the child for sexual purposes (Backpage, Craigslist, etc).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Law enforcement refers child instead of arresting for prostitution, or does arrest for prostitution.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Child reports trading sex for a place to stay, food, drugs, or anything of value.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Child reports being involved in the sex industry (working in strip clubs, private sex parties, etc.).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Someone witnesses the child engaged in a commercial sex act.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Youth over 18 is engaging in prostitution or commercial sex acts due to force, fraud or coercion.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
High-Level Indicators - ONE or more of these indicators	Yes	No
Child exhibits indicators that are commonly associated with sex trafficking, which causes serious concerns. Document high-level Indicators in CONNECTIONS or JJIS (for DJJOY). Child needs to be closely monitored and needs intensive case management services to address current or prevent future trafficking.		
Associating with adults or other children/youth who are being prostituted, or are known to be involved with trafficking and/or exploitation.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Being seen in exploitation hotspots, i.e., known houses or recruiting grounds.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pattern of street homelessness and staying with someone believed to be sexually exploiting the youth.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Multiple AWOLS, runaway or being kicked out (4+).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Being taken to clubs and hotels by adults or older peers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disclosure of serious sexual assault and then withdrawal of statement.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Abduction and/or forced imprisonment; not allowed to freely move about.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Child discloses or someone reports the child being moved around for sexual activity.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disappearing from the "child welfare system" with no contact or support.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use of slang trafficking terms (e.g., calling romantic partner "Daddy" or "Mommy," talking about "the life," "the game").	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recruiting peers into exploitation.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tattoos that he/she is reluctant to explain, especially if they show ownership (names, dollar signs, symbols, acronyms) or other types of branding, like cutting or burning.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does not have any identification or reports someone holding his/her identification.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unexplained hotel keys.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Child discloses or someone reports that child offered to have sex for money or other payment and then ran before sex took place.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Being groomed and/or sexualized on the Internet; contact with strangers on the Internet and/or sexual risk taking on social media, such as Facebook, Backpage, Zoosk, Craigslist.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

¹ Requirements to Identify, Report, and Provide Services to Child Sex Trafficking Victims (for LDSSs and VAs) or Child Sex Trafficking/Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) (for DJJOY).

Medium-Level Indicators - ONE or more of these indicators Child exhibits significant indicators that may indicate sex trafficking. Document medium level of Indicators in CONNECTIONS or JJIS (for DJJOY). Child should be more closely monitored and provided services that may address current or prevent future trafficking.	Yes	No
Getting into cars with unknown adults.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Child under 13 engaging in sexual activity.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Known history of prior sexual abuse or sexual acting out.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Having an older boyfriend/girlfriend, especially if he or she appears controlling; youth appears fearful of boyfriend/girlfriend at times.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not attending school; concerns regarding school attendance.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Staying out overnight with no explanation multiple times and/or regularly coming home late or going missing.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unaccounted money or goods, including mobile phones, drugs and alcohol, or other person supplies these goods/money to child/youth.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Multiple sexually transmitted infections, pregnancies and/or multiple miscarriages or abortions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gang member or association with gangs or neighborhood groups.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Someone else other than the child's parent or guardian was in control of immigration to U.S.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Overt sexual dress.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does not know his/her address and/or has moved multiple times.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chronic alcohol and/or drug use by youth.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Youth's story does not make sense - inconsistencies, the narrative doesn't fit together.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Contact for non-emergency questions on child trafficking: humantrafficking@ocfs.ny.gov