

NEW YORK STATE
OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES**RAPID INDICATOR TOOL**

*To Identify Children Who May Be Sex Trafficking Victims
or Are At Risk of Being a Sex Trafficking Victim*¹

The indicators listed on page two help to determine whether a child may be a victim of sex trafficking, or is at risk of being a victim of sex trafficking. These factors are to be considered as a means to determine whether there is reasonable cause to believe the child is a victim or at risk of being a victim, in which case a more [comprehensive assessment](#) of the child's experiences and service needs is required.²

Do not directly ask the child or family the questions. This is not a questionnaire.

Populations

This tool is to be applied in **all** instances, regardless of age, where a child is in the care, supervision or custody of a local department of social services (LDSS) or the Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS). For more information on the population this tool pertains to, please see [Requirements to Identify, Document, Report, and Provide Services to Child Sex Trafficking Victims \(LDSS/VAs\)](#) or [Child Sex Trafficking/Commercially Sexually Exploited Children \(CSEC\) \(OCFS DJJOY\)](#).

When to Complete the Tool

The tool **MUST** be completed and documented:

- If the child returns from being missing, abducted, or absent without consent.
- If a new CPS investigation is opened for the child.

For Cases in CONNECTIONS

- By the due date of the initial Family Assessment and Service Plan (FASP).
- Prior to the investigative or FAR case being closed (whether the case is completed and closed or transferred to receive foster care or preventive services).

For Cases in Juvenile Justice Information System (JJIS)

- During the intake/reception process.

If the child's circumstances change or new information is learned, the tool may be used in addition to the above requirements.

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 CPS cases or in the case record.

If the child has already disclosed sex trafficking this tool does **not** need to be completed. The comprehensive screening tool should be completed instead. All children identified as victims must receive services to address the needs identified.

¹ Referenced as the quick screening tool in the sex trafficking requirements policies.

² [Child Sex Trafficking Indicators Tool](#).

Name of Child: _____ DOB: _____
 Name of Person Completing Form: _____ Date: _____
 Agency: _____

The following is a list of some red flags that indicate a child may be a sex trafficking victim or is at risk of being a victim of sex trafficking.

- Do not directly ask the child or family the questions. This is not a questionnaire.
- The child may be a victim or is at risk if the answer is “Yes” to any of the indicators below:

	Yes
Are there signs of child abuse of a sexual nature and reason to believe that the child, or parent/guardian of the child or other person(s) facilitating the abuse, was given or promised anything in return for the sexual abuse?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there reason to believe there are photographs, social media posts, or other recordings of instance(s) of sexual abuse of the child?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has the parent/guardian been a victim of trafficking or is there concern that the parent/guardian has been a victim?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the child have a history of multiple runaways/AWOLS or episodes of homelessness/couch surfing in the past? (Family homelessness should not be counted)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the child have tattoos that show, imply, or suggest ownership and/or that he or she does not have an explanation for? (e.g., daddy’s girl, property of someone’s name, symbols, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the child have or has he or she previously had a significantly older boyfriend or girlfriend who is controlling and/or whom the child appears to be afraid of?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the child have a history of multiple or chronic sexually transmitted infections, or pregnancies/abortions, or report multiple anonymous sexual partners?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the child have money, a cell phone, hotel keys, or other items that he or she does not have the resources to obtain and cannot account for?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has a gang affiliation been disclosed, reported, or suspected?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is someone else other than the child’s parent or guardian in control of his or her identification or passport?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have any other reason to believe the child may be a sex trafficking victim?	<input type="checkbox"/>

The Results: Documentation and Required Actions

The worker must document the results of this tool in CONNECTIONS or JJIS.

- No indicators have been marked “yes”. The worker enters “No Risk Indicators” into CONNECTIONS/JJIS and no further screening is needed, unless new information is learned, the child’s circumstances change, the child returns from being missing, abducted, or absent without consent or a new CPS investigative case is opened for the child.
- There **are** one or more indicators marked “Yes” or the child has already been determined to be a victim. The worker enters “At Risk” into CONNECTIONS/JJIS and must complete the comprehensive screening tool(s) as outlined in the policies [Requirements to Identify, Document, Report, and Provide Services to Child Sex Trafficking Victims](#) (LDSS/VAs) or [Child Sex Trafficking/Commercially Sexually Exploited Children \(CSEC\)](#) (OCFS DJJOY)

Place a copy of this form in the child’s case record for documentation of completion and decision.