

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

CHILDREN'S DIVISION

P. O. BOX 88

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

MEMORANDUM

TO: CHILDREN'S DIVISION AND CONTRACTED STAFF

FROM: DARRELL MISSEY, DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: REMOVAL OF DIFFERENTIAL RESPONSE ASSESSMENTS FROM POLICY

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this memorandum is to notify team members that effective upon the release of this memo, staff will no longer conduct Differential Response (DR) Assessments.

To accurately report and assess all aspects of our work, it was necessary to review DR Assessments in Round 3 of the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR). In FY2021, Differential Response Assessments made up less than 1% of all reports with a total of 387 DR Assessments conducted. As we move into preparation for Round 4 of the CFSR, it was decided that DR Assessments would be removed from policy since it was an optional practice and represented such a small portion of the work.

Any currently open DR Assessments should be concluded by April 15, 2022 or referred to Family Centered Services as appropriate.

NECESSARY ACTION	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review this memorandum with all Children's Division staff. 2. Review revised Child Welfare Manual chapters as indicated below. 3. All questions should be cleared through normal supervisory channels and directed to: 	
PDS CONTACT Cari Pointer Cari.A.Pointer@dss.mo.gov	MANAGER CONTACT Kara Wilcox Kara.B.Wilcox-Bauer@dss.mo.gov

POLICY:
Section 2 Chapter 5 Section 4.5 (Removed)
FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS
REFERENCE DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCES
RELATED STATUTE