



CONNECTIONS Build Bulletin

Build 1 2022: March 16, 2022

CONNECTIONS Build 1 2022 is currently scheduled for deployment on Wednesday, March 16, 2022. Several enhancements to the Uploads functionality in CONNECTIONS will allow staff to upload documents more easily and see where they are located. The build also contains Family First modifications with reminders for long-stayers and modifications to Activities coding for long-stayer reviews. For CPS staff, there are enhancements which flag intake reports which are eligible to be switched to the FAR (Family Assessment Response) track, as well as a new question on the Intake Checklist used by the SCR, which is for intake for child fatality reports. Finally, at the end of this bulletin, there is a list of fixes to previously reported issues that are included in this build.

Uploads Modifications

Warning when Linking File to a Different Stage than Previously Indicated

When a photo or document is uploaded to the “My Uploads” tab and is *associated* to a specific stage via the “Stage ID” column – this does not directly attach that file to the selected stage. It has only been identified as pertaining to that stage during the Uploads process.

To reduce confusion – when a photo/doc that is *associated* to a specific stage is later linked to a *different stage*, the user will receive a warning message:

“Warning – A file you have selected was identified with a different stage ID during the uploads process than the one to which you are now linking it. Proceeding will update the Stage ID associated to the file. Do you wish to continue?”

Allow Uploads Functionality via Modify Paths

In a departure from past restrictive Uploads functionality, this change drastically increases the flexibility of the Uploads module by allowing any properly credentialed worker the ability to upload photos/docs to any window (that already has Uploads functionality built in) to which they have modify rights.

This means:

If a worker has the correct security profile (i.e., File Uploads BF and any other required BFs for specific window/module access), and they have modify ability on a window where Add Photos-Docs already exists – then they can add photos and documents to that window from their own My Uploads bucket, from specialty paths, or from the My Uploads bucket of the workload worker – if accessing from Unit Summary or Agency Access.

To better clarify *whose uploads* the worker is selecting from when they are linking a file to a specific module, the existing “Worker” column has been updated to “Uploaded By.”

Photo/Doc	Stage ID	Uploaded By	Date File Created	Date Uploaded
<input type="checkbox"/> Open		Friendly, Frank	08/27/2021	02/18/2022
<input type="checkbox"/> Open		Caring, Carrie	08/27/2021	02/18/2022

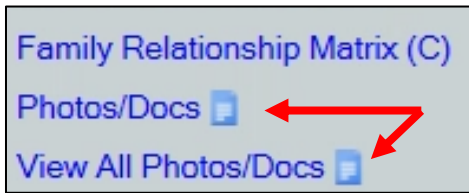
Uploads – Better Flagging where Files are Located

To better identify where Uploads exist within CONNECTIONS, the following will be introduced:

- A new column titled “Photos/Docs” added to the grids listed below. A “Y” exists when a photo or document has been attached to that specific row of the grid:
 - Person List
 - Allegations
 - Progress Notes

Photos/Docs	Event Date	Status	Type
<input type="checkbox"/> Y	11/01/2021	Final	Casework Contact, Collatera
<input type="checkbox"/>	11/01/2021	Draft	Casework Contact, Collatera
<input type="checkbox"/>	11/01/2021	Final	Casework Contact, Collatera
<input type="checkbox"/> Y	10/29/2021	Final	Notice
<input type="checkbox"/>	10/27/2021	Final	Court

A new icon – known as the “File Indicator” - will exist on the left navigation pane of a worker’s workload for any module where a photo or document (one or more) has been attached.

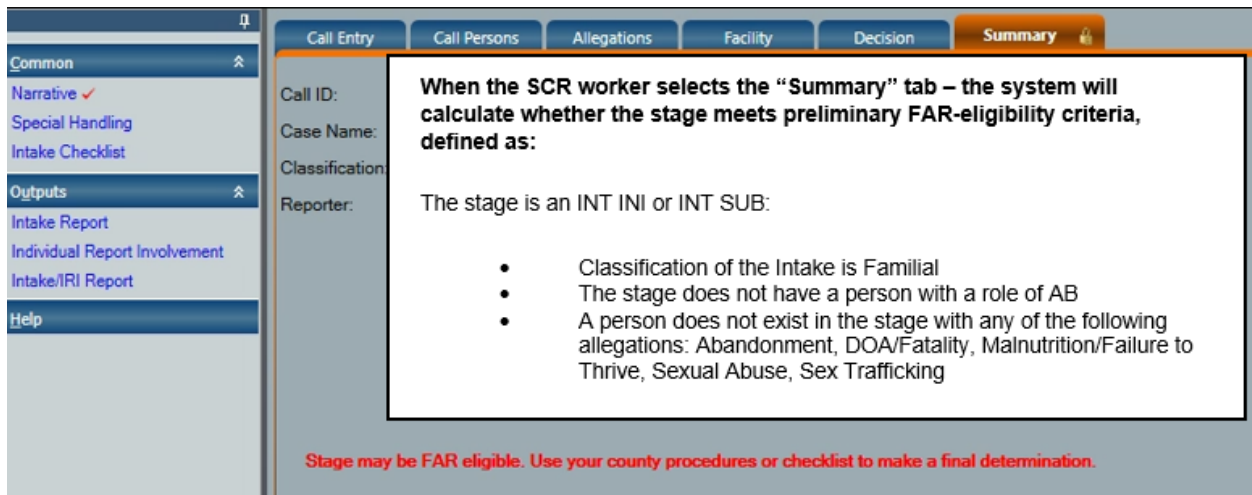


“Modules” with Uploads capacity are: Progress Notes, Person List, Allegations, Health Services, Photos/Docs (Stage level), View All Photos/Docs (Stage level)

CPS Investigation and Intake Changes

Automated Indicator at Intake when FAR Eligible

In the CPS Intake Dialog (on the Summary tab), and in the Intake Report, a new message will be displayed when the stage meets preliminary criteria as being FAR-eligible:
“Stage may be FAR eligible. Use your county procedures or checklist to make a final determination.”



This change will help CPS staff more easily identify intake reports which are preliminarily eligible for FAR and will be visible for all users, whether or not that district is currently enrolled in FAR.

Add Shelter Question to CONNECTIONS Intake Stage Checklist

A new, fatality only, question has been added to the CPS Intake Checklist completed by the SCR.

- “FATL Only: Does the family reside in a shelter?”

The question appears first in the section of Fatality only questions. When the response to the question is “Yes,” a comment is required.

The Intake Report is updated with the new question and applicable response.

Child has an IRP:	No
FATL only: Does the family reside in a shelter?	No
FATL only: Is cause of death known?	No
FATL only: Is location of body known?	No

Family First Modifications:

FFPSA – QRTP Long Term Stayers Review Codes

Two new Activities codes have been created to allow users to record the outcomes of the Interim State team determination and the Commissioner’s final determination for the appropriateness of a child remaining at a QRTP facility long-term.

The intent of the Q100 code is to document the decision of the local team, as to whether the youth should remain in a QRTP (Modifier A – approved or not approved). If the decision is to request from OCFS that the youth remain in the QRTP, then they should enter the Q100 with a modifier A of “P” on the date the Long Stayer Review Form (LSRF) is submitted to OCFS. If the decision is to not approve the youth’s continued stay in a QRTP, thus not submitting a LSRF to OCFS, then enter the Q100 Modifier A “NP” on the date that decision is made (NOTE: this date must be no later than the date the LSRF would have otherwise been submitted to OCFS).

- Q100 – Interim QRTP Long Term Stay Review
 - Open to OCFS, LDSS, and VA staff with Maintain Activities permissions
- Q200 – OCFS Commissioner Level Long Term Stay Review
 - Open only to OCFS staff (including invalidation)

Both new codes will have the following modifiers available:

- Modifier A:
 - P – QRTP Long Stay Review Approved
 - NP – QRTP Long Stay Review Not Approved
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- Modifier B:
 - 6C – 6 Month Consecutive Review
 - 6N – 6 Month Non-Consecutive Review
 - 12C – 12 Month Consecutive Review
 - 18N – 18 Month Non-Consecutive Review
- Modifier C:
 - Vendor ID

Additional logic exists pertaining to date values and consecutive order of previous activities and existence of shadow codes.

FFPSA – Long Stay Care Clock Reminders

New email reminders will be sent daily:

- When a child is currently placed in a congregate resource with a program type of QRTP and the child has a current shadow code for that resource, an email will be sent to workers with a role in the FSS stage in which the child is tracked for placement.

The emails will be sent 90, 60, and 30 days prior to the child meeting their consecutive or non-consecutive Long-Term Stay Review due date.

FFPSA – Renaming Family First Exception Programs

Family First QRTP exception program types have been renamed

- Pregnant/Parenting Youth will become **Prenatal/Postpartum/Parenting Program**.
- Sex Trafficking Will become **EMPOWER/Trafficking**

Special Needs From: <input type="text"/> To: <input type="text"/>	Regular From: <input type="text"/> To: <input type="text"/>	Emergency From: <input type="text"/> To: <input type="text"/>
Prenatal/Postpartum/Parenting Program From: <input type="text"/> To: <input type="text"/>	EMPOWER/Trafficking From: <input type="text"/> To: <input type="text"/>	Supervised Setting From: <input type="text"/> To: <input type="text"/>

FFPSA – Correct L310 Unload Processing

A minor adjustment is being made to the logic that sends the Q030 – QRTP Assessment and L310 – Court Review codes to BICS. This change does not impact the Activities codes.

CONNECTIONS Fixes:

The following are fixes to reported issues which will be implemented with Build 1:

Area	Issue/Fix
Stage Summary Report	Page numbers were missing from the report. This fix resets the pagination correctly.
FAD Closure Report	There was an issue with the report not opening properly. This fix will allow the user to open the existing FAD Closure report in modify mode, update, and resubmit the home for closure.
FASP	In the CPS Safety Assessment section of the FASP, text was randomly disappearing/reappearing in no pattern. No information was lost, however due to latency, information sometimes did not appear on the Parent/Caretaker Action/Safety Plan narrative tab. User will no longer experience the disappearing-reappearing of text on the window.
Family Involvement-Case Planner Summary	Users were getting a "Save failed: CPAFAILED" message when trying to Save as Draft. This fix will move the edit to lock down draft entries on the launch of Case Planner summary instead of on the save of the Case Planner summary, which will work like other Case Planner Summary windows. User will no longer receive error on save.

CPS Intake-Foster Care Intakes	In rare scenarios, CPS Foster Care Intake stages were erroring out upon attempting to assign to a district. This fix will allow user to save and assign a foster care intake. User will no longer receive error, and INT stage will not remain open and properly populate a Case ID upon Save and Assign.
Remove Person Added in Error	Users were receiving an error in a very specific scenario when attempting to remove a person from an INV stage. This fix will allow a user to remove a person from the Person List window using this function for an INV, FAR, or FAD stage or via "delete" for a FSI stage, when the individual to be removed has an associated photo/doc.

The Connections Team is here to help!

Questions, Comments or Suggestions

- Email Us: Connections@ocfs.ny.gov

Resources

- As always, **CONNECTIONS Implementation Staff** will be available to offer on-site support as necessary. A Contact list of each district and agency's assigned implementation specialist can be found on the CONNECTIONS Intranet and Internet pages.
- **ITS Service Desk—844-891-1786 or fixit@its.ny.gov**

CONNECTIONS

Intranet: <http://ocfs.state.nyenet/connect/>
Internet: <http://ocfs.ny.gov/connect>