


To: DCF Area Administrators  
Child Placing Agency Directors  
Child Welfare Agency Directors  
County Departments of Community Programs Directors  
County Departments of Human Services Directors  
County Departments of Social Services Directors  
Group Home Providers  
Tribal Social Service/Indian Child Welfare Directors  
Private Child Placing Agencies  
Residential Care Center Providers  
Shelter Care Providers  
Tribal Chairpersons

From: Fredi-Ellen Bove   
Administrator

Re: CANS Certification Process

## PURPOSE

To inform agencies that the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) certification and re-certification exams will again be accepted by the Wisconsin Child Welfare Professional Development System (WCWPDS) beginning today.

## BACKGROUND

On May 22, 2012 DSP Info Memo 2012 – 06 was issued to inform agencies that a moratorium on the CANS certification process was being implemented while each test vignette and scoring was revalidated to ensure that individuals are certified accurately.

## INFORMATION SUMMARY

The vignettes and scoring have been revalidated for the CANS on-line exam process. The CANS certification and re-certification exams are now being accepted by WCWPDS. In addition to the exams being re-opened, a document entitled Item Level Additional Guidance is included as an attachment to this memo below. The items listed in the attachment have been included as these were the most commonly misunderstood items in the revalidation process.

The CANS certification and re-certification process can be found here:  
<http://wcpds.wisc.edu/cans/Default.aspx>

CENTRAL OFFICE CONTACT: Out-of-Home Care Section Chief  
Bureau of Permanence and Out-of-Home Care  
(608) 422-6930

MEMO WEB SITE: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cwportal/policy>

Attachments Cans Item Level Additional Guidance  
<http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/cwportal/fc/pdf/cans/cans-additionalguidance.pdf>