

DCYF LD Terms and Definitions

Licensing Process and Department Access

“Administering medication” means the direct application of a drug to the body or an individual by injection, inhalation, ingestion, or any other means.

“Care coordinators” means individuals coordinating the efforts to meet children’s and youth’s needs.

“Caseworkers” means the primary agency worker assigned to the child or youth through the department or another government agency including tribal governments.

“Community children or youth” means children or youth under the custody of their parents or guardians.

“Developmental capabilities” means the combined physical, cognitive, social, emotional, spiritual, and communication capabilities of children or youth that evolve over time.

“Direct care staff” means individuals employed and paid by licensees who provide direct personal care and supervision to the children and youth in care.

“Direct care volunteers” means individuals who provide direct personal care and supervision to the children and youth in care without compensation.

“Emergency medication” means medication used to treat conditions that may carry a high risk of mortality or long-term negative impacts on individuals’ daily functions or quality of life.

“Firearms” means a weapon or device designed to cause bodily harm or physical damage from which projectiles may be fired by an explosive such as gunpowder. These include, but are not limited to, handguns, rifles, and shotguns.

“Group care facilities (GCFs)” means licensed facilities, other than foster family homes or residential private schools, that are maintained and operated for a group of children or youth in an overnight shelter or on a 24-hour basis.

“Group homes” means licensed facilities that provide 24-hour care to six or more children and youth who require more supervision than can be provided in a foster home.

“Inaccessible” means a method to prevent children and youth from reaching, entering, using, or getting to items, areas, or materials in the facility.



Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

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“Licensees” means individuals or entities named on a license issued by the department that authorizes them to provide care to children and youth. Licensing requirements issued in this chapter apply to the licensee and their employees, volunteers, interns, and work study students.

“Lived experience” means experience outside of professional, volunteer, and educational background that is reflective of the demographic of children and youth in the licensee’s care.

“Medication management” means the process of accepting, storing, and disposing of medication.

"Missing children" means any child or youth placed in a GCF whose whereabouts are unknown or who has left care without the permission of their caregiver or the department. This does not include children or youth in a dependency guardianship.

“Nondirect care staff” means an individual employed and paid by licensees who carries out duties and tasks, other than providing direct care to children and youth, for a GCF.

“Nondirect care volunteers” means individuals who carry out duties and tasks, other than providing direct care to children and youth, for a GCF without being employed or compensated by the licensee.

“Other weapons” means instruments other than firearms intentionally designed to cause bodily harm or physical damage. These include but are not limited to BB guns, pellet guns, air rifles, stun guns, and archery equipment.

“Over-the-counter medications” means drugs that can be obtained without a prescription and are not restricted to use by a licensed health care provider. For the purpose of this chapter, this includes but is not limited to herbal supplements, vitamins, eye drops, ointments, and pain relievers.

“Personnel” means every paid and unpaid individual working directly for the agency, including interns.

"Premises" means homes, buildings and grounds, including those adjacent to the residential property, that are owned, rented, or managed by the applicants or licensees.

“Representatives” means the individuals responsible for placing children or youth in care, including:

- (a) Caseworkers for department children or youth;
- (b) Caseworkers for enrolled tribal children or youth;
- (c) LICWAC for unenrolled tribal children or youth with native ancestry;
- (d) Parents or guardians of community children or youth.

“Supportive individuals” means any nonrelative identified by the child or youth that is important to them.

“Tribal children or youth” means dependent children or youth of a federally recognized tribal government, state-dependent children or youth who are enrolled in a federally recognized tribe, dependent children or youth with concurrent jurisdiction, or unenrolled children or youth with native ancestry.

“Well-being file” means a compilation of children’s and youth’s records related to their care and services while in the licensee’s care.