

Changes to 2023 Standards

Note: This document highlights all major changes to NCA's Standards of Accreditation that will go into effect on January 1st, 2023. This document is not a comprehensive outline of every language change to the standards. Centers should be sure to review the standards in entirety to ensure they are fully meeting the requirements.

Standard 1: Multidisciplinary Team:

- Essential Component A: MDT Facilitators/Coordinators are required to demonstrate 8 hours of foundational training in facilitation/coordination of an MDT
- Essential Component B: MDT Facilitators/Coordinators must demonstrate 8 hours of on-going education every 2 years
- Essential Component D: MDT protocols must be reviewed annually and updated as needed between 3-year signing cycles
- Essential Component I: CAC must document MDY member participation in annual professional development
- Essential Component J: Provide formal orientation for new MDT members regarding CAC /MDT process, Policy and Procedures, and code of conduct

Standard 2: Diversity, Equity, and Access (*formerly Cultural Competency*)

- Essential Component D: The CAC demonstrates ongoing efforts through formal policies, procedures and practices to recruit, hire, and retain staff, volunteers, and board members who reflect the demographics of the community
- Essential Component E: The CAC must document that CAC participate in DEI training 8 hours every 2 years
- Essential Component F: The CAC must document that it annually provides MDT members access to DEI training and information. The CAC documents the opportunities and MDT participation

Standard 3: Forensic Interview

- Essential Component C: CAC protocols must reflect use of technology for remote live observation of interviews, and criteria and process for tele-forensic interviews, if applicable

Standard 4: Victim Support and Advocacy

- Essential Component A: Foundational training for victim advocates must include the following additional topic areas:
 - Cultural responsiveness and addressing implicit bias in service delivery,
 - Caregiver resilience
 - Domestic violence/family violence/children’s exposure to domestic violence and poly-victimization
- Essential Component F: Coordinated case management must occur with all individuals providing victim advocacy

Standard 5: Medical Evaluation

- Essential Component C: Demonstrate advanced medical reviews are occurring on all sex abuse exams deemed diagnostic/positive for abuse
- Essential Component H: Medical records storage must be HIPAA compliant

Standard 6: Mental Health

- Essential Component C: Mental health services to children must include monitoring of trauma symptom reduction
- Essential Component F: CAC/MDT written protocols must include mental health professionals’ responsibility and role to monitor and share the child and caregiver’s engagement in, and completion of, treatment
- Essential Component H: CAC must provide services to caregivers including their involvement with their child’s treatment, when appropriate

Standard 7: Case Review and Coordination

- Essential Component A: CAC protocols must include purpose of meetings, and location (including if virtual)
- Essential Component D: Case review discussion must include how MDT intervention is impacting child and family

Standard 8: Case Tracking

- Essential Component D: CAC/MDT protocols must outline how MDT members can access aggregate data from the CAC

Standard 9: Organizational Capacity

- Essential Component B: CACs must carry cyber liability insurance as appropriate
- Essential Component C: Administrative policies and procedures CACs are required to have are more specifically outlined, please see Essential Component C for the list of required policies and procedures
- Essential Component D: CACs with budgets \$750,000 and above must have annual audit, budgets of \$200,000 to \$750,000 require an annual CPA-completed financial review, budgets below \$200,000 must provide annual financials approved by the board or governing body
- Essential Component E: CACs must conduct background checks on all volunteers, including board members. CAC, in discussion with board and MDT, must determine what is a disqualifying finding in a background check

Standard 10: Child Safety and Protection (*formerly*

Child-Focused Setting)

- Essential Component B: CACs providing services to youth with problematic sexual behaviors must have developed and implemented appropriate safety protocols to protect other children receiving CAC services
- Essential Component E: CAC must have a code of conduct for staff and MDT members addressing child abuse prevention practices. CAC staff must receive and agree to the code of conduct, MDT members must be informed of the code of conduct
- Essential Component F: A child safety assessment must be conducting annually to ensure CAC building and space is safe
- Essential Component G: CAC staff are mandatory reporters therefore CAC must demonstrate that mandatory reporting training is provided and any changes or updates to statutes or laws must be provided to staff annually.