

CWS3015W Adoption Assistance

Transfer-of-Learning TOL #2

1. Review the Walsh Family Case Study again. Utilize the *Adoption Assistance Screening Tool* example for Kelly Taylor from today's class to complete a screening tool for both of Kelly's twin brothers. Two blank Adoption Assistance Screening Tool forms are attached to this assignment. Practice completing one for Benjamin and one for Brandon.

CWS3105W Adoption Assistance Case Scenario

The Walsh Family Case Scenario example:

Mr. and Mrs. Walsh have been fostering three Caucasian siblings, Kelly Taylor, age nine-, and four-year-old twins, Benjamin and Brandon Taylor. Kelly was placed in their home first on 10/1/2023 after an involuntary removal order. The court order showed reasonable efforts were made and the box was checked on the court order and the order contained language that the continuation in the removal home would be “contrary to the welfare” of the child and placement in foster care resulted. Kelly screened as IV-E eligible for this foster care episode and a copy of the Initial Notice of Action was received from the Benefits Specialist.

The twins share the same mother and father as Kelly. They entered care on 1/25/2024 from an involuntary removal order stating reasonable efforts to prevent removal were made and contrary to the child's welfare was also checked.

The agency tried to reunite the siblings with their birth family, but rights were terminated on biological mother and biological father on 5/5/2025. There were no subsequent appeals.

The children were registered on AREVA 5/18/2025 by their adoption FSS, Donna Martin. Kelly, Benjamin, and Brandon are now legally free for adoption. Mr. and Mrs. Walsh were asked if they are able to adopt without adoption assistance and they stated that they are not able to adopt without the financial assistance and support. They are interested in applying for Virginia Adoption Assistance and have requested an Application for Adoption Assistance.

Kelly was born substance exposed to methamphetamines. She has been diagnosed with ADHD. She attends biweekly counseling with an LPC and bimonthly medication management with a child psychiatrist. She is currently taking Vyvanse to manage her ADHD symptoms and behaviors. Kelly also has had chronic ear infections and has had tubes put in her ears twice. She has an ear infection even now, after the second set of tubes was placed. She has difficulty hearing sometimes and complains of her ears feeling "clogged." She has partial hearing loss. She was prenatally exposed to methamphetamines, which was confirmed at birth through drug test results of mom and baby. Kelly sees an ENT otolaryngologist Specialist every three months and consults with the Roanoke Valley Speech and Hearing Center biannually. The physicians have documented the office visits, surgeries, and medications used to manage Kelly's ear infections.

Benjamin and Brandon were placed in this home after their premature birth at 35 weeks. They were prenatally exposed to methamphetamines and spent a total of five weeks in the NICU at a local hospital after being born. The Walsh family visited the infants in the hospital, attempting to bond with the babies. Brandon had RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus) when he was two months old. He has had almost constant respiratory infections since then and sees a Pulmonary Lung Specialist quarterly; due to his age he is not yet diagnosed with asthma, but he is treated as though he has it (nebulizer and inhaler treatments weekly). The doctor says that he may always be susceptible to lung infections and will need to continue to be monitored.

Benjamin has almost constant ear infections and sees an ENT (Ear, Nose, and Throat) Specialist quarterly. He also struggles with breathing issues, though not as severe as Brandon, he requires a nebulizer treatment weekly. He is scheduled to have tubes in his ears and is being assessed for speech delays. The twins are both four-years-old. Brandon has strabismus (misaligned eyes) and Benjamin amblyopia (lazy eye that required an eye patch for a few weeks a month). Both boys also have motor skills delays and have physical therapy three times a week.

Kelly attends before and after school daycare at The Kids Place Inc. Her parents drop her and her siblings off at 6:00am, Kelly leaves for school at 8:00am and returns to The Kids Place Inc. after school care at 3:10pm. She remains at daycare until her parents pick all three children up at 6:30pm. The twins attend daycare every day because both mom and dad work out of the home and they have not yet started Kindergarten.

Mrs. Walsh is a special needs pre-school teacher at Little Ones Preschool and Mr. Walsh works at Goodwill Industries, a local non-profit organization. Mrs. Walsh makes approximately \$28,000 annually and Mr. Walsh has an annual salary of \$36,000. They do not have any additional children or household members to be considered.

Name	D.O.B.	Client ID	Case #	Last VEMAT	Amount	Score
Kelly Taylor	10/10/2015	9876543	20158793	05/01/2025	\$672	12
Benjamin Taylor	12/29/2021	9876544	20158793	05/01/2025	\$448	8
Brandon Taylor	12/29/2021	9876545	20158793	05/01/2025	\$448	8

+U.S. Citizenship verified by birth certificates for Kelly, Benjamin, and Brandon Taylor

Adoptive Parents: James “Jim” and Cynthia “Cindy” Walsh

Mortgage: \$700

Utilities: \$200

Cell: \$160

Car: \$90

Food: \$600

Homeowner Insurance: \$200

Health Insurance: \$180

Child Care Cost: \$250

Clothing: \$400

Extracurricular: \$300

Jim and Cindy Walsh were approved as foster adoptive parents on April 1, 2022. They have had a foster home recertification completed and they are currently approved resource parents from April 1, 2025- March 31, 2028, and a copy of their current Certificate of Approval was given to FSS Martin. They completed their sworn statements on March 30, 2025. Their background checks were returned from OBI and they do not have a criminal background. Fingerprints were returned from OBI for Jim Walsh on March 23, 2025 and fingerprints were returned from OBI for Cindy Walsh on March 21, 2025. Central Registry checks were returned for Jim Walsh on March 31, 2025 and Cindy Walsh on March 31, 2025.

The Walsh’s home address is 1234 Address Rd, Glen Allen, VA 23060. Their phone numbers are (987) 654-3210 (Jim) and (987) 654-0123 (Cindy). Their email addresses are jim.walsh@gmail.com and cindy.walsh@gmail.com.

The Adoption Assistance application was sent to the adoption Family Services Specialist and signed by both adoptive parents on August 15, 2025. The referral for Adoption Assistance was sent to the Assistance Negotiator on August 18, 2025. The Negotiator Report was completed August 27, 2025. The Adoption Assistance agreement begins September 1, 2025.

Updated 1/15/2025

For LDSS Office use only LDSS will complete	
Case ID	Client ID

AGENCY NAME:

The Adoption Assistance Screening Tool is used to determine a child's eligibility for adoption assistance in Virginia. The LDSS completes this form in partnership with prospective adoptive parents, who must sign to confirm they have been informed of any assistance the child may receive once the adoption is finalized.

A separate form must be completed for each child in a sibling group.

Child's current legal name	Child's name after adoption (if known)	
Child's Date of Birth (month, day, year)	Age of Child	
Name of Adoptive Parent	Telephone Number	
Name of Adoptive Parent	Telephone Number	
Address of Adoptive Parent(s)		
<i>Note: The child must be under 18 when the adoption petition is filed to be eligible for adoption assistance.</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Adoption Assistance Application was submitted before the final order of adoption was entered. <input type="checkbox"/> The Adoption Assistance Application was submitted after the final order of adoption was entered. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No The adoptive family was selected by the child's birth parent. If so, this child is not eligible for adoption assistance.		
CITIZENSHIP CRITERIA – The child must meet one of the following criteria. <input type="checkbox"/> The child is a United States Citizen <input type="checkbox"/> The child is a qualified alien whose adoptive parents are U.S. Citizens or qualified aliens <input type="checkbox"/> The child is a qualified alien, who has resided in the U.S. for a minimum of five years, and their adoptive parents are non-qualified aliens. Date child received a qualifying status: <input type="checkbox"/> The child is not a U.S. Citizen and has been determined to be a non-qualified alien. This child is not eligible for adoption assistance.		
DEFINITION OF SPECIAL NEEDS – The child must meet Virginia's definition of special needs. 1. The child can no longer return home based on one of the identified conditions. Answer for both the child's mother and father.		
	MOTHER	FATHER
Death of Birth Parent	<input type="checkbox"/> Date:	<input type="checkbox"/> Date:
Termination of Parental Rights	<input type="checkbox"/> Date:	<input type="checkbox"/> Date:
	Unknown Father:	<input type="checkbox"/> Date:
Temporary Entrustment Agreement	<input type="checkbox"/> Evidence of a foster care payment received.	
Permanent Entrustment Agreement – a petition was filed and a subsequent court order was obtained within 180 days of the child's removal from the home stating it was contrary to child's welfare to remain in the home.	<input type="checkbox"/> Date of Removal: Date of Subsequent Order:	<input type="checkbox"/> Date of Removal: Date of Subsequent Order:
2. Adoptive Placement without financial assistance is unlikely due to one of the following factors or conditions being present prior to the adoption. Its presence makes placement without financial assistance unlikely. More than one can apply, but at least one must be checked. <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Disability:		



☐ Mental Disability:

☐ Behavioral/Emotional Condition:

☐ Age six or older and in foster care for 18+ months Age: Date Entered Care:

☐ Member of a Sibling Group placed within the same federal fiscal year (10/1-9/30): Siblings:

☐ Member of a Minority Group:

☐ Child is SSI Eligible

☐ Child has a Hereditary Tendency, Congenital Problem, or Birth Injury Leading to a Future Disability:

*If this is the only factor selected in this section, no payment will be included in the agreement. A monetary payment may be requested later if a qualifying condition becomes evident.

3. Reasonable Efforts Criteria – Reasonable efforts must be made to place the child without adoption assistance. At least one must be checked.

☐ The child was registered on AREVA within 60 days of terminating parental rights

 Date of TPR: Date of Registration:

☐ Child was referred to and featured by other adoption exchanges, i.e. VKB, ATCP Recruitment

☐ Recruitment requirements were waived due to the existence of significant emotional ties with the foster family formed while in their care as a foster child for at least 18 months.

 Date of Placement:

☐ The adoptive family has indicated they cannot adopt without adoption assistance.

Summary: The child must meet a condition in each of the above three sections to meet Virginia's definition of special needs. If the child meets the definition, screen the child for title IV-E adoption assistance.

TITLE IV-E ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA – The child must meet one of the eligibility criteria below to be eligible for title IV-E.

☐ Previous Adoption Eligibility

The child's previous adoption has been dissolved through a termination of parental rights or the adoptive parents are deceased. The child was eligible for title IV-E adoption assistance in the previous adoption.

☐ SSI Eligibility

The child meets all medical and disability requirements of the title XVI Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Program.

☐ Child of a Minor Parent in Foster Care

The child resides with their minor parent in a foster family home or childcare institution. The minor parent was removed involuntarily with a judicial determination made that remaining in the home was contrary to their welfare; or there's a temporary entrustment agreement, or a permanent entrustment.

☐ The child is in the care of a public or private child placing agency. At the time of their removal, there was a judicial determination made that remaining in their home is contrary to their welfare, there's a temporary entrustment agreement or a permanent entrustment agreement.



STATE ADOPTION ASSISTANCE – Only screen the child for State adoption assistance when they do not meet the title IV-E eligibility criteria. To be eligible, they must meet each of the following conditions.

- ☐ The child meets the age and citizenship requirements.
- ☐ The child meets Virginia's definition of special needs.
- ☐ The child is in the custody of a public or private child placing agency.
- ☐ The child has developed significant emotional ties with their foster parents while in their care for at least 12 months. The foster parents are committed to adopting the child, and State adoption assistance maintenance payments are necessary.

Applications Submitted After Final Order

For applications submitted after the final order of adoption, the child must meet each of the criteria below in addition to the above criteria.

- ☐ The child has a condition/disability that was present at the time of adoption.
- ☐ The child was first diagnosed with the condition/disability after the final order of adoption.
- ☐ The diagnosis was made within 12 months of the submission of the Adoption Assistance Application.

Date of the Adoption:

Date of the Diagnosis:

Diagnosis:

Verification used to corroborate presence at the time of the adoption:

ADDITIONAL DAILY SUPERVISION – This child requires an additional daily support and supervision

Payment based on the following:

- ☐ The child receives an enhanced maintenance payment in foster care based on the VEMAT.
- ☐ The child was not receiving enhanced maintenance payments in foster care, but there is sufficient reason to believe the child requires additional support and supervision consistent with VEMAT guidance. A VEMAT has been conducted.

Date of last VEMAT:

Child's VEMAT Score:

Amount: \$

SPECIAL SERVICE PAYMENT – Every child who receives adoption assistance should be screened for special service payment eligibility. The child must meet each of the criteria below to be eligible.

- ☐ The child is in custody of a child placing agency at the time of application
Name of child placing agency:
- ☐ Child is eligible to receive title IV-E or State adoption assistance.
- ☐ The adoptive parents are capable of providing the permanent family relationship needed in all respects except financial.

NON-RECURRING EXPENSES – Children who meet the citizenship and age criteria, in addition to meeting Virginia's definition of special needs, are eligible for reimbursement of non-recurring expenses.

The child has met these criteria. ☐ Yes ☐ No

MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY

- ☐ The Adoption Assistance Agreement will include Medicaid for the child because the child is eligible for title IV-E adoption assistance.
- ☐ The Adoption Assistance Agreement will include Medicaid because the child is eligible for State adoption assistance and has a special medical or rehabilitative need.
- ☐ The Adoption Assistance Agreement will not include Medicaid for the child because the child is not title IV-E or state eligible; or is state eligible but does not have a special medical or rehabilitative need.

Family Services Specialist:

Date:

Email Address:

Telephone:

Adoptive Parent:

Date:

Adoptive Parent:

Date:

Family Services Supervisor:

Date:

For LDSS Office use only LDSS will complete	
Case ID	Client ID

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Family Services Specialist:

Date:

Email Address:

Telephone:

Adoptive Parent:

Date:

Adoptive Parent:

Date:

Family Services Supervisor:

Date: