

# OCFS: Involving Fathers for Children in Child Welfare: Fundamentals



A learning program for **Child Welfare direct service staff**.

## ABOUT

This learning program aims to improve the competency of Child Welfare professionals in increasing the involvement of fathers in the lives of children in the Child Welfare system. This course focuses on challenging personal and professional beliefs about fathers, as well as the barriers that prevent them from being involved with their children. This course also explores strategies that learners can use to assist fathers in overcoming these barriers. This is the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) course that is now being offered through Cornerstone.

## BENEFITS

Learners will:

- Develop knowledge around the importance of engaging fathers who have children in the Child Welfare system.
- Explore the power dynamics at work between them and fathers.
- Learn about the benefits of involving fathers in the Child Welfare system.
- Practice effective strategies to address the barriers to fathers' involvement with their children.

## COMPONENTS

Once enrolled in the course, learners will complete:



An online pre-test.



A web-based training (WBT).



A full-day, virtual, instructor-led training.



An online post-test.



Completion of all components is necessary to receive a Certificate of Completion.

## PREREQUISITES

There are no prerequisites for this course.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS

There are no CEUs associated with this course.

## RECOMMENDED SUPPLEMENTAL COURSE

Motivational Interviewing: Engaging Fathers builds on the foundational and strategic knowledge learned in this course by leveraging the skills of motivational interviewing and demonstrating how to put them into practice. Together, these courses provide learners with the knowledge and skills to more successfully engage fathers and male caregivers as a best practice to further support the children and families of New York City.

## REGISTRATION

Register for this course by logging in to **Cornerstone**, browse for the course name and complete all information. For more information about the ACS Workforce Institute, please contact the Help Desk at [Wihelpdesk@acs.nyc.gov](mailto:Wihelpdesk@acs.nyc.gov) or call (212) 748-1898.

## ABOUT ACS WORKFORCE INSTITUTE

The ACS Workforce Institute (WI) is a state-of-the-art professional development institute that supports child welfare and juvenile justice direct service staff and strengthens their skills as they support and strengthen New York City's families and children. Through partnership with the City University of New York (School of Professional Studies and the Hunter College Silberman School of Social Work), the ACS Workforce Institute offers professional learning initiatives that move beyond the classroom to enhance skill development for new and seasoned ACS and provider agency staff.

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