

CANS Comprehensive Instructions for Certification and Recertification

Instructions for New CANS Trainees:

1. Go to the Department of Child and Family Services training web site:
<http://wcpds.wisc.edu/cans/>
2. Download the manuals and glossary from the right portion of the screen. Have them available, but view the videos first.
3. View Modules 1-2 – “Introduction to the CANS” and “Integrating CANS into Your Practice.”
 - Note: sections 15-20 of Module 2 contain some information specific to the DCFS use of the CANS, but may be helpful in understanding how the child welfare system is using the tool.
4. View “Module 3: Wisconsin Policy and Documentation” if your CST works with children from the out-of-home care child welfare system. This module reviews the CANS role in DCFS placement policy and the use of EWISACWIS. In the future, CST-specific information may be added to this module.
5. Review the CANS Manual and CANS glossary.
 - The CANS Manual and glossary will be your primary source of information on how to score each individual CANS item.
6. View “Module 4: Practice Vignette Overview” and complete at least two practice vignettes.
7. View Module 5 and take a test vignette to become certified. The test vignette process will be handled through email.

Instructions for Current CANS Raters:

Follow all the steps above, but Modules #1 and #3 are optional. When you review the Comprehensive CANS manual and glossary, you should focus on the items you have not already been trained on in the CANS-MH tool. When you pass a Comprehensive CANS test vignette, you will be certified to use the CANS for another year.