

North Carolina Child Welfare Trauma-Informed Assessment Provider Information Session

Building Trauma-Informed Child
Welfare Systems Across the
State



NCDHHS

Session Agenda

- Welcome & Opening Remarks
- Session Purpose & Objectives
- Overview of the NC CWTIA
- Provider Application Process & Eligibility Criteria
- Health Plan Perspective: Collaboration & Care Coordination
- Q&A and Next Steps



Opening Remarks



Session Objectives



01.

Understand the key components & purpose of the NC CWTIA



02.

Understand provider requirements and expectations with details provided for the application process



03.

Understand how care coordination & collaboration will be supported by NC Medicaid health plans



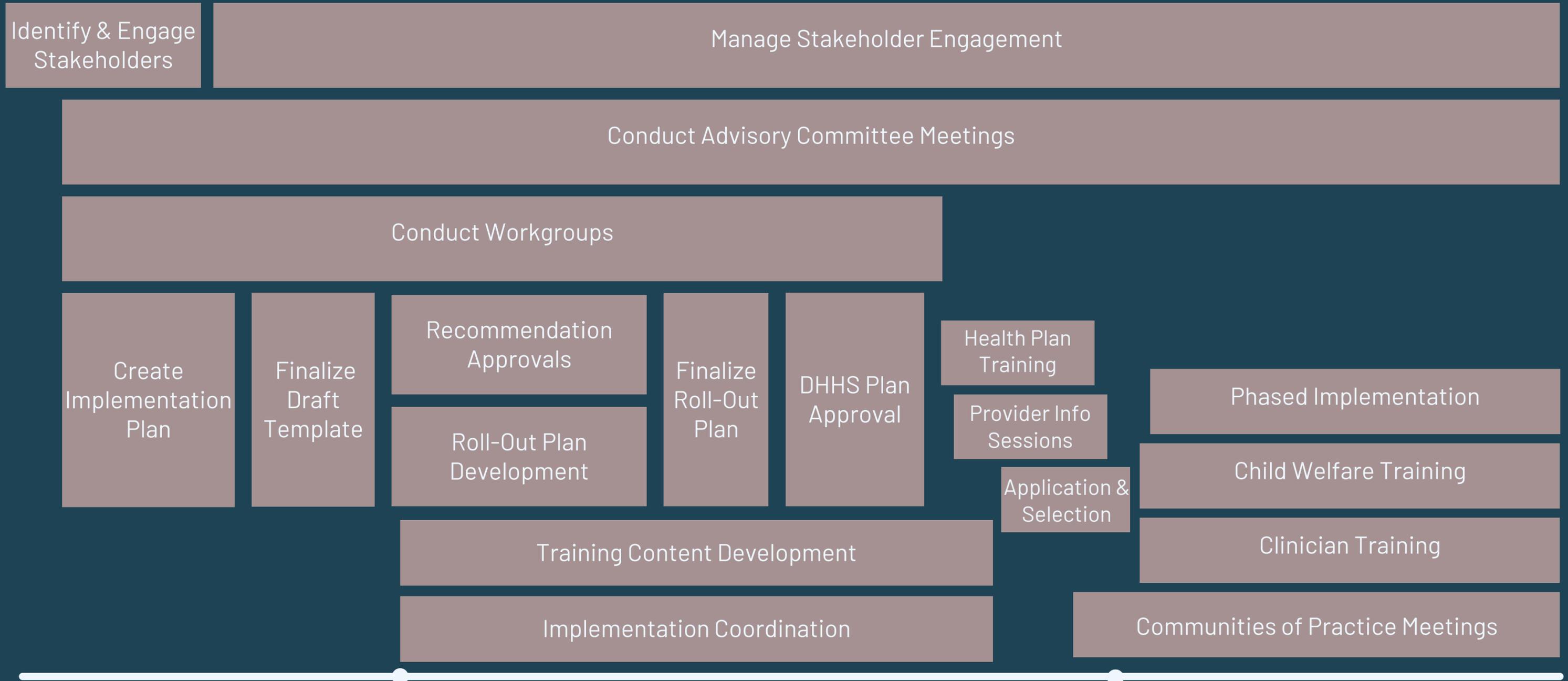
Standardized Trauma-Informed Assessment Legislation

In 2023, the North Carolina General Assembly passed Section 9J.12, initiating the development and implementation of a standardized trauma-informed assessment process for children involved with child welfare.

- The target population covered under this legislation includes children (4-17) and youth (18-21) entering foster care or involved with In-Home Family Services (IHFS) at risk of entering foster care.
 - Youth must be referred for an assessment **within 5 working days** after abuse/neglect determination or parental consent.
 - Children must receive the trauma-informed assessment **within 10 working days** of referral.
- This legislation:
 - Is designed to ensure consistent assessment practices across all 100 counties in North Carolina.
 - Aligns service planning and training with trauma-informed best practices.



Where We've Been, Where We're Going



April 2024

August 2025

December 2026

Understanding the NC CWTIA

Key Points to Note

* Who is Involved?

NC DHHS DSS, county DSS agencies, private provider agencies, NC Medicaid Health Plans & NC Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) Tribal Option, eligible youth and young adults ages 4-21 & their caregivers.

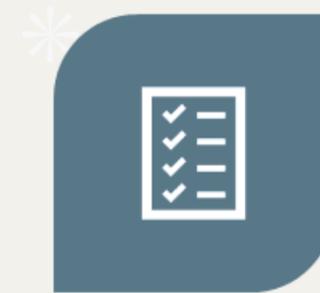
* What is the CWTIA?

The CWTIA provides a structured process to refer youth entering foster care, or at risk of entry, for a standardized trauma-informed assessment that helps identify & understand a child's:

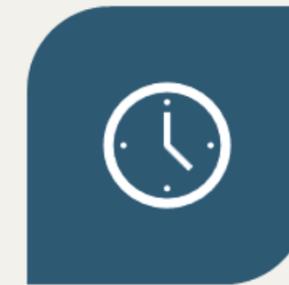
- Trauma history
- Trauma impacts
- Current needs, strengths, and challenges
- Family dynamics
- Support systems

Connecting families to the right supports at the right time.

The NC CWTIA meets the requirements of CCP 8C



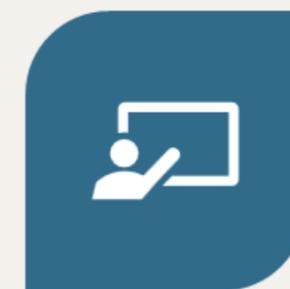
STANDARDIZED
ASSESSMENT
TEMPLATE PROVIDED



PROTECTED CLINICIAN
TIME REQUIRED



ENHANCED RATE PAID
BY HEALTH PLANS



TRAINING ON THE
TEMPLATE PROVIDED

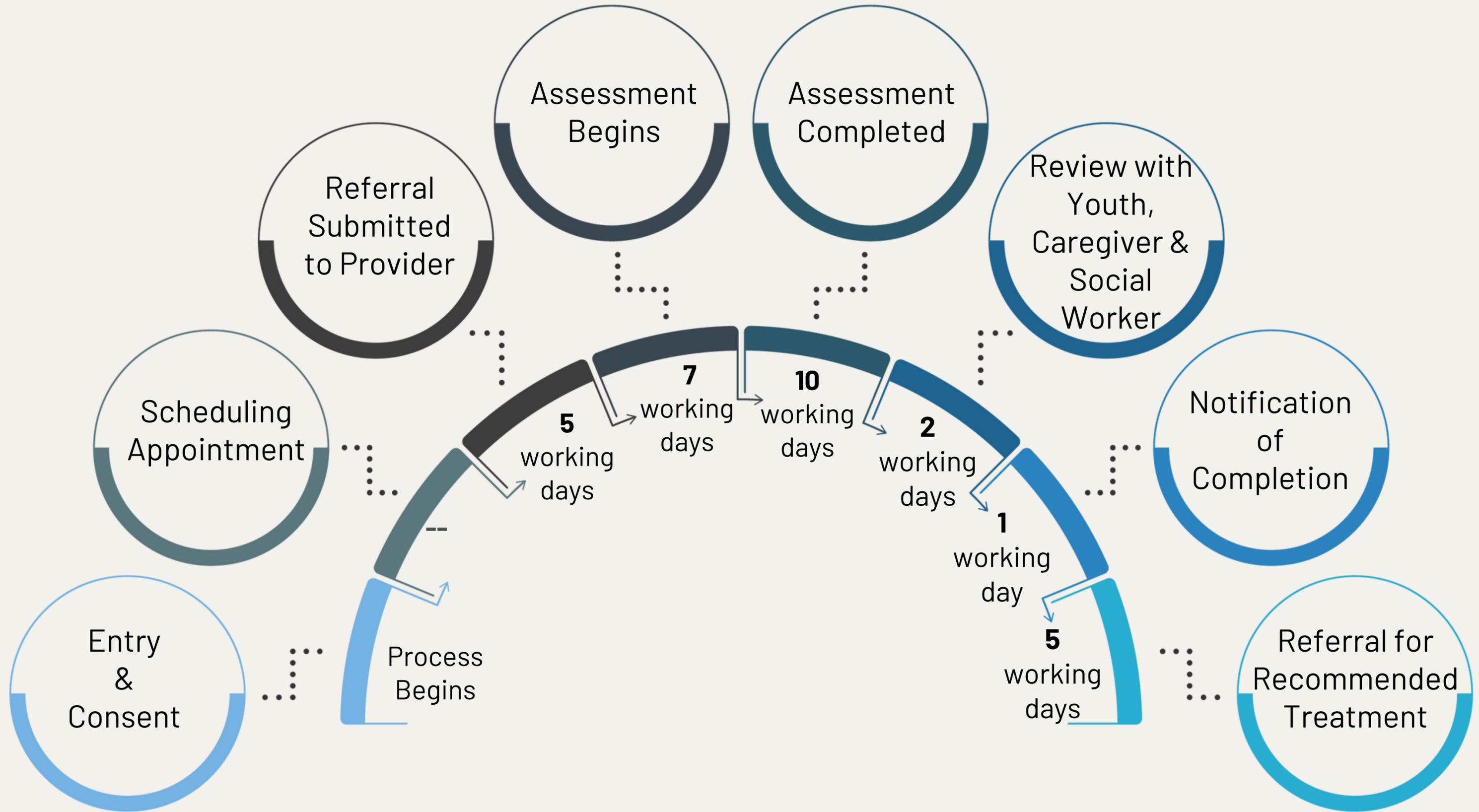


BATTERY OF
STANDARDIZED
MEASURES INCLUDED

Battery of Standardized Measures

4-17 Year Olds		18-21 Year Olds	
Measure	Price	Measure	Price
UCLA PTSD RI	Purchase Required	Trauma Symptom Inventory-2	Purchase Required
Child Behavior Checklist	Purchase Required	Adult Self Report	Purchase Required
Adolescent Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory	Purchase Required	Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory	Purchase Required
NC SDOH Screening Tool	Free	NC SDOH Screening Tool	Free
Columbia Suicide Severity Rating Scale	Free	Columbia Suicide Severity Rating Scale	Free

From Case Entry to Service Connection





Collaborative Efforts

Intersection with Health Plans

Care management support and integration

01.

**Early
Identification of
Eligible Youth**

02.

**Notification of
Assessment Initiation**

03.

**Submission of
Completed Assessments**

04.

**Support with
Coordination of Services**

Provider Responsibilities



- ✓ Complete the CWTIA within the identified legislative timeline of 10 working days.
- ✓ Complete referrals for all clinical and supportive services recommended within the assessment within 5 working days.
- ✓ Collect and share data regarding timeliness of assessment processes.
- ✓ Review the recommendations with the caregiver and social worker before submitting the final version to DSS.
- ✓ Notify the health plan/care management entity and the social worker within 1 day of finalizing the assessment.
- ✓ Attend quarterly Communities of Practice Meetings.
- ✓ Engage in training, certification & fidelity monitoring activities.

Assessment Team Roles & Responsibilities



01.

Agency Leadership

- Must be enrolled as a NC Medicaid Provider
- Must be an executive leader with decision making authority
- Will ensure organizational support is in place for successful implementation

02.

Clinical Team Lead(s)

- Must be a fully licensed clinician*
- Must attend required trainings for Clinical Team Leads and Clinicians*
- Will assist with the oversight and supervision of assessment, certification, and fidelity
 - Support clinicians during and after the certification period by reviewing referrals and providing case conceptualization support
 - Data tracking, record and documentation keeping for fidelity monitoring reviews
 - Assessment grading and review for all CWTIA clinicians post-certification

03.

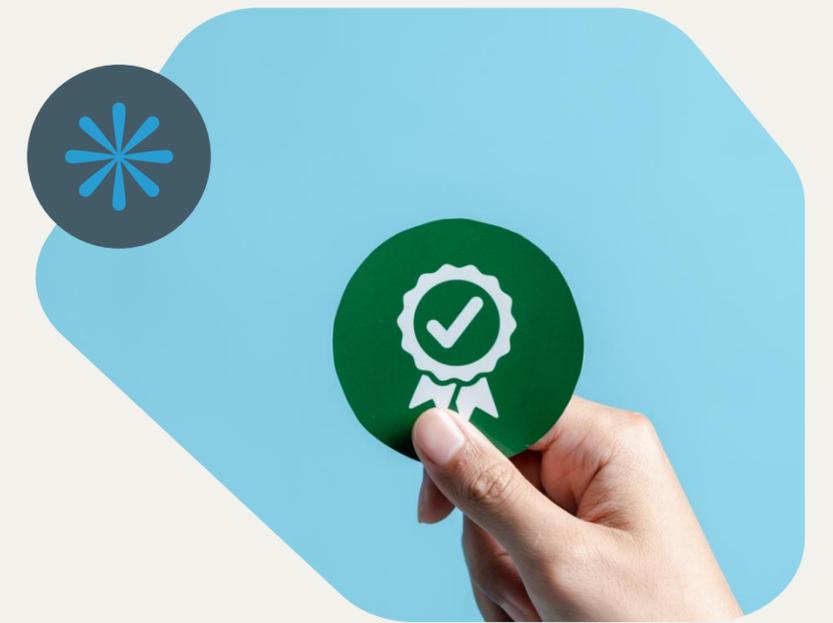
Clinician(s)

- Must be provisionally or fully licensed*
- Must complete assessments as required by NC CWTIA legislation & Clinical Coverage Policy 8C
- Must participate in required trainings*
- Must adhere to certification process

* Items marked with an asterisk indicate requirements that may differ for Federal Tribal and Indian Health Services providers.

Certification & Fidelity Monitoring

Selected providers must complete all required certification and fidelity monitoring processes.



01.

Required Trainings*

Selected providers are required to complete a series of trainings post-selection.

- 4- Hour Virtual Clinical Team Lead Training
- 16-Hour NC CWTIA Clinician Training

02.

Referral Readiness Following Required Training

Providers are expected to be fully equipped to initiate assessments in alignment with CWTIA standards by the end of this 30-day period.

03.

Certification Requirements

Certification process for initial assessments includes the following:

- Pre-Assessment Planning & Coaching
- Assessment Scoring
- Clinical Review & Feedback

04.

Certification Completion

Clinician certification will be considered complete upon the successful submission of two passing assessments (>80%).

05.

Agency-Level Certification for Fidelity Review & Oversight

- Agency Reviews
- Scoring and Advancement to Annual Reviews

Eligibility to Apply



In order to be eligible to submit an application for review to participate as an NC CWTIA provider, you must be:



In-Network Provider

Providers must meet the criteria outlined in NC Medicaid Clinical Coverage Policy 8C, Outpatient Behavioral Health Services Provided by Direct-Enrolled Providers.



Employ Licensed Clinicians*

Clinicians must hold a current full or associate-level license in one of the following disciplines: LMFT, LCSW, LPC, LCMHC, LCAS, or be licensed as a psychologist. Clinical Team Leads must be a fully licensed clinician in one of the above disciplines.



Trauma-Informed Practice

Providers must demonstrate experience, training or commitment to trauma-informed care and assessments.



Serve Designated DSS Regions

Providers will be asked to indicate the regions and counties they are able to serve. Geographic coverage will be an important consideration in the selection process to ensure statewide access to the NC CWTIA. Providers must also participate in quarterly project meetings and comply with all reporting and training requirements.

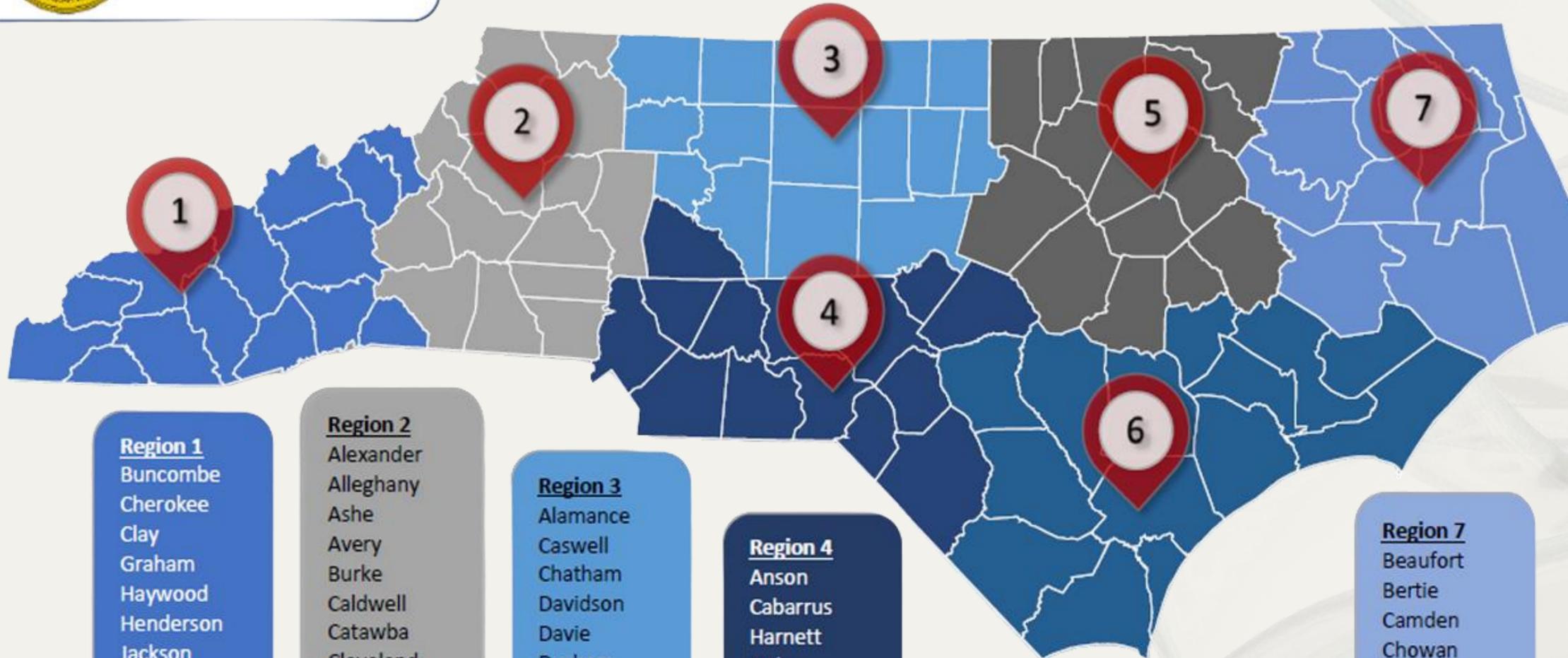


Proficiency Requirements

Clinicians must complete all required proficiency trainings as outlined as well as the training required after selection.



North Carolina Child Welfare Services Regional Map



- Region 1**
Buncombe
Cherokee
Clay
Graham
Haywood
Henderson
Jackson
Macon
Madison
Mitchell
Polk
Swain
Transylvania
Yancey

- Region 2**
Alexander
Alleghany
Ashe
Avery
Burke
Caldwell
Catawba
Cleveland
Gaston
Iredell
Lincoln
McDowell
Rutherford
Watauga
Wilkes

- Region 3**
Alamance
Caswell
Chatham
Davidson
Davie
Durham
Forsyth
Guilford
Orange
Person
Randolph
Rockingham
Stokes
Surry
Yadkin

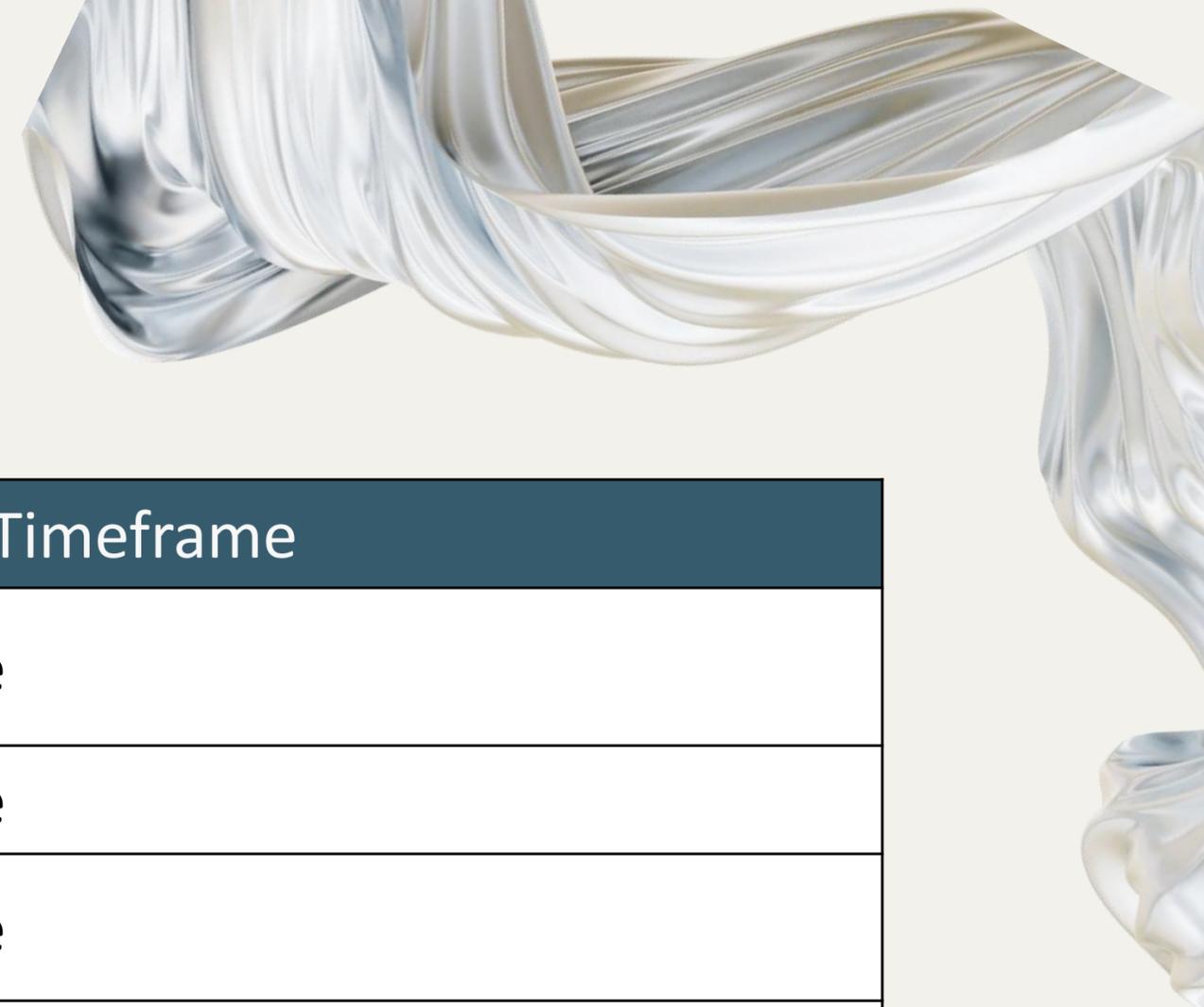
- Region 4**
Anson
Cabarrus
Harnett
Hoke
Lee
Mecklenburg
Montgomery
Moore
Richmond
Robeson
Rowan
Scotland
Stanly
Union

- Region 5**
Edgecombe
Franklin
Granville
Greene
Halifax
Johnston
Nash
Northampton
Pitt
Vance
Wake
Warren
Wayne
Wilson

- Region 6**
Bladen
Brunswick
Carteret
Columbus
Craven
Cumberland
Duplin
Jones
Lenoir
New Hanover
Onslow
Pamlico
Pender
Sampson

- Region 7**
Beaufort
Bertie
Camden
Chowan
Currituck
Dare
Gates
Hertford
Hyde
Martin
Pasquotank
Perquimans
Tyrrell
Washington

Proficiency Requirements



Proficiency	Completion Timeframe
Trauma-Informed Clinical Practice	Pre-requisite
Child Development & Disruption	Pre-requisite
Child Welfare & System Involvement	Pre-requisite
Assessment & Standardized Measures	Complete within 3 months post-training
Personal History & Contextual Awareness	Complete within 3 months post-training
Developmentally Informed Engagement	Complete within 6 months post-training
Secondary Traumatic Stress Awareness & Mitigation	Complete within 6 months post-training

When Do We Begin?

Phased implementation based on identified regional readiness determined after selection.

Clinicians & Clinical Team Leads: 2 day in-person training
Clinical Team Leads: 4-hour virtual training

Training Cohort	Training	Implementation
1st Cohort	Jun 2026	Jul 2026
2nd & 3rd Cohort	Aug 2026	Sep 2026
4th & 5th Cohort	Sep 2026	Oct 2026
6th & 7th Cohort	Oct 2026	Nov 2026



Provider Applications

Completing and Submitting Applications for Consideration

Applicants must complete all required components of the applications to be considered for participation in the North Carolina Child Welfare Trauma-Informed Assessment (NC CWTIA) process. Completion of each of the 3 sections constitutes a completed application.

01.

Leadership Section

One submission required *per agency*

- Includes organizational support details
- Identifies assessment team members
- Demonstrates trauma-informed care approach
- Shows collaboration with local partners

02.

Clinical Team Lead Section

One submission *per Clinical Team Lead*

- Demonstrates supervision & oversight
- Shows experience with fidelity monitoring
- Describes clinician support practices
- Reflects commitment & collaboration

03.

Clinician Section

One submission *per clinician*

- Experience with standardized assessments
- Experience with child welfare-involved youth/families
- Experience with evidence-based, evidence-informed or promising practices



Questions & Answers



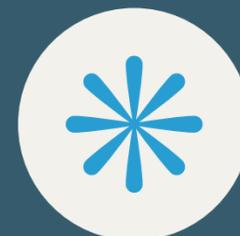
Now we will open the floor for questions.
Please feel free to ask about anything discussed today.



Next Steps

Thank you for participating in this information session. Mark your calendars for these important dates:

RFA Release	January 15th, 2026
Question Submission Deadline	February 15th, 2026
Application Submission Deadline	March 15th, 2026
Notification of Selection	April 6-10, 2026
CWTIA Implementation Launch	Regional Readiness Launch beginning in July 2026



Closing Remarks

Questions may be submitted to
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Presentation by

Juliana Silva

