

ORR Policy Update: Unaccompanied Children Terminology - Effective May 12, 2023

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The below message was just sent to the UC Care Provider Network

Dear USCCB Safe Passages Network:

The UC Policy Unit has published three updated definitions to the [Guide to Terms](#) in the UC Policy Guide.

This update:

- Revises the definition of Residential Treatment Center to accord with *Lucas R* language.
- Revises the definition of Unaccompanied Child to cite to 6 U.S.C. § 279(g)(2), and removes a repetitive second definition of “Unaccompanied Child”; and
- Adds a definition of the Unaccompanied Children (UC) Program.

Please additionally note that in official agency guidance, ORR and care provider staff should not use the term “UC”, “unaccompanied alien child”, or “UAC” to refer to unaccompanied children. Please use the term “unaccompanied child”, “unaccompanied children,” “children”, or “child” when referring to unaccompanied children. The acronym “UC” should only be used as an adjective to modify a noun, such as UC Program, or UC Care Provider. The UC Policy Unit will be working with the ORR Communications Team to update our terminology in the online [UC Policy Guide](#) accordingly.

How does this apply to you practically?

Please make sure that you are not using the term "UC" or "Unaccompanied alien Child" when writing about your clients in reports (HS and PRS)/NOCs/ OR anything that goes to ORR. For consistency, and to adhere to policy, please also refrain from using "UC" also in case notes effective **Friday, May 12th**.

If you have any questions about this updated guidance, please reach out to your assigned CSS.

Thank you,
USCCB FR Team

USCCB Family Reunification Team | Children's Services Safe Passages Program
Migration and Refugee Services