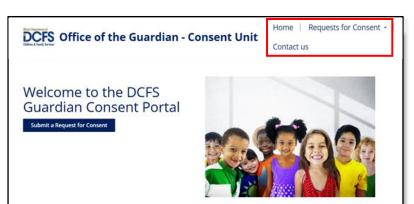


Navigating the Guardian Consent Portal (Page 1 of 2)

This guide helps requestors understand the purpose of and how to navigate the Guardian Consent Portal.





Step 1: Access the Guardian Consent Portal Home Page

- Navigate to Guardian Consent Portal home page using the URL: https://guardianconsent.dcfs.illinois.gov/
- There are three navigation tabs in the menu located at the top right corner of the home page. These are: Home, Requests for Consent, and Contact Us
- There is a "Submit a Request for Consent" button that will navigate the user to the Requests for Consent page when clicked



About Us

The DCFS Guardian is appointed by the Director of DCFS and serves as the:

- acting custodian for children in DCFS protective custody
- <u>temporary custodian</u> of each child or youth placed in the care of the Department through an order of temporary custody by a juvenile court
- Ligal guardian of the person of each child or youth adjudicated to be an abused, neglected or dependent minor and placed in the guardianship of the Department by a juvenile court
- legal guardian and custodian with power to consent to adoption of a child for whom one or both parents have executed a written surrender for adoption
- $\bullet \underline{\text{legal guardian}} \text{ of youth in care over 18 years of age who are unable to consent on behalf of themselves, with court authority}$

The Guardianship Administrator is charged with making important decisions affecting the general welfare of children served by the department and protecting their legal rights. Specific duties include, but are not limited to: consent to the adoption of a youth under the care of the department; making other important decisions in conjunction with youth and parents when possible, such as consents to marriage, enlistment in the armed forces, major medical, surgical and psychiatric treatment, travel; removal from life support and/or Do Not Resuscitate Orders; and representing and arranging for legal representation of youth in litigation.

Step 2: View the "About Us" Section

 The About Us section on the home page includes a high-level description of the role of the DCFS Guardian, who is responsible for making key decisions affecting the welfare and legal rights of children in the care of the Illinois Department of Children & Family Services



Consent Request Process

With a few exceptions, the DCFS Guardian is authorized to consent to important decisions affecting the child or youth while the child/youth is under 18 years of age and in the Department's care.

The DCFS Guardian has authority to deny consent when appropriate. The Guardian will rely heavily on information and recommendations from the child's permanency or adoption worker and supervisor in this decision making process. In order to make medical, dental and psychiatric decisions on behalf of youth in care, the DCFS guardian works closely with medical experts.



Submit Reques

Fill out the appropriate form based on the type of consent being requested. Requests must be completely and accurately filled out to be processed.



Review Request

Submissions will be reviewed by the Consent Unit Staff. Psychotropic Medication and Medical/ Surgical Requests will also be reviewed by a medical professional.



Provide Consent Outcome

Each request will be approved or denied and returned to the contact method provided in the request. It typically takes 5-7 business days to review and provide the consent outcome.

Step 3: View the "Consent Request Process" Section

 The Consent Request Process section on the home page provides a high-level overview of the process from submitting a request to receiving the consent outcome



Navigating the Guardian Consent Portal (Page 2 of 2)

This guide helps requestors understand the purpose of and how to navigate the Guardian Consent Portal.



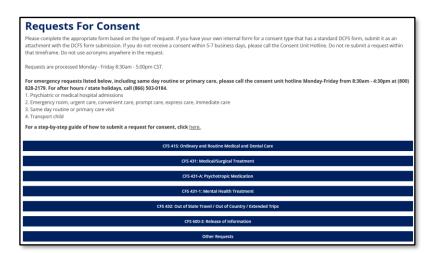


Step 4: Navigate to the "Requests for Consent" Page

There are two ways to navigate to the Requests for Consent Page:

- 1. Requests for Consent navigation tab
 - When selected, click "Requests for Consent" from the drop-down menu
 - Clicking a form will take you directly to the submission page for that specific form
- 2. Click the "Submit a Request for Consent" button

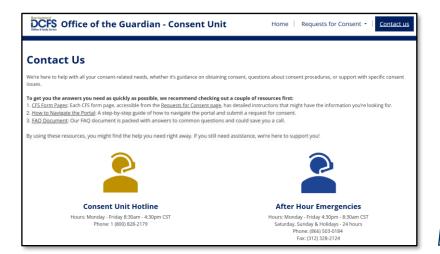




Step 5: View the "Requests for Consent" Page

- This page includes important instructions related all consent requests and a button for each request type
- There are seven consent request form options you may submit through the Portal
- To access a consent request form, click the button for the desired consent type
- "Other Requests" are for consents that don't have an official CFS form
- You do not need to fill out the CFS form prior to submitting your request through the Portal





Step 6: Navigate to the "Contact Us" Page

- Click Contact Us to find contact details for where you can get additional support
- For consent-related needs, reference the instructions on each CFS form page and the FAQ document
- The Consent Unit Hotline is available Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-4:30pm CST at: 1 (800) 828-2179
- After-hour emergency requests can be submitted via the CIRU Hotline at: (866) 503-0184 or fax (312) 328-2124

Note: Requestors with visual impairments are recommended to use tabbing functionality to navigate the Guardian Consent Portal



Submitting a request via the Guardian Consent Portal (Page 1 of 2)

This guide illustrates how to submit a consent request through the Guardian Consent Portal.





Step 1: Navigate to the Form Submission

There are two ways to navigate to the form submission page to submit a request:

- Click the *Requests for Consent* navigation tab and select the appropriate consent type from the drop-down menu
- 2. Click the *Submit a Request for Consent* button beneath the welcome message. This will take you to the request for consent page. From there, select the button for the consent type you would like to submit



CFS 415: Ordinary and Routine Medical and Dental Care Please read the instructions below prior to completing the request. Failure to follow instructions may result in a processing delay. Only submit a request for consent for a current provider(s). Do not submit a request for emergency rooms, or urgent, immediate or convenient care providers. Do not use acronyms anywhere in the request. If you are submitting a request for HIV testing, please read the DCFS risk factors for HIV testing by clicking HERE. Ordinary and Routine medical and dental care includes, but is not limited to: 2. Remedial treatment for minor illnesse 3. Immunizations and related diagnostics laboratory tests, including HIV testing when risk factors are present This type of request for consent is NOT valid for the following items, Please call the consent unit hotline Monday - Friday from 8:30am-4:30pm at (800) 828-2179. For after hours / state holidays, call (866) 503-0184: 1. Emergency room 2. Urgent care, prompt care, express care, immediate care This type of request for consent is NOT valid for the following items. Please complete a CFS 431 request for these categories: 1. Surgery/Procedure 3. Blood transfusions 4. Tooth extractions DNA Testing Sleep Study

Step 2: Read the Form Instructions Prior to Submitting the Consent Request

- Each consent request form has specific instructions at the top of the page
- Please read all instructions before starting to ensure you are completing the correct form and have all the information needed to submit the request, as your data will not be saved if you leave the page
- You do not need to fill out the CFS form prior to submitting your request through the Portal
- After 15 minutes of inactivity, the page will timeout and progress will be lost



Form Submission
Requestor Information
First Name •
Last Name •
Email *
Please use an Illinois gov email if possible. The completed consent will be returned to this email.
Phone Number * Please provide a direct phone number, and phone extension if applicable, where the requestor can be reached in case additional information is needed to process the request.
Provide a telephone number
Phone Extension
Fax
Next

Step 3: Begin Populating Form Details

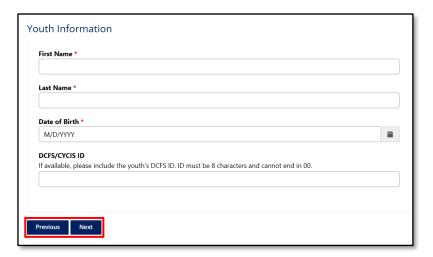
- Each form starts with Requestor Information, which captures details about the person completing the request
- The *Email* field on this page is where the submission confirmation will be sent, along with a copy of the CFS form; please use an Illinois.gov email if available
- Forms includes various field types, including free text, date fields, fields with character limits, upload buttons, multiselect and single-select dropdown fields
- Some fields have additional help text that instruct the requestor what to input



Submitting a request via the Guardian Consent Portal (Page 2 of 2)

This guide illustrates how to submit a consent request through the Guardian Consent Portal.

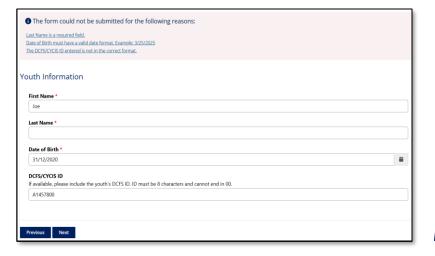




Step 4: Navigate Between Form Steps

- The Next button will advance the users to the next form step, once all required fields have been filled with appropriately formatted data
- The Next button behaves like "save & continue"; refreshing the page will clear the data entered in form fields on the current page, but all data entered on previous steps will remain
- The *Previous* button will return the user to the previous page; any data previously entered on a prior page will still be visible in the form fields





Step 5: Validate Form Inputs

- Fields that are required will have a red asterisk; optional fields will not
- An error message will appear above the form if there is invalid or missing data when the *Next* button is clicked





Step 6: Complete CAPTCHA Verification and Confirm the Submission

- Prior to submitting a request form, the user will be prompted to enter a code from the displayed image
- This prevents the submission of false requests by verifying human users
- After clicking *Submit*, a unique confirmation number will be displayed
- Save this confirmation number!
 A confirmation email containing a copy of the CFS form will be sent to the email address that the Requestor provided at the beginning of the form

Note: Requestors with visual impairments are recommended to use tabbing functionality to navigate the Guardian Consent Portal



Getting Help with the Guardian Consent Portal (Page 1 of 1)

This guide outlines the different contacts that can provide with consent-related support, and who to reach out to with questions about the Guardian Consent Portal.

For general questions about the Guardian Consent Portal, or the process of requesting consent from the DCFS Guardian Consent Unit:

Refer to the Illinois DCFS Guardian Consent Unit – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) guide

Resource:

IL DCFS Guardian Consent Unit

FAQ

For questions related to obtaining consent for a youth in care, or the status of a consent request you submitted:

Call the Consent Unit Hotline

Hours:

• Phone: 1 (800) 828-2179

Monday - Friday, 8:30am - 4:30pm CST

*Helpful Tip: make sure to have your confirmation number ready to check the status of a request submitted through the Guardian Consent Portal

For obtaining consent for an after-hours emergency:

Call the Child Intake Recovery Unit (CIRU)

Hours:

• Phone: 1 (866) 503-0184

Monday - Friday, 4:30pm - 8:30am CST

• Fax: 1 (312) 328-2124

Saturday, Sunday & Holidays - 24 hours

→ For questions about the way the Guardian Consent Portal is functioning, or about a submission confirmation email:

Contact the DCFS Guardian Consent Portal Support Inbox

• Email: dcfs.ilcguardianconsentportalsupport@illinois.gov