



..CONNECTIONS NEWS..

for the week of July 10 - 17, 2009

Developing a more caseworker centric system

CONNECTIONS Intranet site: <http://ocfs.state.nyenet/connect/>

FEATURED IN THIS EDITION

"Info to Know" for Caseworkers

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****Please note that the CONNECTIONS application will not be available on Saturday, July 11th from 8:00 AM through noon - a downtime of 4 hours.**

"Info to Know" for Caseworkers



CONNECTIONS Emergency Downtime on Saturday, July 11th

The CONNECTIONS application will not be available on *Saturday, July 11th from 8:00 AM through noon* (a downtime of 4 hours). The Office for Technology (OFT) is using this time to implement a technical solution to address the periodic latency issues that CONNECTIONS has been experiencing. Please note that the system fixes to correct issues with the Q2-09 deployment (that were identified in a communication dated Tuesday, July 7th) will be postponed and re-scheduled as soon as possible.



CONNECTIONS Notes

On Wednesday evening (7/15) several “batch jobs” that were scheduled to run began, but did not complete. As a result, on Thursday, you may have seen some issues as you worked in different parts of the CONNECTIONS application. One specific issue that was reported was regarding the Case Merge, in that every SUB, DUP and ADD were in PEND status. Currently all of the batches have been successfully re-run with one exception - the batch related to NT log-on IDs. Specifically, this batch job included Users IDs entered into CONNECTIONS earlier in the week and has not, as yet, been re-run. We will notify you when this job is completed.



TS: CONNECTIONS Security: Your Role and Responsibilities as Security Coordinator

A note to Local District and Voluntary Agency LAN Admins: please note information below related to accessing an LDAP Account.

The Who, What When and Where - The Announcement

The New York State Office of Children and Family Services, in conjunction with the Professional Development Program, is pleased to announce the computer-based training (CBT), *TS: CONNECTIONS Security: Your Role and Responsibilities as a Security Coordinator*. The purpose of this course is to provide Security Coordinators, backup Security Coordinators and anyone handling CONNECTIONS security functions with the information needed to help them make accurate and informed decisions regarding setting up and maintaining CONNECTIONS security rights for new and existing workers. The information is presented in a scenario-based format using the most common scenarios that occur in almost every agency. Basic info on security awareness and extensive references to additional resources are also included.

This course is intended for new and existing Security Coordinators. Even experienced Security Coordinators are likely to benefit from the concepts and practices presented in this course. Administrators and others with involvement in district or agency security are also encouraged to participate in order to stay current with best practices.

About Registering for the Course

A Note for District/Agency LAN Administrators:

In order to take this course the trainee will need a Directory Services account (LDAP account). We have referred all district and agency trainees to their agency LAN Admin with any questions related to establishing or using a Directory Services account (LDAP account).

Pre-registration for this course through the Statewide Training Automated Registration System (STARS) is required. The Internet address for the STARS website is: <http://stars.bsc-cdhs.org>. Every district and voluntary agency should have a STARS contact that is authorized to handle registration in STARS. Once registered, you can

access this course via Training Space (<http://trainingspace.org>). Access to Training Space is achieved through a Directory Services account (LDAP Account), which is different than your HSEN account. If you do not have a Directory Services account or have questions about your Directory Services account, contact your LAN Administrator, the local district LAN administrator with whom your agency contracts, or refer to the Online Training Courses Informational Sheet posted on the CONNECTIONS web site.

For more info on this CBT click on the link below to access the training announcement:

http://ocfs.state.nyenet/connect/training/Security_CBT_Course_Announcement_FINAL_7-06-091.pdf

- **Instructions for Online Training Courses, Training Space and Directory Services, LDAP Accounts Informational Sheet**

Taking an online training course that has been posted on TrainingSpace.org is a two step process. First the prospective trainee must be registered for the course through STARS. Once registered, the trainee can access the website, TrainingSpace.org, sign on to the site, click on the link to the course, and begin the course. This information sheet provides detailed instructions on the process of accessing a course through TrainingSpace.org.

Click on the link below to access the instructional sheet:

[http://ocfs.state.nyenet/connect/training/LDAP-Trng%20Space%207-09-09%20\(2\).pdf](http://ocfs.state.nyenet/connect/training/LDAP-Trng%20Space%207-09-09%20(2).pdf)



Update to the CONNECTIONS Training Database

This piece was also in the last edition of the CONNECTIONS NEWS.

The CONNECTIONS training database is due for its' quarterly update! This means that the training database will not be available on **Thursday, July 9th** or **Friday, July 10th**. It will again be available for use on **Monday, July 13th**!



AFCARS Info

The data for the Children Served With Missing Clinical Diagnosis reports (AFCARS period April 1st - September 30th) has been refreshed as of July 1st. The next data refresh is scheduled for Aug 7th ('as of' date Aug 5th).

General "Info to Know"



NEW Postings to the CONNECTIONS Intranet

The following documents were recently posted to the CONNECTIONS intranet website:

- ...CONNECTIONS NEWS... <http://ocfs.state.nyenet/connect/>
- The Training Announcement for - TS: CONNECTIONS Security: Your Role and Responsibilities as Security Coordinator (presented in a CBT format)
http://ocfs.state.nyenet/connect/training/Security_CBT_Course_Announcement_FINAL_7-06-091.pdf
- Instructions for Online Training Courses, Training Space and Directory Services (LDAP) Accounts Informational Sheet
[http://ocfs.state.nyenet/connect/training/LDAP-Trng%20Space%207-09-09%20\(2\).pdf](http://ocfs.state.nyenet/connect/training/LDAP-Trng%20Space%207-09-09%20(2).pdf)



Weekly System Maintenance

****Please note that the CONNECTIONS application will not be available on Saturday, July 11th from 8:00 AM through noon - a downtime of 4 hours.**

Due to regularly scheduled system maintenance, the CONNECTIONS application will not be available on...

- [Wednesday, 7/15/09](#) from 5:00 AM - 7:00 AM
- [Friday, 7/17/09](#) from 5:00 AM - 7:00 AM



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Services
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