



CONNECTIONS Weekly Technical Bulletin

New GIS Message:

New Income Eligibility Standards

A new General Information System (GIS) message is now available: New Income Eligibility Standards.

GIS # 16-001: The purpose of this GIS message is to advise local departments of social services that the new income standards to be used in determining eligibility for Services are scheduled to be migrated to Upstate WMS production and will be reflected in Services case (Case Type 40) processing effective June 1, 2016.

More detailed information on GIS #16-001, as well as past GIS messages, is available on the OCFS website at:

<http://ocfs.state.nyenet/it/GeneralResources/GeneralResourcesDefault.asp>

Upcoming CONNECTIONS Build: Family Services Stage—Phase 4

The next build to the CONNECTIONS application is tentatively scheduled for implementation in mid to late April and will include the modernization of the Family Assessment and Service Plan (FASP) and the Service Plan Review (SPR), as well as new functionality to support The Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act.

The FASP and SPR of the Family Services Stage (FSS) will be updated to a modernized user interface, consistent with other modernized CONNECTIONS modules such as Child Protective Services Investigation (INV) and Family Services Intake (FSI). Overall functionality, as well as security access rules, will remain essentially the same.

Additionally, new edits and windows will be introduced to further support The Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act.

Training and other support documentation will be made available to assist staff in preparation for implementation.

The most recent edition of the CONNECTIONS Build Bulletin, available on both the [Intranet](#) and [Internet](#), provides more detailed information on anticipated changes and training and support.

March 18-24, 2016

Weekly System Maintenance

Due to regularly scheduled maintenance, the CONNECTIONS application will be unavailable on:

- **Friday, March 18, from 4 a.m. to 7 a.m.**
- **Wednesday, March 23, from 4 a.m. to 7 a.m.**
- **Friday, March 25, from 4 a.m. to 7 a.m.**