



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT
OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

New Jersey Department of Children and Families Policy Manual

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Click to view, complete, or print [CP&P Form 22-27](#), CP&P Family Reunification Assessment.

Click to view, complete, or print [CP&P Form 22-27\(S\)](#), CP&P Family Reunification Assessment.

Note: This form is a part of the SDM policy.

WHEN TO USE IT

1. This form is used to review or determine permanency plans for children in out-of-home placement by:
 - Evaluating risk in the removal household,
 - Documenting and measuring visitation compliance by parents and caregivers,
 - Assessing safety in the removal household, and
 - Making permanency planning recommendations and decisions.
2. Complete CP&P Form 22-27 as a permanency planning tool for:
 - All families with an open child protective service or reunification case in which at least one child is in out-of-home placement (including relative placements), with a permanency plan goal of “reunification,” and
 - Non-removal parent household, when being considered as a reunification resource for the child.

HOW TO USE IT

1. Complete the form at the following intervals:
 - No later than three (3) months from the date of the placement;
 - Every three (3) months thereafter;

- Prior to any court hearing or Child Placement Review, to revisit the permanency goal and determine progress toward achieving case plan goals and objectives; and
- Anytime a child is being considered for return home.

Note: The reunification assessment guides the decision of whether to recommend reunification or to change the permanency plan goal. If a family has reduced their risk level to low or moderate and has achieved acceptable visitation, a reunification review is conducted, and the results are used to determine whether the home environment is safe. The permanency plan recommendation summary (Sections D and E) guide the decision of whether to return a child home or to change the permanency goal.

2. Only complete this template outside of the NJ Spirit application as a part of a contingency plan when the application is unavailable. However, in doing so, you are still required to create the form in NJ Spirit when the application becomes available.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE FORM

1. The Worker completes the form electronically and forwards it to his or her Supervisor for review and electronic approval. A printed version of the form is not necessary for the CP&P case record.

RELATED INFORMATION

- [Structured Decision Making](#)

DISTRIBUTION

Electronic Copy - NJ SPIRIT electronic case record