

August 10, 2026

Missing Person Entry of Youth in Care of DCFS - Safeguard Our Children Act

In accordance with the Safeguard Our Children Act (325 ILCS 58/10), when any child or person in the care of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) who is placed in a residential facility is reported missing, the Miscellaneous (MIS) field of the LEADS entry shall include a statement indicating this.

Effective immediately, the following statement must be included in the MIS field of the LEADS entry for these types of entries:

Youth in care of IL DCFS Regardless of age shall be released only to DCFS custody. Contact 24-hr hotline 866-503-0184.

Any existing entries for youths in DCFS care come up for validation, application of this requirement should be confirmed with DCFS and records modified as necessary. Please ensure personnel at your agency responsible for taking missing person reports and entering those records into LEADS/NCIC are aware of this change.

For assistance please contact the Help Desk at 866/LEADS-00.

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