

Vermont Requirements Related to Substance Use During Pregnancy

Pregnant person reported or confirmed substance use during the last trimester of pregnancy

Yes ↓

Substance use limited to:

- Prescribed Medications for Addiction Treatment (MAT)
- Prescribed opioids for chronic pain
- Prescribed benzodiazepines
- Marijuana

No ↙

Report to DCF via call to Child Protection Hotline (1-800-649-5285)

Yes ←

Yes ↘

Concerns for newborn safety after birth?

No ↓

No prenatal report indicated. Begin Plan of Safe Care with pregnant person and other involved caregivers.

The following situations meet Vermont's Prenatal report acceptance criteria:

- A pregnant person reports (or a healthcare provider certifies) the use of an illegal substance, use of non-prescribed prescription medication, or misuse of prescription medication during the last trimester of pregnancy.
- Concern that the pregnant person's substance use constitutes a significant threat to an infant's health or safety (with the goal to address the safety concerns prior to birth).

Effective November 1, 2017, DCF no longer accepts reports where the sole concern is regarding marijuana use during pregnancy.

Assessments may begin approximately one month before the due date or sooner if medical findings indicate there may be a preterm delivery.

DCF will assess child safety and engage the pregnant person and involved caregivers in the development of a Plan of Safe Care.

The Vermont Plan of Safe Care, Family Handout, and Frequently Asked Questions can be found on the DCF FSD website:
<https://dcf.vermont.gov/fsd/partners/POSC>