



ARIZONA YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES, INC.
3707 N. 7th St, Suite 200
Phoenix, AZ 85014
Phone: (602) 277-4833
Fax: (602) 277- 4820

School-Based Services FAQs

What is AYFS?

Arizona Youth & Family Services (AYFS) is a nonprofit behavioral health provider serving children, adolescents, & families in Phoenix & the surrounding areas. Services are provided at our outpatient clinic as well as in the home, school, community, & virtually (telehealth). AYFS follows Positive Behavior Support / Trauma-Informed Care models, meaning our services are delivered in a strength-based, culturally sensitive, family-focused manner.

What Services Does AYFS Provide?

All services begin with an initial intake. This is a two-hour meeting during which the Intake Specialist asks many questions of the youth & guardian to get an idea of strengths, needs, & goals. Based upon the information gleaned, the Intake Specialist then makes clinical recommendations for specific services that will meet the family's goals. The intake concludes with an individualized & unique treatment plan to ensure everyone agrees with how the family wishes to proceed. Intakes are typically offered within 7 days of the initial request (depending upon the scheduling preferences of the family). Services offered include:

- **Counseling:** AYFS serves infants, children, adolescents, & adults seeking support for a variety of needs. Drawing upon various evidence-based modalities, therapy is provided on an individual, family, & group basis to address identified treatment goals.
- **Psychiatry:** When clinically appropriate, psychiatric evaluations & medication management appointments are available via telehealth services.
- **Case Management:** Coordination of care is maintained between the families, schools, & others to ensure all stakeholders are on the same page.
- **Family Supports:** For youth whose acting-out behaviors interfere with stability in home, school, or community, AYFS has staff specially trained in behavior management strategies to help youth address underlying unmet needs in a more prosocial manner. These services can be delivered through Youth & Family Support Services (YFSS), Meet Me Where I Am (MMWIA), or Stabilization Treatment & Regulatory Support Services (STARSS). With each of these services, AYFS works to generalize successful interventions to all environments; therefore, collaboration with teachers & caregivers is essential to ensure progress is sustained even after formal supports end.

How to Refer to AYFS

Families can request services themselves by calling our main number (602-277-4833) & asking for an intake. Callers will be directed to the Intake Specialist who will take preliminary information over the phone & then schedule an intake at the family's convenience. Schools & other professionals can also refer families for services by sending the AYFS referral (see attached) by fax (602-277-4820) or email (QSPReferral@azyfs.org). Please ensure the guardian is aware of your referral before submitting so caregivers are not surprised by our outreaching attempts.

Costs

All AYFS services are provided free of charge to schools & families. The majority of those served by AYFS are on Medicaid (AHCCCS). AYFS has also been awarded grants allowing us to serve all underinsured & uninsured youth referred by schools. Thus, students with private insurance, no insurance, &/or those who are undocumented are all eligible to receive in-school services free of charge.

Contacts

If you have questions or wish to speak further about services provided, feel free to contact the AYFS Clinical Director, Jennifer Sander, MC, LPC, at Jennifer.Sander@azyfs.org or (602-277-4833 ext. 303).



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AYFS School Referral Form

****Please ensure caregivers are aware that you're making this referral before submitting to AYFS****

Date of Referral: _____ School: _____ Referring staff: _____

Student First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____

Child's Address: _____
Street Apartment City State Zip

Student's Preferred Language (circle one): English Spanish Other _____

Caregiver's Name: _____ Caregiver's Role (circle one): Bio parent

Step-parent

Preferred Phone: _____ Grandparent

Foster parent

Secondary Phone: _____ Group Home

Other: _____

Email: _____

Caregiver's Preferred Language (circle one): English Spanish Other _____

Scheduling Constraints / Preferences: _____

Areas to Address in Services: _____

Requested Services (circle all that apply): Individual counseling Family counseling
Group counseling In-home supports
Medications
Other: _____

Information about services with AYFS:

1. All services are provided on school campus or via telemed when needed.
2. All incoming clients must complete a 2-hour intake prior to beginning services. This will allow AYFS to obtain the necessary information about family history, presenting problems, medical health, diagnosis, etc. After the assessment, a treatment plan will be created in conjunction with family so everyone is aware of next steps. This plan will guide our services and can be updated at any time.
3. AYFS is a family-focused agency, so caregiver & teacher involvement is highly encouraged. Releases of Information (ROIs) will be obtained so AYFS can also share relevant info with the school at CFTs or other appropriate staffings.
4. At least one guardian must be present for intake and bring the following to the meeting:
 - a. Guardian photo ID
 - b. AHCCCS ID or other insurance ID if available. (If no insurance, AYFS can still work with the family by using grants.)
 - c. Proof of guardianship (e.g. birth certificate, Power of Attorney, Notice to Provider, divorce decree, or other court document). Services cannot proceed without proof of guardianship.
 - d. Contact information for the student's PCP, dentist, school, & anyone else the family wishes for us to consult with.

Please send completed form to QSPReferral@azyfs.org or fax (602-277-4820). We look forward to collaborating to meet your students' needs!