

Nondirective Counseling and Referral Job Aid



This job aid presents the nondirective pregnancy options counseling and referrals that the Office of Population Affairs (OPA) Title X recipients must adhere to.

In June 2022, OPA clarified that not only are Title X recipients allowed to provide clients with counseling and a referral for pregnancy termination, but they are also required to meet the requirements of the 2021 *Final Rule*: “Ensuring Access to Equitable, Affordable, Client-Centered, Quality Family Planning Services” related to nondirective pregnancy options counseling, which is summarized below ([42 CFR § 59.5\(a\)\(5\)](#)).

<p>✓ If a client requests information and counseling on pregnancy options, Title X sites are required to:</p>	<p>⊘ When providing referrals for pregnancy options counseling, Title X sites may not*:</p>
<p>Provide information and counseling regarding each of the following options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prenatal care and delivery• Infant care, foster care, or adoption• Pregnancy termination <p>Provide neutral, factual information and nondirective counseling on each of the options, and referral upon request, except with respect to any option(s) about which the pregnant client indicates they do not wish to receive such information and counseling.</p> <p>If a referral for pregnancy termination is requested, the Title X site may provide the name, address, and telephone number of a provider and other relevant factual information (such as whether the provider accepts Medicaid, charges, etc.).</p> <p>There are no geographic limitations for Title X sites making referrals for their clients, and they have the flexibility to refer clients for services across state lines if necessary.</p> <p>Source: (42 CFR § 59.5(a)(5))</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Schedule or arrange for pregnancy termination (warm referral)• Provide transportation for pregnancy termination• Explain or obtain signed pregnancy termination consent forms from clients interested in pregnancy termination• Negotiate a reduction in fees for pregnancy termination• Promote or advocate for pregnancy termination <p>*The limitations on referrals do not apply in cases where a referral is made for medical indications, such as where the client’s life would be endangered.</p> <p>Source: 65 FR (41281–41282) (July 3, 2000)</p>

For more information, see *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization* U.S. Supreme Court Decision: Impact on Title X Program Q&As for Title X Recipients and [Nondirective Counseling and Referral Sample Policy Template](#).