

# Youth Fire Setting Intervention INTERVENTIONIST PACKET

To Request a Youth Fire Setting Interventionist or Request a Case Number



Scan QR Code

## Contact Information:

Youth Fire Setting Program

Agency:

Contact:

This packet includes all the forms needed to complete a Youth Fire Setting Intervention and determine an appropriate intervention strategy.

**YOUTH FIRE SETTING INTERVENTION  
PARTICIPATION RELEASE AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY**

The \_\_\_\_\_ uses this youth fire-setting assessment tool that evaluates a child’s involvement in fire activity.

The assessment evaluates the fire setting behavior by reviewing six types of individual characteristics: demographic, physical, cognitive, emotional, motivation and psychiatric.

Based on the results of the evaluation, your child’s tendencies will place him/her in one of the following areas of concern:

**Some Concern** --- Needs educational intervention.

**Moderate Concern** --- Needs referral for evaluation by a licensed psychologist or psychiatrist and educational intervention.

**High Concern** --- Needs immediate referral for evaluation by a licensed psychologist or psychiatrist and educational intervention counseling.

If educational intervention is indicated, the Youth Fire Setting Interventionist (YFSI) will offer further educational activity for your child. Participation in the program is not a guarantee that fire-setting behavior will stop.

Depending on the individual case, the school your child attends, local law enforcement, social services, mental health or other agencies may become involved.

Upon request, the questions asked in this evaluation may be viewed prior to signing this release. I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read the previous statement and do hereby grant permission for my child, \_\_\_\_\_, to participate in the \_\_\_\_\_ Youth Fire Setting Intervention program. Although I understand that YFSI does everything in its power to protect youth information, I authorize release of information regarding my child to such other governmental entities and agencies as may be deemed appropriate by the intervention specialist.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent / Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

**YOUTH FIRE SETTING INTERVENTION  
RELEASE OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

**Authorization for Release and Receipt of Confidential Information**

By signing below, I agree to the terms of the release form. I understand that \_\_\_\_\_ Youth Fire Setting Intervention Program may include representatives of fire and police departments, the juvenile justice and probation systems, public and private mental health facilities and their associates, public and private children-and-youth social services, the state mental health care consultant and the local school system.

I hereby authorize Youth Fire Setting Interventionist (YFSI), including all of the agencies listed above, to receive any and all information deemed necessary from the sources listed below:

- |                                   |                            |                        |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| *Referral/admission information   | *Psychiatric assessment    | *Psychological testing |
| *Education reports                | *Progress notes            | *Social history        |
| *Comprehensive evaluation reports | *Individual education plan | *Discharge summary     |
| *Fire/police/probation reports    | *Assessment interview      |                        |

For the purposes of:

- |                        |                              |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| *Planning intervention | *Reporting problems/concerns | *Coordinating services |
|------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|

I hereby authorize \_\_\_\_\_ to provide the following types of information to agencies deemed appropriate:

- |                       |                               |               |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| *Referral Information | *Intervention Plan Assessment | *Case Reports |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|

Furthermore, I hereby release \_\_\_\_\_ and its authorized agents from any and all legal responsibility or liability stemming from the release of information indicated and authorized herein.

Information released with this authorization will not be given, sold, transferred, or in any way be relayed to any other person or agency not specified above, without written consent.

I understand that I may revoke this consent at any time. I may be requested to submit a written request to the \_\_\_\_\_ Youth Fire Setting Intervention Program Coordinator.

_____ Parent / Guardian Signature	_____ Date	_____ OSFM Assigned Case Number
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**YOUTH FIRE SETTING INTERVENTION  
INTAKE INFORMATION**

**Youth Demographics:**

Date:

First Name:

Middle:

Last:

Gender:

DOB:

Race:

What is the Child's Primary Language?

Age at time of Incident:

Is the Child a Smoker?

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**Place of Residence:**

Street Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

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**School:**

School Attended:

Grade:

---

**Social Media:**

What types of social media does the youth use?

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**Referred by:**

Name:

Contact Email

Contact Phone:

Address:

**YOUTH FIRE SETTING INTERVENTION  
INTAKE INFORMATION  
(Continued)**

**Youth's Significant Medical Conditions:**

Does the child have any medical or mental health conditions?

If yes, what (Optional to Disclose)?

Does the child receiving treatment for those conditions?

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**Parent / Guardian #1:**

Name: Date of Birth: Relationship:

Street Address:

City: State: Zip Code:

Contact Email: Contact Phone:

Does Parent / Guardian live with the child?

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**Parent / Guardian #2:**

Name: Date of Birth: Relationship:

Street Address:

City: State: Zip Code:

Contact Email: Contact Phone:

Does Parent / Guardian live with the child?

YOUTH FIRE SETTING INTERVENTION  
INTAKE INFORMATION  
(Continued)

**Youth/Family Residence Information:**

Number of children in primary residence:

Name of Sibling:	Gender:	Age:
Name of Sibling:	Gender:	Age:
Name of Sibling:	Gender:	Age:
Name of Sibling:	Gender:	Age:
Name of Sibling:	Gender:	Age:

Are there smokers in the household?

Type of residence:

**Fire Scene Information:**

Date of Fire:	Time of Fire:	FD Run No.:
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Did the child or anyone else sustain any injuries?

If yes, injury type?

Location of Fire:	Was a structure occupied?
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Type of Fire:	Ignition Device:
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Novelty Lighter:	Flammable Liquid Use:
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Other Details:

**YOUTH FIRE SETTING INTERVENTION  
INTAKE INFORMATION  
(Continued)**

**Additional Involved Youth:**

**Involved #1**

Name: Date of Birth: Gender:

Street Address:

City: State: Zip Code:

Guardian Name:

Guardian Contact Phone Number:

Additional Information:

---

**Involved #2**

Name: Date of Birth: Gender:

Street Address:

City: State: Zip Code:

Guardian Name:

Guardian Contact Phone Number:

Additional Information:

**YOUTH FIRE SETTING INTERVENTION  
YOUTH INTERVIEW**

**Child's Name:**

**Date:**

**Interviewer(s) Name:**

**Score:**

**Instructions:**

Place a check mark next to the scoring level that best describes the situation for this youth. Expand the questions as you feel necessary to complete the interview with confidence. Use the comment line for anything that seems out of the ordinary or that supports your impressions.

**A. Is the youth experiencing any school problems?**

**Suggested Questions...** How's school? What do you like about school? What don't you like? Do you get in trouble at school? Do you have lots of friends at school? Who's your best friend?

**Scoring:**

- 1 The youth likes school and has minimal problems.**
- 2 The youth has some trouble in school either socially or academically.**
- 3 The youth has frequently been in trouble at school, hates the teachers, doesn't like the classes, has been expelled or suspended, etc...**

**Comments:**

**B. How does the youth get along with the others in the neighborhood?**

**Suggested Questions...** Do you have any friends in the neighborhood that you hang out with? Do you like them? Do they like you? Do you ever get picked on by the kids in the neighborhood?

**Scoring:**

- 1 The youth has friends in the neighborhood.**
- 2 The youth gets into fights frequently or has few friends and may get bullied.**
- 3 The youth is involved in a gang or hangs out with others involved in delinquent criminal behavior.**

**Comments:**



**YOUTH FIRE SETTING INTERVENTION  
YOUTH INTERVIEW  
(Continued)**

**C. What was set on fire? Was there anything significant about the object?**

**Suggested Questions...** Tell me about what was burned? Tell me about the fire? Why did you want to burn the item? Have you ever burned this item before? What other types of things have you burned? Whose stuff did you burn?

**Scoring:**

- 1** The object that was burned had little emotional significance for the youth, (i.e. toilet paper, leaves, or trash).
- 2** The object that was burned has some emotional significance for the youth, (i.e. plastic army figures, other person's possessions).
- 3** Did the object that was burned have emotional significance for the youth or someone else, (i.e. sibling's crib, or favorite toy, a parent's or caregiver's possessions).

**Comments:**

**D. Where was the fire set? Was there any significance to that location?**

**Suggested Questions...** Where did the fire start? If at home...What room were you in? If not at home...Do you go to this place often? Do you like it there?

**Scoring:**

- 1** The fire was started in a place where the youth plays, such as his/her bedroom, a closet, fort, or a hiding place.
- 2** The fire was started in a place with community significance, i.e. a church, school, park, or in a forest.
- 3** The was set in a building occupied with people, with the intent to place people at risk.

**Comments:**

**YOUTH FIRE SETTING INTERVENTION  
YOUTH INTERVIEW  
(Continued)**

**E. How much planning was done prior to the fire?**

**Suggested Questions...** Tell me what you were doing right before the fire? Did you think about how you were going to start the fire? Where did you get the things that were burned? What was used to light the fire? Where it come from?

**Scoring:**

- 1** The fire was started using available materials; the act of fire-setting was spontaneous and done without planning. Matches and lighters were readily available.
- 2** There was some pre-planning for the fire and some gathering of materials; however, the fire was not especially thought out.
- 3** There was definite planning for the fire, materials were sought out, and matches/lighters were stashed and/or hidden at the site beforehand. Accelerants may have been used.

**Comments:**

**F. Who was with the youth at the time of the fire?**

**Suggested Questions...** Was anyone with you when the fire started? If yes, who? What did they say about the fire? Did the person with you do anything as the fire started burning?

**Scoring:**

- 1** The youth was with many peers/siblings when the fire was set.
- 2** The youth was with other peers/siblings and this youth might have instigated the fire.
- 3** The youth was alone when the fire was set.

**Comments:**

**YOUTH FIRE SETTING INTERVENTION  
YOUTH INTERVIEW  
(Continued)**

**G. What was the youth's response to the fire?**

**Suggested Questions... What was the first thing you did when the fire started to burn? What was the next thing you did? Did you tell someone (an adult) about the fire? If so, who was it and when was it?**

**Scoring:**

- 1 The youth tried to extinguish the fire and called for help.**
- 2 The youth engaged in match or lighter play.**
- 3 The youth may have made some attempts to extinguish the fire, but called for help only after others discovered the fire.**
- 4 The youth ignored the fire, did not call for help, stayed to watch, or left the fire scene.**

**Comments:**

**H. How did the youth feel after the fire?**

**Suggested Questions... What did your caregiver say about the fire? Was anyone angry with you about the fire? Do you care what others think of you after starting the fire? Do you feel like you did something bad or did the fire scare you? Did you think you would get into trouble?**

**Scoring:**

- 1 The youth shows remorse for the fire.**
- 2 The youth showed interest in how others reacted.**
- 3 The youth is unconcerned about others' reactions or is pleased with the fire.**

**Comments:**

**YOUTH FIRE SETTING INTERVENTION  
YOUTH INTERVIEW  
(Continued)**

**I. Was the youth supervised when the fire occurred?**

**Suggested Questions...** When you were playing around with the matches and lighters, where was mom or dad? Was anybody at home at the time? Who was taking care of you?

**Scoring:**

- 1** Parents or caregivers were home at the time or youth was under appropriate supervision.
- 2** Parents or caregivers were home but unavailable or not directly supervised.
- 3** The youth was left alone or with younger children.

**Comments:**

**J. How knowledgeable is the youth about fire? How much does the youth understand about the dangers of fire? Does the youth use fire for power or control?**

**Suggested Questions...** Did you think that the fire could get out of control and get really big? Do you feel you can control a fire that you start? Can you determine how big the fire will get? If so, how? What did you want to have happen when you started the fire?

**Scoring:**

- 1** The youth is knowledgeable about some aspects of fire survival but is unaware of the destructiveness or speed of fire.
- 2** The youth may indicate some concern about the dangers and risk of fire-setting but thinks they can control it.
- 3** The youth does have an understanding of fire and uses it to defy authority, gain attention or express anger.

**Comments:**

**MCI Hk : =F9 G9HHB; `BH9F J9BHCB  
MCI Hk `BH9F J=9K  
f7cbhbi YXL**

**K. Has the family experienced any kind of crisis in the past six months?**

**Suggested Questions... Tell me about home? Do you like being at home? Is there anything about home that you don't like? Has anything happened at home in the last six months that upset you? Is there anything different about home lately?**

**Scoring:**

- 1 There has been no major crisis in the family in the last six months.**
- 2 There have been some changes in the family structure in the last six months, i.e.: divorce, death, moving, etc...**
- 3 The family is in a state or crisis or chaos.**

**Comments:**

**L. Does the youth have a fire history?**

**Suggested Questions... Tell me the other times you have burned things? What was the smallest fire? What was the largest fire? Have you ever used an accelerant like gasoline or lighter fluid? How about fireworks? Have you ever altered fireworks?**

**Scoring:**

- 1 This is the first known incidence of fire setting.**
- 2 The youth admitted to setting from 2 - 5 fires.**
- 3 The youth has started more than 5 unsupervised fires.**

**Comments:**

**YOUTH FIRE SETTING INTERVENTION  
YOUTH INTERVIEW  
(Continued)**

**M. Has the youth ever been burned?**

**Suggested questions... Have you ever been hurt by fire? Tell me what happened? Where did it happen? Who was involved?**

**Scoring:**

- 1 The youth has never been burned.**
- 2 The youth has been burned unintentionally.**
- 3 The youth has been burned by another person and may have scars from this burn.**

**Comments:**

**N. How concerned was the youth for accepting responsibility for the fire?**

**Suggested Questions... Now the fire is out and you have had a chance to think about what has happened, would you do it again? Tell me your reasons or why this fire occurred?**

**Scoring:**

- 1 The youth acknowledges the seriousness of the fire setting and accepts help appropriately.**
- 2 The youth acknowledges the seriousness of the fire setting but seeks to blame\ others and denies his/her own responsibility.**
- 3 The youth denies the seriousness of the fire setting and his/her own responsibility for it or takes full responsibility for it because he/she intended to cause destruction or injury.**

**Comments:**

**YOUTH FIRE SETTING INTERVENTION  
Parent / Guardian Check List**

Youth Name:

Date of Birth:

Parent Name:

Relationship to Youth:

My child takes medication for a behavioral problem.

Are there smokers in the home?

Please check if any of the following statements are true for your child.

Yes    No    N/A    Sometimes

My child has set fire or played with fire tools more than once.

My child has set fires outside of the home before.

Other people in the home have set fires.

My child is fascinated by fire (for example, often stares at flames).

My child has altered or misused fireworks.

My child has easy access to lighters and/or matches.

There is a wood stove, fireplace, candles or incense frequently in use at home.

My child fights with brothers and sisters.

My child argues with parents/caregivers.

My child has witnessed parents arguing.

My child spends as much time as desired with father/male caregiver.

My child spends as much time as desired with mother/female caregiver.

There has been a traumatic event in my child's life or family in the last year.

There has been physical or sexual abuse in the family.

**YOUTH FIRE SETTING INTERVENTION  
Parent / Guardian Check List  
(Continued)**

Please check if any of the following statements are true for your child.

Yes    No    N/A    Sometimes

My family moves frequently.

My child has been suspended from school.

My child has few friends.

My child is often picked on or bullies by others.

My child has friends who are a bad influence.

My child has a history of lying.

My child has stolen or shoplifted.

My child destroys their own possessions.

My child has special needs.

My child has been in counseling.

My child is physically aggressive or hurts others.

My child has intentionally harmed or injured an animal. I feel  
like I have no control over my child.

Comments:



**YOUTH FIRE SETTING INTERVENTION  
Parent / Guardian Interview**

*Instructions: Place a check mark next to the scoring level that best describes the situation for this youth. Expand the questions as you feel necessary to complete the interview with confidence. Use the comment line for anything that seems out of the ordinary or supports your impressions.*

Youth Name:

Date:

Interviewer Name:

Score:

A. What was the parents' or caregivers' response to the fire?

Suggested Questions: Mom, Dad, what was your reaction to the fire?

Scoring:

- 1 The reaction of the parents to the fire was immediate and appropriate response, with concern for any victims.
- 2 The reaction of the parents to the fire was one that appears too lax or too punitive.
- 3 The reaction of the parents to the fire was either nonexistent or was an immediate and overly punitive response (such as burning the youth's hands).

Comments:

B. Is there a family history with fire?

Suggested Questions... Did anybody else in the family ever play with fire or get burned from a fire that got out of control? Have you ever had a house fire?

Scoring:

- 1 There is no traceable history of fire in the family.
- 2 There is some history in the family that the youth has or may have heard about.
- 3 There is a fire history about which the youth has direct knowledge.

Comments:

**YOUTH FIRE SETTING INTERVENTION  
Parent / Guardian Interview  
(Continued)**

C. Does the youth have a history of fire play or fire setting?

Suggested Questions... How many other times has your child lit matches, played with a lighter or burned things of little or no value? Do you know if he has ever threatened anybody with fire or if he/she has been hurt by fire himself/herself?

Scoring:

- 1 This is the first known incidence of unauthorized use of fire for the youth.
- 2 The youth has a sporadic history of unauthorized use of fire. There was little or no damage from previous.
- 3 Family members have used fire inappropriately. The youth's home is not fire safe.

Comments:

D. What kind of modeling is going on in the home? How did the parents/caregivers teach their youth about fire? What kinds of fire safety practices occur in the home? Are there any cultural or traditional ways the family uses fire?

Suggested Questions... How did you teach your child about fire? Do you have a working smoke detector? Do you have candles or a woodstove? How do you store matches and lighters? How does your family use fire? Are there smokers in the home?

Scoring:

- 1 Appropriate fire safety is observed in the home. Smoke detectors work, wood stoves are safely installed. Parents, siblings or other family members avoid modeling fire play.
- 2 There is modeling of using fire for fun at home and fire safety is only moderately observed by parents and siblings.
- 3 Family members have used fire inappropriately. The youth's home is not fire safe.

Comments:

**YOUTH FIRE SETTING INTERVENTION  
Parent / Guardian Interview  
(Continued)**

E. How is the youth supervised?

Suggested Question... When you are not at home, who takes care of the child?

Scoring:

- 1 The youth has good, continual parental and/or caregiver supervision.
- 2 The youth has some supervision, but the supervision is often sporadic.
- 3 The youth has minimal supervision.

Comments:

F. Does the youth have any problems in school?

Suggested Questions... Is the youth having any problems in school? Does your child have any learning problems? Is your child in any special classrooms or programs?

Scoring:

- 1 The youth has minimal problems in school.
- 2 The youth gets some school referrals.
- 3 The youth receives special education services.
- 4 The youth has been suspended or expelled from school.

Comments:

**YOUTH FIRE SETTING INTERVENTION  
Parent / Guardian Interview  
(Continued)**

G. Has the youth ever been in counseling?

Suggested Questions... Has your child ever seen the school counselor or other mental health provider for problems?

Scoring:

- 1 The youth has never been in counseling.
- 2 The youth has been in counseling in the past.
- 3 The youth is currently in counseling or has been referred for counseling.

Comments:

H. How would you describe your youth's friends?

Suggested Questions... Do you like your kid's friends? Are they a positive influence on your child?

Scoring:

- 1 The youth has a healthy, supportive peer group.
- 2 The youth has some peer support, but his/her behavior is influenced by peers (bad friends).
- 3 The youth has little or no peer support, is shunned by peers and is isolated and withdrawn.

Comments:

I. Has any kind of crisis or traumatic event happened within your family? Please describe.

Scoring:

- 1 There has not been a traumatic family experience in the past year.
- 2 There has been a major traumatic family experience in the past year.
- 3 There has been a major traumatic family event in the past that may be influencing the youth's behavior.

Comments:

**YOUTH FIRE SETTING INTERVENTION  
Parent / Guardian Interview  
(Continued)**

- J. Would you be willing to seek additional help for your child such as taking him/her/they to counseling?

Scoring:

- 1 The youth's family acknowledges the seriousness of the fire setting and seeks help appropriately.
- 2 The family protects the child, seeks to blame others and denies their own and the child's responsibility for the fire.
- 3 The family doesn't seem to take the behavior seriously and simply wants the fire department to "fix" the youth and/or doesn't see the need for other services.

Comments:

**YOUTH FIRE SETTING INTERVENTION  
Interviewer's Observations**

Does parent appear indifferent or unconcerned to the fire setting?

Does child appear neglected or abused?

Is resident in disarray?

Youth's Behavior/Mannerisms:	Nervous	Stubborn	Good Eye Contact	
	Shy	Open	Polite	
Youth's Mood:	Angry	Sad	Happy	Depressed
	Excited			
Youth's Way of Thinking:	Rational	Appropriate	Scattered	Logical
	Illogical			
Parent(s) Behavior/Mannerisms:	Fidgety	Nervous	Stubborn	Good Eye Contact
	Shy	Open	Polite	
Parent(s)Way of Thinking:	Rational	Appropriate	Scattered	Logical
	Illogical			

***Risk Level Evaluation Meanings:***

***Low Risk - No Problems    Moderate Risk - Learning Problems    High Risk - Problems Suspended***

Characteristics:	Low Risk	Moderate Risk	High Risk
Family Environment:	Low Risk	Moderate Risk	High Risk
School Experiences:	Low Risk	Moderate Risk	High Risk
Motivation for Fire:	Low Risk	Moderate Risk	High Risk
Setting Age:	Low Risk	Moderate Risk	High Risk
Overall Rating:	Low Risk	Moderate Risk	High Risk

**YOUTH FIRE SETTING INTERVENTION  
Assessment Summary**

**Youth Name:**

**Interviewer:**

**Date:**

**Start Time:**

**End Time:**

**Location of Assessment:**

**People Present:**

**Classification:**

**Curiosity**

**Delinquent**

**Thrill Seeking**

**Crisis**

**Special Problem**

**Pre-test Score:**

**Family Risk Score:**

**Child Risk Score:**

**Action Plan:**

**No Further Action Needed**

**Fire Education Class**

**Community Impact Report**

**Education; One on One**

**Follow-Up**

**Homework Assignment**

**Refer to Other Agency (See Below)**

**Sent to Police For Charges**

**Business Card Given**

**Other:**

**Referred To (Agency):**

**Contact Name:**

**Contact Email:**

**Contact Phone #:**

**YOUTH FIRE SETTING INTERVENTION  
Letter Template**

Date IL OSFM Youth Fire Setting Intervention Case #YYYY-XX

Addressee  
Agency  
Street  
City, State, Zip  
Email:

Name of Addressee

On DATE OF REQUEST, you requested a Youth Fire Setting Intervention be conducted on YOUTH NAME (DOB) for an incident which took place on MM/DD/YYYY.

On DATE OF INTERVENTION, I met with YOUTH NAME and PARENTS?GUARDIANS, at LOCATION. A Youth Fire Setting Intervention Assessment was conducted in the presence of PARENTS /GUARDIAN.

Based on the results of the Youth Fire Setting Intervention, YOUTH NAME's tendencies placed her into the following category:

Some Concern Category

Moderate Concern Category

High Concern Category

The SELECTED Category recommends NAME OF YOUTH be:

Provided Educational Intervention

Recommends referral for evaluation by a licensed psychologist or psychiatrist and educational intervention

Needs immediate referral for evaluation by a licensed psychologist or psychiatrist and educational intervention counseling.

At this time, ENTER FOLLOW UP HERE pertaining to this case and/or NAME OF YOUTH from the AGENCY Youth Fire Setting Intervention Program. Should you have any further questions regarding this assessment, please feel free to contact me.

Thank You

Name of Interventionist  
Agency



## YOUTH FIRE SETTING INTERVENTION SCORING PROCEDURES

Add the face value of the checked responses for both the youth and the parent interview. Enter the total on the lines provided below:

Total Score: (Youth Interview) (Parent Interview)

If youth questions D, J and / or L were scored with a 3 response, consider referring this youth for a crisis evaluation.

### *Youth Interview Scores:*

**If the total number for the youth interview is from 14-19 then:** The fire behavior appears to be basically experimental in nature. This youth does not have a history of fire behavior. The intervention for this category is fire education for the youth and the family. There are numerous fire education intervention curricula available to use with this child. The family should set clear rules about fire use in the home and practice home fire safety. YFSI Specialists should emphasize the importance of working smoke alarms and home escape planning for these families. Younger fire setting youth do not understand the consequences of their actions so it is important that parents/ caregivers increase their knowledge of fire safe practices.

**If the total number for the youth interview is 20-42 then:** The youth has a sporadic history of fire-setting and needs to be referred to other community agencies that serve children and their families. Many of these youths will require a more comprehensive mental health evaluation to determine the motives for his/her behavior. Youth who score in this range are setting fires as a cry for attention, as a response to a crisis event, to express anger or to defy authority. Many youth use fire because they are seeking power and control. The fire-setting in this case is often a symptom of other family, school or peer group problems.

In addition to referring the family for further evaluation, YFSI Specialists need to provide fire science education. Families often do not understand the power of fire and need to increase their knowledge of home fire safety practices. Again, emphasizing the importance of working smoke alarms and practicing home escape planning. Helping educate the youth about how their fire-setting behavior affected the community and the risk involved is another way YFSI Specialists can provide a service to the youth and their family and hold youth accountable for their behavior.

Curricula for educating adolescent are available.

### *Parent/Guardian Interview Scores:*

**If the number for the parent interview is between 16-30 then:** provide fire safety education to the family and recommend to the family that they seek the services of other community agencies to further evaluate the youth's fire-setting behavior.

**If the total number for the parent interview is from 10-15 then:** provide fire safety education to the youth and family.

**YOUTH FIRE SETTING INTERVENTION  
REFERRAL PROCEDURES**

**A referral should consist of:**

- 1. A cover letter including**
  - a. Statement of the fire incident**
  - b. Observations of the interviewer**
  - c. Recommendations**
- 2. A copy of the release of confidential information form**
- 3. A copy of the fire report**
- 4. Copies of both assessment interviews and parent check list**
- 5. A brief summary of the education provided**

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