

User Guide
Virginia Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) Training and
Certification on
www.CANSTraining.com

Introduction

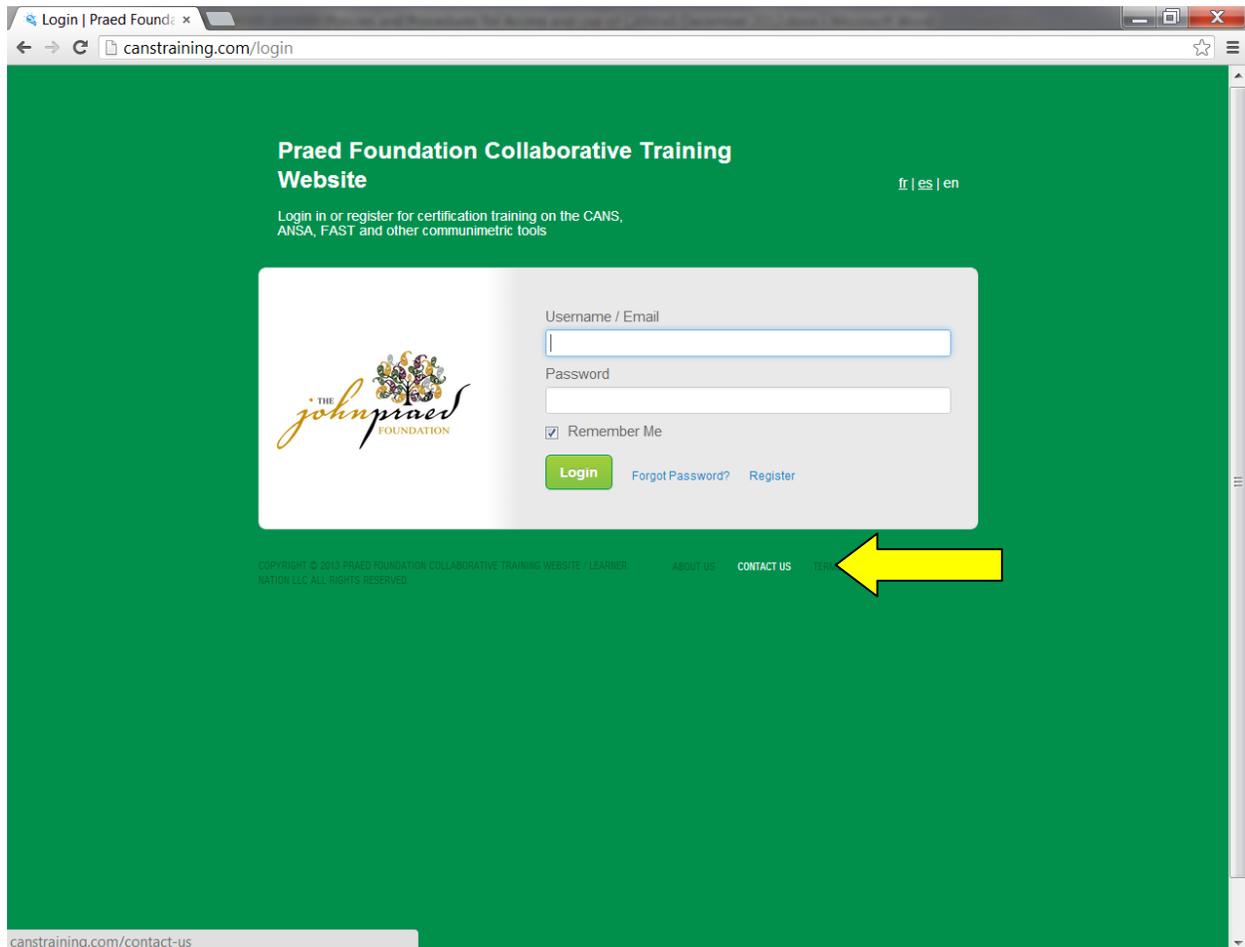
Welcome to CANS! The Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths assessment (Virginia Version) is the mandatory uniform assessment instrument for all children, youth and families receiving services funded by the Comprehensive Services Act (CSA). The primary purpose of the assessment is to identify the strengths and needs of the child, youth and family to guide and inform service planning with the family.

Local public agency (Department of Social Services, Court Services Units, Community Services Boards, CSA offices and schools) staff who provide case management services for children and youth served by CSA are responsible for administration of the CANS. Private providers should not administer the CANS for children and youth receiving CSA-funded services. However, providers play an integral role in assessment and development of the plan by providing the case manager and Family Assessment and Planning Team (FAPT) with information about the child, youth and family's progress while receiving services. Currently, anyone with an interest in children's services in Virginia can access the training site.

The CANS training and certification site is located at www.CANSTraining.com. This site is hosted by the Praed Foundation, which holds the copyright to the CANS assessment and is managed by John Lyons, Ph.D., who is the creator of the CANS. The software company which maintains the site is Learner Nation. CANSTraining has a Support Center which may be accessed by e-mail by clicking on the "Contact Us" link on any page of the website.

This guide is intended to assist a user in creating an account and navigating the site. For further assistance, users may always contact the CANS Support staff by clicking the "Contact Us" link on the website as noted in the screen shot on the following page.

“Contact Us” Link



SECTION I

Purpose of Certification

Users must be appropriately certified and maintain that certification to administer the CANS assessment, whether the assessment is done online on the CANVaS website or on paper. Certification on the use of the Virginia Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) assessment must be renewed annually.

CANS assessments which are administered by a user who is not certified or whose certification has lapsed are invalid and cannot be used for any purpose. Users are cautioned that completing a CANS assessment when not appropriately certified is considered a fraudulent use of the assessment. In working with children and families, assessors should do their best to ensure the provision of high quality

services. Properly understanding and administering the assessment is critical in developing a successful service plan.

The standard way to certify (and recertify) on the administration of the Virginia CANS is to complete the online training and successfully rate a certification vignette with a passing score of at least .70 on the website www.CANSTraining.com hosted by the Praed Foundation.

The CANS certification test must be taken on an individual basis. Sharing of ratings on CANS certification test items is prohibited. It is not permissible to give or receive answers or assist others in passing the certification test by sharing answers. CANS certifications are valid only when properly obtained.

SECTION II

NEW-First time Users

If you already have an existing CANSTraining account, see Section IV.

If this is your first time accessing the www.CANSTraining.com site, please follow the instructions below to create an account. Screen shots are included to assist you in navigating the site.

Below is the page you will see after typing the web address www.CANSTraining.com in your browser. To create an account, click on “Register.”

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL canstraining.com/login. The page title is "Praed Foundation Collaborative Training Website". Below the title, it says "Login in or register for certification training on the CANS, ANSA, FAST and other communimetric tools". The main content area features the Praed Foundation logo on the left and a login form on the right. The form includes fields for "Username / Email" and "Password", a "Remember Me" checkbox, a green "Login" button, a "Forgot Password?" link, and a "Register" link. A yellow arrow points to the "Register" link. At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with copyright information and links for "ABOUT US", "CONTACT US", "TERMS OF USE", and "PRIVACY POLICY".

Complete the following page (screenshot below). Be sure to note that when you register you are acknowledging that you have read and accept the “Terms of Use” and “Privacy Policy.” Each of those documents may be accessed by clicking on its link.

Be sure to use your WORK e-mail address. Do not use a home e-mail address. Accounts using addresses such as “gmail”, “hotmail”, “verizon”, “comcast”, “yahoo” or “aol” may be deleted from the system.

Do not create multiple accounts, as the system may delete the older account(s) associated with the user and retain only the most recent.

Register | Praed Four x
canstraining.com/register

Praed Foundation Collaborative Training Website fr | es | en

Login in or register for certification training on the CANS, ANSA, FAST and other communimetric tools

CREATE ACCOUNT

Username

First Name

Last Name

Email

Password

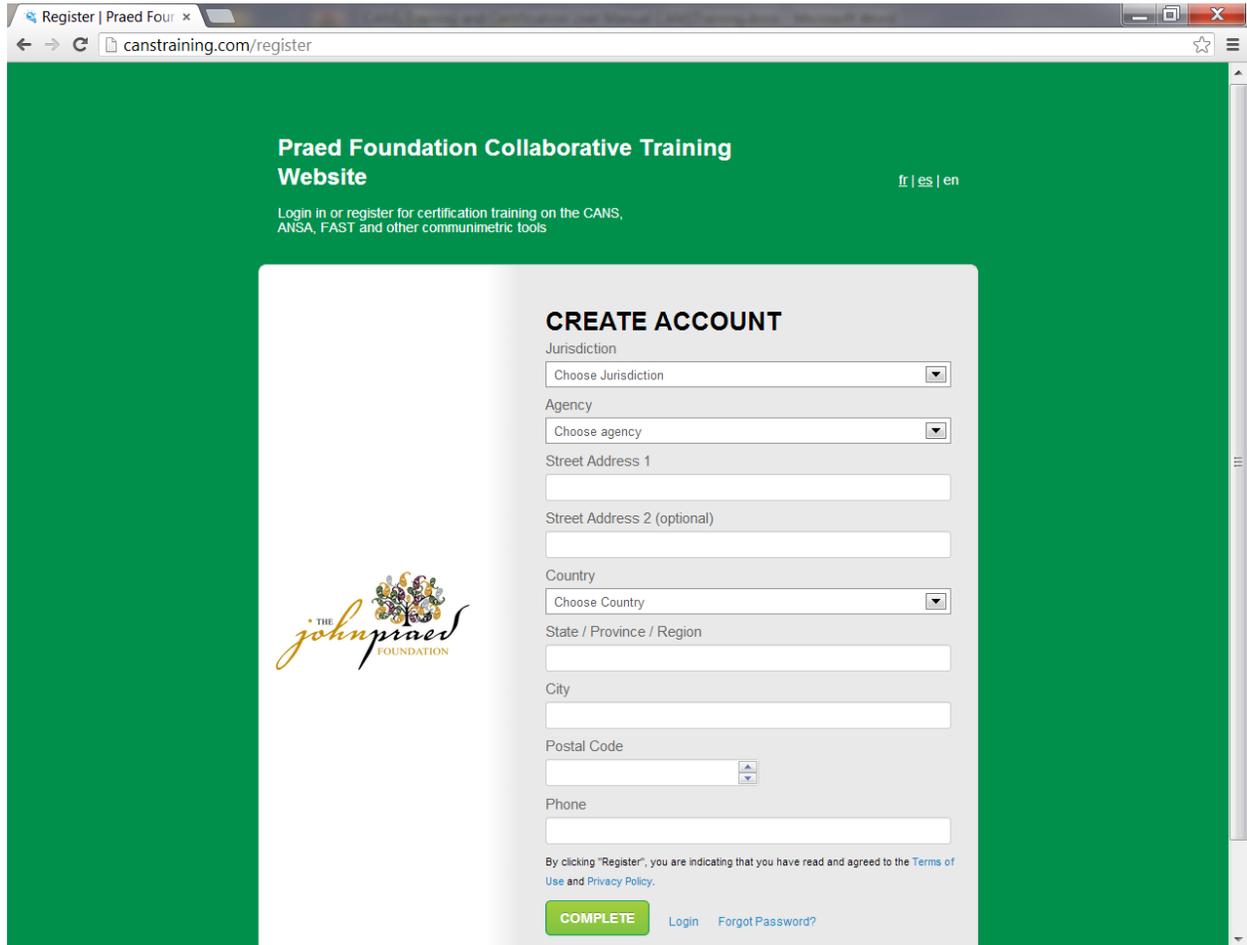
Repeat Password

By clicking "Register", you are indicating that you have read and agreed to the [Terms of Use](#) and [Privacy Policy](#).

REGISTER [Login](#) [Forgot Password?](#)

COPYRIGHT © 2013 PRAED FOUNDATION COLLABORATIVE TRAINING WEBSITE - LEARNER NATION LLC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. ABOUT US CONTACT US TERMS OF USE PRIVACY POLICY

The following page will appear:



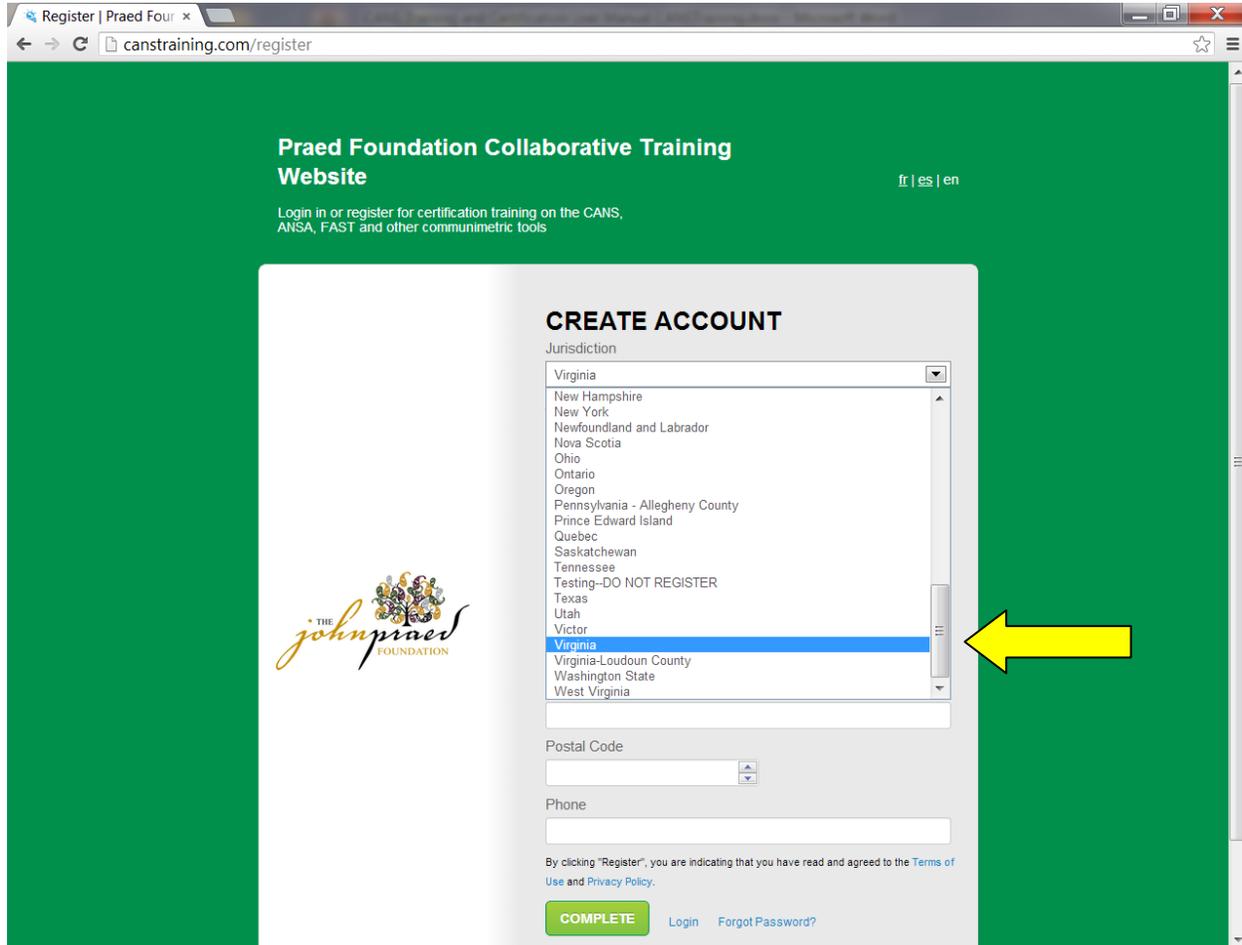
The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `canstraining.com/register`. The page has a green header with the text "Praed Foundation Collaborative Training Website" and language options "fr | es | en". Below the header, there is a sub-header "CREATE ACCOUNT" and a form with the following fields:

- Jurisdiction: Choose Jurisdiction (dropdown menu)
- Agency: Choose agency (dropdown menu)
- Street Address 1: [text input]
- Street Address 2 (optional): [text input]
- Country: Choose Country (dropdown menu)
- State / Province / Region: [text input]
- City: [text input]
- Postal Code: [text input]
- Phone: [text input]

At the bottom of the form, there is a green "COMPLETE" button and links for "Login" and "Forgot Password?". A small disclaimer at the bottom of the form reads: "By clicking 'Register', you are indicating that you have read and agreed to the [Terms of Use and Privacy Policy](#)."



Select “Virginia” from the drop-down list as your “Jurisdiction.”



Register | Praed Four x
canstraining.com/register

Praed Foundation Collaborative Training Website fr | es | en

Login in or register for certification training on the CANS, ANSA, FAST and other communimetric tools

CREATE ACCOUNT

Jurisdiction

Virginia
New Hampshire
New York
Newfoundland and Labrador
Nova Scotia
Ohio
Ontario
Oregon
Pennsylvania - Allegheny County
Prince Edward Island
Quebec
Saskatchewan
Tennessee
Testing-DO NOT REGISTER
Texas
Utah
Victoria
Virginia
Virginia-Loudoun County
Washington State
West Virginia

Postal Code

Phone

By clicking "Register", you are indicating that you have read and agreed to the [Terms of Use](#) and [Privacy Policy](#).

COMPLETE Login Forgot Password?



Select the name of your City or County from the drop-down box entitled "Agency." Campbell County is selected in the example below.

Register | Praed Four x
canstraining.com/register

Praed Foundation Collaborative Training Website

fr | es | en

Login in or register for certification training on the CANS, ANSA, FAST and other communimetric tools

CREATE ACCOUNT

Jurisdiction
Virginia

Agency
Campbell County

- Charles City County
- Charlotte County
- Chesterfield County
- City of Alexandria
- City of Bedford
- City of Bristol
- City of Buena Vista
- City of Charlottesville
- City of Chesapeake
- City of Colonial Heights
- City of Covington
- City of Danville
- City of Franklin
- City of Fredericksburg
- City of Galax
- City of Hampton
- City of Harrisonburg
- City of Hopewell
- City of Lexington
- City of Lynchburg

Phone

By clicking "Register", you are indicating that you have read and agreed to the [Terms of Use and Privacy Policy](#).

COMPLETE [Login](#) [Forgot Password?](#)

The page will reflect your Jurisdiction “Virginia” and the name of your Agency (“DEFAULT” in the example below-be sure to enter your City or County’s name from the drop-down list). Select “United States” from the drop-down box for Country. Type the word “Virginia” in the line entitled “State/Province/Region.” Provide your remaining information (address, city, zip code and phone).

Praed Foundation Collaborative Training Website

fr | es | en

Login in or register for certification training on the CANS, ANSA, FAST and other communimetric tools

CREATE ACCOUNT

Jurisdiction
Virginia

Agency
DEFAULT

Street Address 1
[Text Input]

Street Address 2 (optional)
[Text Input]

Country
United States

State / Province / Region
Virginia

City
[Text Input]

Postal Code
[Text Input]

Phone
[Text Input]

By clicking "Register", you are indicating that you have read and agreed to the [Terms of Use and Privacy Policy](#).

COMPLETE Login Forgot Password?

Click “Complete.” Your CANSTraining account has been created. See Section IV (For All Users) for next steps.

SECTION III

For Users who are Recertifying on WWW.CANSTRaining.COM

If you do not have an account in the system, follow the steps outlined above in Section II. If you already have an account in the system, log in. If the system recognizes your user name, but not your password, click on “contact us” to obtain assistance from the Support Center. Or you may click on the “forgot password?” link. If you do so, you will receive a message, stating that an e-mail will be sent to the e-mail address on record. The user is instructed to click on a link within the message to reset the password. If you have not received this e-mail message, check your spam or junk mail folder. The e-mail will be sent from Learner Nation, which is the company that maintains the CANS training site software, and will appear as “LearnerNation [hello@learnernation.com]” If you do not receive the message, click on the “Contact Us” link on the log-in page of www.CANSTraining.com and request assistance.

“Legacy” users, or individuals who certified on the previous training site hosted by Communimetrics, have been added to the new *CANSTraining* site. However, you may not be able to access your previous certification history until this process is complete. If you need your previous certification dates (prior to July 1, 2012), contact the Office of Comprehensive Services. OCS is maintaining a database of all certifications on the Communimetrics site, so your individual certification history remains available.

At this time (04/05/2013), some legacy users are showing a recertification as of 08/30/2012 because of a glitch when the data was transferred. If you do not recall recertifying on this date, use your most recent certification date. A list of users who did actually certify on 08/30/2012 is available. If your name is not on this list, you will not be able to use this date to validate your certification.

Continue on the following page.

SECTION IV

For All Users

Once you have created your account and accessed the Virginia section of the site, you will see a box labeled “Learning -TCOM & Advanced Tools.” The “TCOM” box explains “Total Clinical Outcomes Management” and provides an overview of how CANS is used to manage and support decision-making and measurement of outcomes, both at the individual and system level. If you are an administrator, or want to learn how to use CANS more effectively in your locality, explore this section of the site to learn about TCOM. If you want to continue with the learning and certification process, click on “See More” under the box.

The screenshot displays the user profile page for Carol Wilson on the canstraining.com website. The browser address bar shows the URL canstraining.com/profile/. The page header includes the logo for The John Praed Foundation and a language selector set to 'fr | es | en'. The user's name 'Carol Wilson' is displayed with a 'Welcome' message. The profile section shows 'Taking : 3 Subjects' and an 'Edit Profile' button. A 'Notifications' section indicates 'No notifications yet'. The 'Learning' section features a box titled 'TCOM & Advanced Tools' with a 'See More' button, which is highlighted by a yellow arrow. The footer contains links for 'About Us', 'Terms of Use', and 'Contact Us', along with a copyright notice: 'Copyright © 2013 Praed Foundation Collaborative Training Website / Learner Nation LLC All rights reserved.'

The following page (screenshot below) with three boxes will appear. The Virginia 0-4 is the version of the CANS for use with children ages birth to four years old. The Virginia 5-17 should be used for all children and youth over the age of 5 who are receiving CSA-funded services. It is appropriate to use the Virginia CANS 5-17 for youth ages 18-21 who are still receiving CSA services.

You may train and certify on either version of the CANS. You should select the version appropriate to the age group with whom you usually work. For example, if you work with older youth, click on the Ages 5-17. Once you certify on either age version, you are certified to administer both because the rating logic is the same. Note: Some localities require that case managers certify on both versions, but dual certification is not required to administer the CANS.

Praed Foundation Collaborative Training Website > Profile

User Carol Wilson

Profile Overview
Test History
My Receipts

Carol Wilson
Taking : 3 Subjects
Edit Profile

Action Subjects

Subjects Taking

TCOM & Advanced Tools
Virginia-CANS 0-4
Virginia-CANS 5-17

About Us Terms of Use Contact Us

Copyright © 2013 Praed Foundation Collaborative Training Website / Learner Nation LLC All rights reserved.

Start

After you select either the Birth to Four or the Ages 5-17, this page will appear.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL canstraining.com/jlyons/cans-training-comprehensive-multisystem-assessment-5-17/node/how-to-use-this-site. The page header includes the logo for "The John Praed Foundation" and a user profile for "Carol Wilson" with a "Welcome" message. The main content area is titled "How to Use This Site" and features a navigation bar with "Begin" and "Next" buttons. Below the navigation bar, there is a "Text" section with a list of instructions for using the training site. On the right side, there is a sidebar titled "Virginia-CANS 5-17" with a list of training modules.

How to Use This Site

Welcome to the training on the Virginia Comprehensive 5-17. Here are some tips on making the training work for you:

1. Navigation is on the right hand side. Simply go through one section at a time. For most sections there is text to read and videos to watch. For sections on specific items, there are quizzes to take to test whether you are understanding the meaning of the item. If the videos are not working for you, there is a very good chance that you have a firewall that is preventing your viewing. Please consult with your IT staff to ensure access.
2. It is an exceptionally good idea to go through the full training before jumping to the test. We know that can feel like a lot of time (it should take you a couple of hours) but in the long run it is less time because it is unlikely that you will pass the certification test unless you've completed the training.
3. Be sure to print out a copy of the manual before you take a Practice Test or Final Exam. You'll need to be able to refer to the item definitions while you are testing.
4. Taking a practice test is a good idea. You get feedback on the difference between your ratings and the recommended scores on these tests. You don't get feedback on test vignettes because unfortunately a small number of people cheat thinking the task is the pass the test rather than to learn the approach.
5. If you've recently gone through a live training, you should be fine jumping to the certification test although if you don't pass on the first attempt, you should probably try a practice test where you get feedback.
6. When taking the test remember the vignette assumption. No mention is no evidence which is rengths.

Virginia-CANS 5-17

- ▶ **How to Use This Site**
- ▶ CANS Comprehensive Introduction
- ▶ Six Key Principles of the CANS
- ▶ Action Levels for Need Items
- ▶ Action Levels for Strength Items
- ▶ Effective communication with families using the CANS by Mary Beth Rautkis
- ▶ Life Functioning
- ▶ Child Strengths
- ▶ School
- ▶ Permanency Planning Caregiver Strengths and Needs
- ▶ Child Behavioral/Emotional Needs
- ▶ Child Risk Behaviors
- ▶ How to Rate Modules
- ▶ Developmental Needs (DN) Module
- ▶ Trauma Module

IMPORTANT:

Be sure to read the first page “How to Use this Site” (depicted again below) which contains information that tells you how to navigate the site. These tips will save a user a lot of time and effort if followed. This page also outlines the process of training and certification.

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the 'How to Use This Site' page. The URL is canstraining.com/jlyons/cans-training-comprehensive-multisystem-assessment-5-17/node/how-to-use-this-site. The page header includes the John Praed Foundation logo and a user profile for Carol Wilson. A search bar is located below the header. The main content area is titled 'How to Use This Site' and features a navigation bar with 'Begin' and 'Next' buttons. Below the navigation bar is a 'Text' section with a dropdown arrow. The text content includes a welcome message and six numbered tips for navigating the site. On the right side, there is a sidebar titled 'Virginia-CANS 5-17' with a 'How to Use This Site' button and a list of training modules.

How to Use This Site

Welcome to the training on the Virginia Comprehensive 5-17. Here are some tips on making the training work for you:

1. Navigation is on the right hand side. Simply go through one section at a time. For most sections there is text to read and videos to watch. For sections on specific items, there are quizzes to take to test whether you are understanding the meaning of the item. If the videos are not working for you, there is a very good chance that you have a firewall that is preventing your viewing. Please consult with your IT staff to ensure access.
2. It is an exceptionally good idea to go through the full training before jumping to the test. We know that can feel like a lot of time (it should take you a couple of hours) but in the long run it is less time because it is unlikely that you will pass the certification test unless you've completed the training.
3. Be sure to print out a copy of the manual before you take a Practice Test or Final Exam. You'll need to be able to refer to the item definitions while you are testing.
4. Taking a practice test is a good idea. You get feedback on the difference between your ratings and the recommended scores on these tests. You don't get feedback on test vignettes because unfortunately a small number of people cheat thinking the task is to pass the test rather than to learn the approach.
5. If you've recently gone through a live training, you should be fine jumping to the certification test although if you don't pass on the first attempt, you should probably try a practice test where you get feedback.
6. When taking the test remember the vignette assumption. No mention is no evidence which is 0 for needs and 3 for child/youth strengths.

Virginia-CANS 5-17

How to Use This Site

- ▶ CANS Comprehensive Introduction
- ▶ Six Key Principles of the CANS
- ▶ Action Levels for Need Items
- ▶ Action Levels for Strength Items
- ▶ Effective communication with families using the CANS by Mary Beth Rautkis
- ▶ Life Functioning
- ▶ Child Strengths
- ▶ School
- ▶ Permanency Planning Caregiver Strengths and Needs
- ▶ Child Behavioral/Emotional Needs
- ▶ Child Risk Behaviors
- ▶ How to Rate Modules
- ▶ Developmental Needs (DN) Module
- ▶ Trauma Module

The **Table of Contents** is located on the right hand side of the screen. Complete the training by going through each section. Read carefully, listen to the videos and take the multiple choice quizzes and complete any other learning activities.

If you are new to CANS, do NOT attempt to take the test without learning the material. Rating the CANS may appear deceptively simple. Items have specific meanings. Click on “printable materials” as noted below. Print a copy of the Manual for whichever age group you wish.

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the 'How to Use This Site' page on the Canstraining.com website. The page is titled 'How to Use This Site' and features a navigation bar with 'Begin' and 'Next' buttons. A search bar is located at the top left. The main content area contains a welcome message and seven numbered tips for using the site. The sidebar on the right lists the site's navigation structure, including 'How to Use This Site', 'CANS Comprehensive Introduction', 'Forward', 'What is the CANS?', 'Printable Materials', and 'Six Key Principles of the CANS'. A yellow arrow points to the 'Printable Materials' link in the sidebar.

How to Use This Site

Begin Next

Search Subject Go

Praed Foundation Collaborative Training Website > Dr. John Lyons > Virginia-CANS 5-17 > How to Use This Site

Instructor \ Dr. John Lyons

Virginia-CANS 5-17

- How to Use This Site
- ▼ CANS Comprehensive Introduction
 - Forward
 - What is the CANS?
 - Printable Materials
 - ▼ Six Key Principles of the CANS
 - Principle 1
 - Principle 2
 - Principle 3
 - Principle 4
 - Principle 5
 - Principle 6
 - Recap & Conclusion
 - Action Levels for Need Items
 - Action Levels for Strength Items
 - Effective communication with families using the CANS by Mary Beth Rautkis
 - Life Functioning
 - Child Strengths
 - School

Welcome to the training on the Virginia Comprehensive 5-17. Here are some tips on making the training work for you.

1. Navigation is on the right hand side. Simply go through one section at a time. For most sections there is text to read and videos to watch. For sections on specific items, there are quizzes to take to test whether you are understanding the meaning of the item. If the videos are not working for you, there is a very good chance that you have a firewall that is preventing your viewing. Please consult with your IT staff to ensure access.
2. It is an exceptionally good idea to go through the full training before jumping to the test. We know that can feel like a lot of time (it should take you a couple of hours) but in the long run it is less time because it is unlikely that you will pass the certification test unless you've completed the training.
3. Be sure to print out a copy of the manual before you take a Practice Test or Final Exam. You'll need to be able to refer to the item definitions while you are testing.
4. Taking a practice test is a good idea. You get feedback on the difference between your ratings and the recommended scores on these tests. You don't get feedback on test vignettes because unfortunately a small number of people cheat thinking the task is the pass the test rather than to learn the approach.
5. If you've recently gone through a live training, you should be fine jumping to the certification test although if you don't pass on the first attempt, you should probably try a practice test where you get feedback.
6. When taking the test remember the vignette assumption. No mention is no evidence which is 0 for needs and 3 for child/youth strengths.
7. The certification reliability focuses on differences of 2 and 3 from the recommended

If you are re-certifying on CANS, it is a good idea to review the materials and take a practice test. You may find answers to questions you've had when administering the assessment or learn new information that will help you in better rating the CANS.

Below is an example of what you will see when you click on a link in the site's Table of Contents. In this example, "Principle 2" under "Six Key Principles" was selected. Be sure to read and keep in mind these principles whenever you are rating a CANS. Sections may have text, video and multiple choice items to review what you have learned.

The screenshot displays the 'Principle 2' page on the Canstraining.com website. The page is titled 'Principle 2' and is part of the 'Virginia-CANS 5-17' training module. The main content area is divided into sections for 'Text' and 'Video'. The 'Text' section contains the following information:

Principle 2 of the CANS:
Each item uses a 4-level rating system. Those levels are designed to translate immediately into action levels. Different action levels exist for needs and strengths. The action levels are described in greater detail throughout this training website.

The page also features a navigation bar with 'Previous' and 'Next' buttons, a search bar, and a user profile for Dr. John Lyons. A sidebar on the right lists the 'Virginia-CANS 5-17' content, with 'Principle 2' highlighted. The page also includes a 'Share something with the group...' box at the bottom.

Below is a shot of the video screen that will appear when you click the “video” link on this page. The videos are short and will assist you in understanding the principle, how to rate the items, item definitions, or whatever the topic is you have selected.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `canstraining.com/jlyons/cans-training-comprehensive-multisystem-assessment-5-17/node/principle-1`. The page content includes:

- Navigation:** "Previous" and "Next" buttons at the top.
- Text Section:** A green header with a list icon and the word "Text". Below it, text reads: "Principle 2 of the CANS: Each item uses a 4-level rating system. Those levels are designed to translate immediately into action levels. Different action levels exist for needs and strengths. The action levels are described in greater detail throughout this training website."
- Video Section:** A green header with a video camera icon and the word "Video". Below it is a video player showing a man speaking. The video title is "Six Key Characteristics of the CANS" and the content includes "2. Level of items translate immediately into action levels" and "Ex. Needs: 0 - No evidence, no need for action; 1 - Watching waiting / presentation".
- Share Section:** A yellow arrow points to a text input field labeled "Share something with the group..." with a "Post" button below it.
- Right Sidebar:** A navigation menu titled "Virginia-CANS 5-17" with a list of links including "How to Use This Site", "CANS Comprehensive Introduction", "Six Key Principles of the CANS" (with "Principle 2" highlighted), "Principle 1" through "Principle 6", "Recap & Conclusion", "Action Levels for Need Items", "Action Levels for Strength Items", "Effective communication with families using the CANS by Mary Beth Rautkis", "Life Functioning", "Child Strengths", "School", "Permanency Planning Caregiver Strengths and Needs", "Child Behavioral/Emotional Needs", "Child Risk Behaviors", "How to Rate Modules", "Developmental Needs (DN) Module", and "Trauma Module".

You will also note that if you have a question, you can “share something with the group.” These might be questions about how to rate an item, about where to find specific information, or even if you notice that something on the website is not working properly. CANS Training site support staff monitor these entries and will respond if you have a direct question.

Below is an example of a multiple choice item that has been answered with the correct response.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL canstraining.com/jlyons/cans-training-comprehensive-multisystem-assessment-5-17/node/family. The page content includes:

- Text Section:**

Please rate the highest level from the **past 30 days**

0--Child is doing well in relationships with family members.

1--Child is doing adequately in relationships with family members although some problems may exist. For example, some family members may have some problems in their relationships with child.

2--Child is having moderate problems with parents, siblings and/or other family members. Frequent arguing, difficulties in maintaining any positive relationship may be observed.

3--Child is having severe problems with parents, siblings, and/or other family members. This would include problems of domestic violence, constant arguing, etc.

This item rates describe the individuals the child identifies with as family. The definition of family should come from the child's perspective (i.e., who does the child consider as his or her family?). If you do not know this information, then define family as including biological relatives and their significant others with whom the child is still in contact.
- Video Section:** (indicated by a video camera icon)
- Multiple Choice Section:** (indicated by a yellow arrow and a list icon)

Previous Question Q 1 of 3 Next Question

Q1. **6 year old Aaron's parents are strong advocates for him and work very hard to understand his needs and ensure that they are being met.**

 - 0
 - 1
 - 2
 - 3

Explanation:
The recommended score is 0.

On the right side of the page, there is a navigation menu with the following items:

- How to Use This Site
 - ▶ CANS Comprehensive Introduction
 - ▶ Six Key Principles of the CANS
 - ▶ Action Levels for Need Items
 - ▶ Action Levels for Strength Items
 - ▶ Effective communication with families using the CANS by Mary Beth Rautkis
- ▼ Life Functioning
 - How to Rate the Life Functioning Domain
 - Family
 - Living Situation
 - Sleep
 - Social Functioning
 - Sexuality/Sexual Development
 - Recreation
 - Developmental
 - Communication
 - Judgment
 - Acculturation
 - Legal
 - Medical
 - Physical Health
 - Daily Functioning
 - Independent Living
 - ▶ Child Strengths
 - ▶ School

While you are on the site:

If you have difficulty navigating the site (screen “freezes”, there appears to be no way to move to the next screen, etc.) it may be a browser issue or a firewall impeding access. The site is compatible with Internet Explorer 8. Try opening your browser, click on “tools” then click on “compatibility view.” You can request assistance by selecting the “contact us” link or by contacting your local IT staff. If it is a firewall issue, you should request assistance from your local IT staff. Do not contact the CANVaS Help Desk. CANVaS is a separate site and is not maintained by the same staff or software company as the CANStraining site.

If you are a new user, or returning to recertify on CANS, you should take a practice test. The practice test will show your answers so you can learn whether each answer is correct, off by one point, off by two, or by three points. You can then review the item meanings and resource materials for information about those items that you incorrectly rated. See below for a screen shot of the results of a practice test. To see the correct answer on the items you have missed, click on “Show” under “Explanation.”

Oh yeah! You've passed the test! Time to Celebrate!

Your score 0.75

< Back to test history Export to PDF

When completing the vignettes, there is a vignette assumption. That is, when reading assume that a full assessment has been done and no mention means 'no evidence'. This is the standard quality assurance if it isn't documented it does not exist assumption. What that means, then if there is no mention of a need, the rating should be a '0'. If there is no mention of a strength, then the rating should be a '3'. So, no mention of suicidality would result in a rating of '0' on Suicide Risk. No mention of any talents or interests would result in a rating of '3' on Talents/Interests

Another way to think about it is that you start the assessment with all 0 ratings on the Needs and all 3 ratings on the Child/Youth Strength and then you look for evidence to adjust your scores accordingly using the action levels. Caregiver ratings use the Need action levels for the vignettes. Good luck!

PRACTICE TEST: DOLORES

Dolores is a 16 year old adolescent female who was hospitalized last night. She was brought to the emergency room after threatening to kill herself by slitting her wrists. When her adoptive parents tried to take the knife away from her, she threatened them. They called the police, who escorted Dolores to the emergency room. Dolores presents as a moody and impulsive young woman with poor judgment. She appears manipulative in her interpersonal relationships. Dolores has lived with her adoptive parents since she was six. She was taken from her parents along with a brother and two sisters when she was three following accusations of sexual abuse of all four children by the father. Parental rights were terminated and she was adopted by her current parents. Parents own their own home and both work.

Dolores has been having serious psychiatric difficulties for the past four years. She has been hospitalized three times during this period at the same hospital. While she has labile moods most of the time, occasionally, she becomes very agitated and angry or suicidal or both. However, she has also had several periods of over a month during which she had few symptoms. Adoptive parents have been in family therapy with Dolores and her younger brother who is the biological son of her parents. They continue to work with this therapist. Her brother is reportedly well adjusted and is a A/B student in seventh grade.

Dolores is in a special education class for emotionally disturbed children. In this classroom she does fairly well. She has not been suspended and attends school regularly. She get in occasional arguments with peers. She has only one friend with whom she is very close. Her most recent suicide gesture was stimulated by this friend becoming involved with a boyfriend. Dolores felt ignored for the past several weeks. Dolores is pessimistic about her future and states that she has no long term plans.

Dolores's adoptive parents are very active in their church and community. Dolores attends church services regularly and sings in the choir. She also helps her parents with some of their community projects. Both parents work. They have been married for 14 years and appear to have a strong marital relationship. Maternal grandmother also lives in the house as she is becoming forgetful and is unable to manage her activities of daily living. Dolores is reportedly close to her adoptive grandmother.

| Action Item | Corresponding Section | Status | Explanation |
|---|---|----------------|-------------|
| Family | Life Domain Functioning | Missed 1 point | Show |
| Correct Answer: | Your Answer: | | |
| 0 1 2 3 | 0 1 2 3 | | |
| Family <input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> | Family <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> | | |
| Sleep | Life Domain Functioning | Correct | Show |
| Social Functioning | Life Domain Functioning | Correct | Show |

Take the certification test by rating a certification vignette. Click on “Final Exam” at the bottom of the **Table of Contents**. The test is timed for two hours which is ample time to rate the test if you are prepared.

The final exam page looks like the example below. Be sure to read the “Vignette Assumption.” When you are finished rating a domain, move to the “Next Section” by clicking the tab at the top of the page.

Final Exam: Final Exam: Tim Section #1 of 6 01:59:53 [Hide]

Next Section

Vignette Assumption

When completing the vignettes, there is a vignette assumption. That is, when reading assume that a full assessment has been done and no mention means 'no evidence'. This is the standard quality assurance if it isn't documented it does not exist assumption. What that means, then if there is no mention of a need, the rating should be a '0'. If there is no mention of a strength, then the rating should be a '3'. So, no mention of an suicidality would result in a rating of '0' on Suicide Risk. No mention of any talents or interests would result in a rating of '3' on Talents/Interests. For the purpose of this training, any items that would normally be rated 'N/A' (for example 'Vocational' for a child not of age to work) should be rated '0'.

Another way to think about it is that you start the assessment with all 0 ratings on the Needs and all 3 ratings on the Child/Youth Strength and then you look for evidence to adjust your scores accordingly using the action levels. Caregiver ratings use the Need action levels for the vignettes. Good luck!

Tim is living in a group home, so the items in the Caregiver section should not be rated. For the purposes of this test, please rate all items in this section '0'.

Tim is sixteen and has been living in a group home for the past six months.

Tim lived with his mother until her death when he was five. At the time Tim's father could not be located and Tim's maternal aunt took him in. She noticed a change in Tim's behaviour when he hit puberty; he began to steal money from her purse, lie about his whereabouts, spend nights away from home without permission. Tim had multiple angry outbursts in which he threw objects and broke furniture. His aunt called the police and he was taken to a juvenile detention centre several times for charges of beyond control and assault. Tim's aunt decided she could no longer handle his behaviour and relinquished guardianship to Tim's twenty-three-year-old cousin and his wife.

Tim's behaviour has continued to be erratic and after a recent outburst—for which Tim was detained once again—his cousin decided that he could no longer have Tim in his home as his pregnant wife was nervous about exposing their baby to Tim's unpredictable violence.

While Tim was detained, Children's Aid was able to locate his father, and it was decided that Tim would be released into his custody; however, the courts discovered that Thomas (Tim's father) had a history of criminal charges of domestic; thus, Children's Aid recommended a transition period before Tim moves in with his father. It was agreed that Tim's father would visit him at the group home and then gradually lead to furloughs for weekends and full custody if all went well. Tim's father has stated that the first three scheduled visits will be responsible.

Life Domain Functioning

0. No evidence of problems

1. History, Mild

2. Moderate

3. Severe

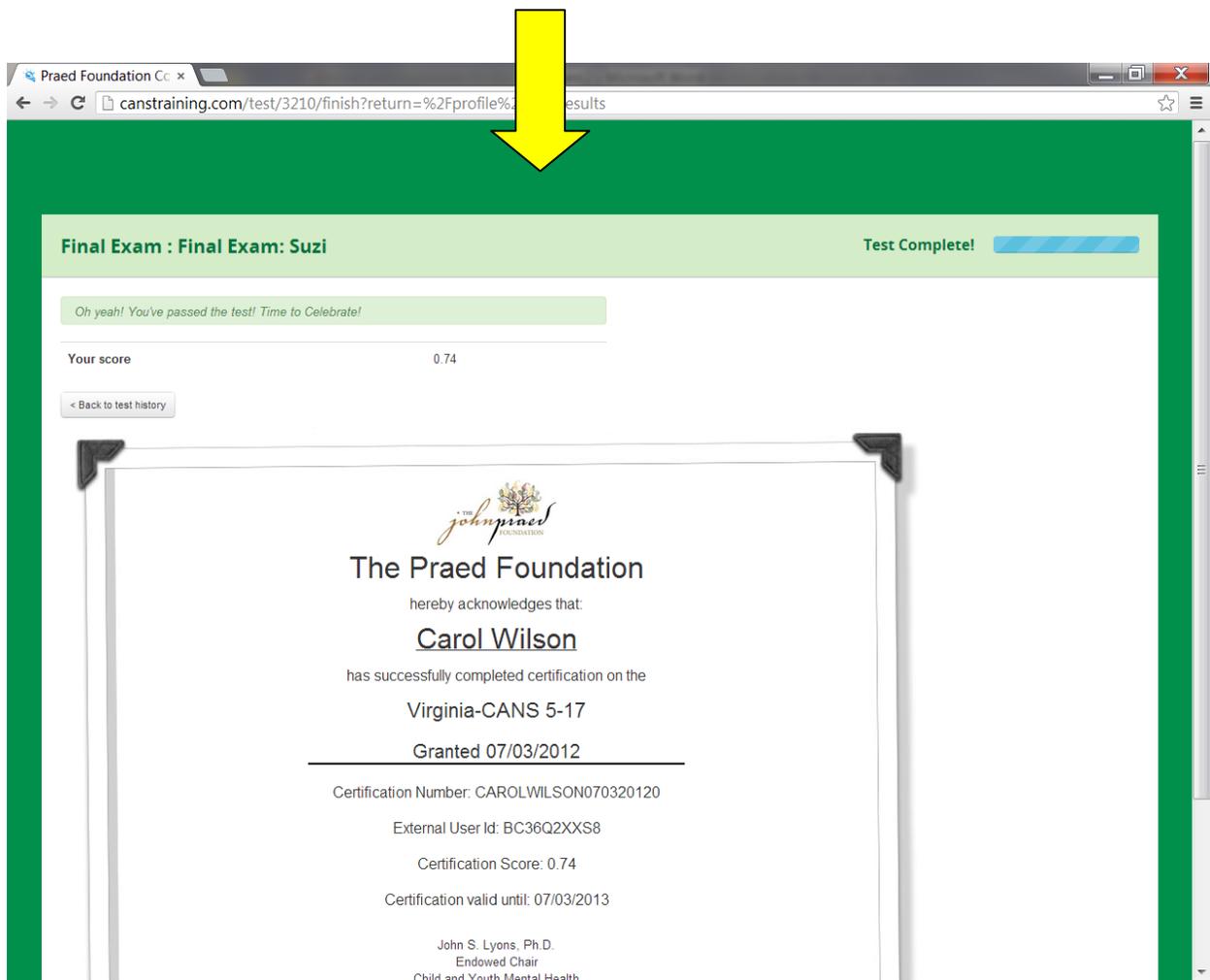
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Family | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 2. Living Situation | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 3. Sleep | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 4. Social Functioning | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 5. Sexual Development | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 6. Recreational | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 7. Developmental | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 8. Communication | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 9. Judgment | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 10. Acculturation | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

After three failed attempts to successfully rate a test vignette on the www.CANSTRaining.com site, your training and certification account will be locked. **DO NOT CREATE** a separate account using a different e-mail address to try again. An electronic message is sent to the www.CANSTRaining.com Support Center. You will be contacted by support staff who will review your test ratings and identify topic areas or

sections of the website you should review. When that process is complete, your account will be unlocked so you may try again.

Once you have completed the training, practice tests, and successfully rated a certification vignette, you should print the certificate with your name and the date of CANS certification. Click on “download” to create an Adobe version of your certificate. You will need to submit a copy of the certificate with your CANVaS User Confidentiality agreement to the CANVaS Help Desk to create a CANVaS account. You can retrieve and download your certificate at any time from www.CANSTraining.com by accessing your “Test History.”

The certificate looks like the following screen shot.



FOR CANVAS USERS

How to Update your CANS Certification in CANVaS

Users with CANVaS accounts do not need to provide verification of CANS recertification to the CANVaS Help Desk. If a user has an active CANVaS account, the process will take place electronically and user accounts in CANVaS will be updated the following business day after the user passes the certification test on the www.CANSTraining.com site. Recertifications completed on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays will be updated the following Monday (unless it is a holiday).

Users will receive a ticket notification from the CANVaS Help Desk that their CANVaS account has been updated to reflect the new CANS certification dates. If your account is not updated in the expected time frame or if there is some other issue regarding your CANVaS account that needs resolution, you should contact the Help Desk at (877) 727-8329 or by e-mail at canvashelpdesk@rcrtechnology.com. Remember CANVaS is a separate site from the training and certification site.

Users who have certified for the first time and need to create a CANVaS account should contact either their local Designated Super User/Report Administrator or the CANVaS Help Desk.

OR

If you have been recertified by attending a training conducted in-person by John Lyons, Ph.D. (the creator of the CANS) you may submit to the CANVaS Help Desk a copy of your certificate signed by him as verification of recertification on CANS. Your name and the date of the training must be on the certificate. You must also include a list of all localities for which you have CANVaS accounts. This document may be submitted to the CANVaS Help Desk by fax at (317) 631-3345, e-mail at canvashelpdesk@rcrtechnology.com or by mail to:

CANVaS Help Desk
RCR Technology, Inc.
251 North Illinois Street, Suite 1150
Indianapolis, IN 46204

CANS Resources

Materials relevant to CANS and CANVaS are posted in the CANS folder on the state CSA website at www.csa.virginia.gov

Included in the CANS folder are the:

CANS Documents (User Manuals for the Assessment and Score Sheets for the Birth to Four and Ages 5+)
http://www.csa.virginia.gov/html/cans/cans_documents.cfm

CANS Resources (continued)

Virginia Glossary of Items (provides detailed information about specific item meanings)

http://www.csa.virginia.gov/html/cans/CANS_training.cfm

Six Key Principles-Important Guidance on Rating the CANS;
Guidance on the Thirty-Day Timeframe; and
Recommended Frequency of Administration of CANS are all located at

<http://www.csa.virginia.gov/html/cans/CANS%20Policy.cfm>

Tip Sheets and FAQs on topics such as closing the CANS in CANVaS

http://www.csa.virginia.gov/html/cans/CANS_factsheet_series.cfm

CANS Family-Friendly Interview Format

http://www.csa.virginia.gov/html/cans/cans_resources.cfm

To contact the Office of Comprehensive Services, call (804) 662-9815 or e-mail

csa.office@csa.virginia.gov