

ChildFirst WV

ChildFirst WV is an intensive five-day course in which students learn the necessary skills to conduct a competent, investigative interview of a child abuse victim. This is an interactive course, which combines lectures with demonstrations and hands-on experience. Students will also conduct a 30 minute interview with an actor/actress playing the role of an abused child and will be critiqued on their performance. This is the ideal course for investigators and prosecutors seeking to enhance their ability to speak to and for abused children.

ChildFirst WV 2026 Application Form:

The course is limited to 40 students per session. Please be aware that this is an intensive course. The workshops are supplemented with homework assignments, which must be completed each night and each student will be given a written examination at the end of the course. Students who fail to attend all workshops, to complete homework, or to pass the examination will not be awarded a certificate of course completion. Zero Abuse Project supports multidisciplinary approach to child abuse. Registration will be confined to those who attend the training as a functioning multidisciplinary investigative team (MDT) who are currently employed within the State of West Virginia. **Only those who are practicing prosecutors, law enforcement officers, forensic interviewers and /or investigators employed at Child Advocacy Centers and a Child Protective Services workers are permitted to attend this course.**

Application to this course does not guarantee acceptance to this course.
Walk-ins are not accepted.

TUITION FEE \$300.00 per person. A pre-course reading assignment and an INVOICE for payment, will be sent to you once you have been accepted to this course. ****SPECIAL PRICING** is now available for a team of 4 = \$250 per person. All four (4) members who register **MUST** attend.

Protocol Update Only Fee \$75.00

Session preferred (please check only ONE):

- _____ March 30 - April 3, 2026- Holiday Inn, South Charleston WV
- _____ October 5-9, 2026 - WV State Police Academy, PDC
Institute WV
- _____ UPDATE ONLY– Tuesday, March 31 or October 4

Are you registering as an _____ MDT Member or _____ Individual.
(MDT member applications MUST be mailed together.)

Contact information - please print/ write legibly:

Name: _____ Title: _____
Office: _____ Address: _____
Phone: _____ City: _____
Fax: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Email address: _____

ChildFirst WV

Why do you want to attend this course?

Have you applied for ChildFirst WV before?

Do you follow a forensic interview model?

Number of years as a child abuse professional: _____ yrs.

Experience conducting forensic or therapeutic interviews:

Please list other child abuse related training or interview programs that you have attended:

Does your jurisdiction have a multidisciplinary team?

Are you currently a member of the team?

How long have you been a member?

Approximately how many children have you interviewed regarding the following types of abuse:

_____ Physical Abuse/ Child Death

_____ Emotional Abuse/ Neglect

_____ Sexual Abuse

_____ Physical Neglect

Do you conduct interviews in a child friendly environment?

Briefly describe:

Which tools do you employ during interviews?

_____ video tape _____ audio tape _____ anatomical dolls
_____ anatomical drawings

What rapport building techniques do you use?

**REGISTRATION FEE: \$300.00 per person -
an invoice will be emailed with homework packet.**

Registration fee IS transferable to approved applicant; however, registration fee is non-refundable.

Reservation link: [ChildFirst reservation link for Holiday Inn & Suites valid through March 9, 2026](#) **Group code: FIR** (this code can be used when calling 304-744-4641 or 1-800-Holiday; it can also be used on the IHG app)

Deadline: Reservations can be made through March 9, 2026; the group block closes at midnight on March 10, 2026; reservations made after the block closes are subject to regular rates and availability

**ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY AT EVERY SESSION.
A MANDATORY READING ASSIGNMENT IS PROVIDED PRIOR TO
THE TRAINING SESSION. HOMEWORK IS ASSIGNED EACH
EVENING.**

Attendees are responsible for all expenses.

Please return application to:

WVPAI / Attn: Amy R. Leslie, MS

1124 Smith Street, Suite 4500

Charleston WV 25301

Phone: 304.558.3348; Fax: 304.558.6008

amy.r.leslie@wv.gov

BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2024:

DUE TO THE INCREASING AMOUNT OF NO SHOW - NO CANCELLATION FOR CHILDFIRST WV CONFERENCE, A \$200.00 NO SHOW FEE WILL BE SENT TO EACH APPLICANT WHO DOES NOT CONTACT AMY LESLIE AT

304.558.3348 OR AMY.R.LESLIE@WV.GOV

PRIOR TO THE START OF THE CHILDFIRST WV CONFERENCE (MARCH 24, 2026 // OCTOBER 20, 2026)