Shepherd

ACF OTIP Adult Certification User Guide for Case Requesters



Shepherd 1.0 Highlights

- Submit electronic RFCs
- Provide additional information
- Stay updated on the status of the case
- Access signed letters

Impacted Users

- Case Requesters
- Case Approvers
- Case Specialists
- TVAP Service Partners

Shepherd 1.0 modernizes OTIP's Adult Certification process by allowing clients and client advocates to submit electronic Requests for Certification (RFCs) on behalf of foreign national adults who have experienced human trafficking.

Electronic RFC Form

- Protects privacy
- Increases security of information and sensitive case-level data
- Eliminates need to provide PII via email

Faster Case Processing and Consolidated Information

- Streamlined process for reviewing and requesting case information
- All case-related documents and requests in one place
- HHS Certification Letters sent automatically in PDF

Improved Data Analysis

- Efficient data collection increases OTIP's data analysis capabilities for federal reporting and research
- Stronger data interoperability between the Adult Certification process to other federal anti-trafficking processes, including case management referrals to OTIP grantees and notifying victims of eligibility for services

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Create an Account

1. Access the **Shepherd Login** page: Shepherd.otip.acf.hhs.gov.

Shepherd.otip.acf.hhs.gov

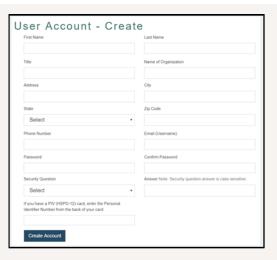
2. Select Submit a Request or Review a Case.



3. Select the Create Account link.



4. Enter your information into the **User Account** - **Create** form.



Create an Account

You will see the User Account Created window.



6. Check your email for a message from ACF OTIP with the subject "Confirmation of Successful ACF Shepherd User Account Registration."

Confirmation of Successful **ACF Shepherd User Account** Registration Inbox ACF OTIP : to me v You have received this email to confirm that, has successfully created a Shepherd account. In order to access your account please click the button below to verify your email. Verify Email If you will be using the Shepherd system for other tasks aside from requesting assistance on behalf of foreign national children and adults, contact OTIP at Trafficking@acf.hhs.gov. Questions? If you have any questions or concerns, contact the OTIP Child Protection Specialists by email at ChildTrafficking@acf.hhs.gov or by phone at 202-205-4582. Please do not reply to this system-generated email.

7. Select the Verify Email link.

You have received this email to confirm that,
has successfully created a
Shepherd account. In order to access your account
please click the button below to verify your email.

Verify Email

If you will be using the Shepherd system for other
tasks aside from requesting assistance on behalf of
foreign national children and adults, contact OTIP at

Trafficking@acf.hhs.gov.

Create an Account

8. You will see the **Verification Successful** window and the **Login** link. Select the **Login** link.

You have successfully created a Shepherd account to request assistance on behalf of foreign national children who may have experienced trafficking or on behalf of foreign national adults who are eligible for HHS Certification.

If you will be using the Shepherd system for other tasks aside from requesting assistance on behalf of foreign national children and adults, contact OTIP at Trafficking@acf.hhs.gov.

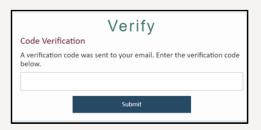
Your email address has been verified. Please login.

Log In

 Enter your username (your email address) and the password you entered on the User Account – Create form. Select the Login button.



2. After logging in, you will be prompted to enter a verification code.



 Check your email for a message from ACF OTIP with the subject "ACF Application Secure Access Code."

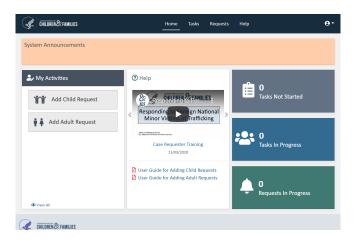


4. Enter the code in the **Verify** window and select the **Submit** button.



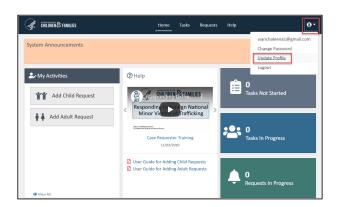
Log In

5. Once you successfully log in, you will see the **Shepherd Homepage**.



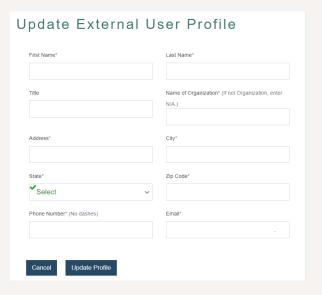
Update Profile

 To update your profile, select the Profile icon on the right of the Top System Navigation bar and select the Update Profile link.



2. Enter your current information.

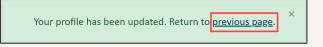
Note: Email cannot be edited because it is also your username.



3. Select **Update Profile** button to save the information.



4. Select the **Previous Page** link from the **Success** banner at the top of the page.

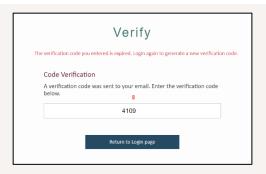


Trouble Logging in?

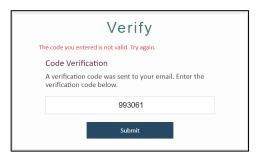
 If you fail to log in after three attempts, your account will be locked for 15 minutes.
 Select the Forgot Password link to reset your password.



 If your verification code expires, you will receive an error message. Select the Return to Login page button to log in again, which will generate a new verification code.



3. If you enter wrong verification code, you will receive an error message. If you fail to enter the code after three attempts, select the Return to Login page button to log in again, which will generate a new verification code.



 Contact Trafficking@acf.hhs.gov or 866-401-5510 for assistance unlocking your account.

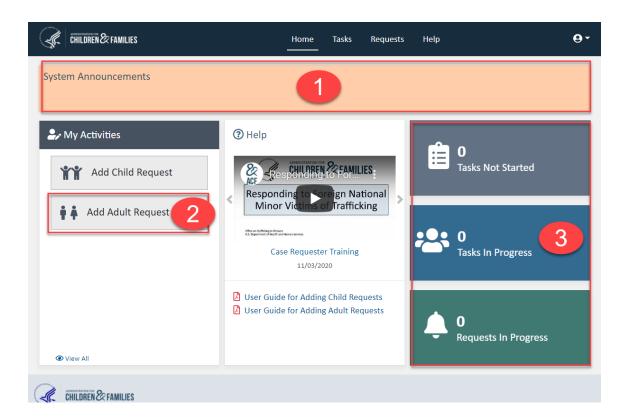


Homepage Features

On the **Shepherd Homepage**, you will see:

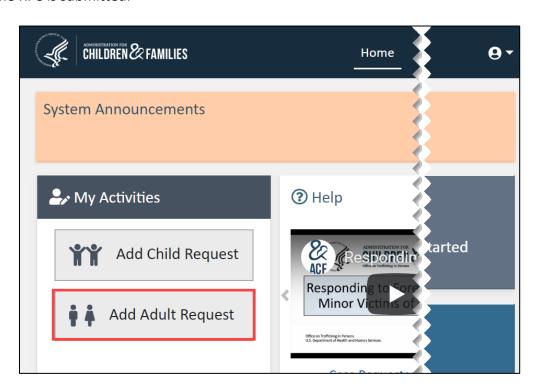
1. System Announcements will display important announcements related to the Shepherd system.

- 2. Select Add Adult Request under My Activities to start a new RFC.
- 3. The task bar shows the status of tasks and requests: Tasks Not Started, Tasks in Progress, and Requests in Progress.

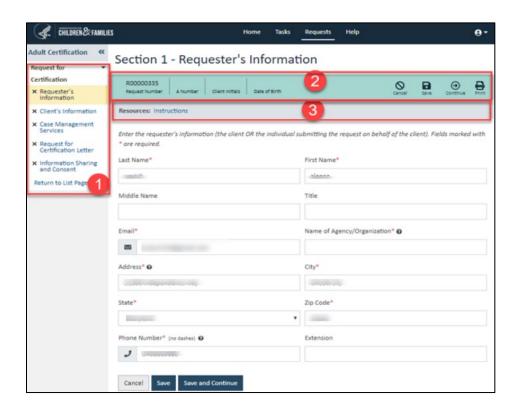


Request for Certification (RFC)

- Start a new RFC by selecting Add Adult Request under My Activities from the Shepherd Homepage.
- Use the **Request for Certification form (RFC)** to request a Certification Letter and/or Case Management services for a foreign national adult who has experienced human trafficking.
- You can submit **New Information** from the Request List page if more information becomes available after the RFC is submitted.



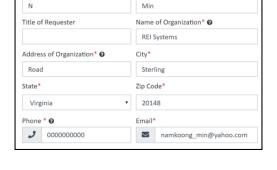
- 1. The Side Menu links to sections 1 through 5 of the RFC.
 - The X next to each section will change to a checkmark once you enter all required information and save the RFC. Select **Return to List Page** to return to the **Requests List page**.
 - To collapse or expand the side menu, select the arrows in the top right.
- 2. The Action Header banner at the top of each section contains cancel, save, continue, and print buttons. The banner automatically populates the client's A-Number, Initials, and Date of Birth once Section 2 is completed and saved.
- 3. The Instructions link shows instructions on completing the Request for Certification.



Section 1: Requester's information

 The information on this page populates from your profile. You can edit any field on the form (editing the form will not alter the information on your profile).

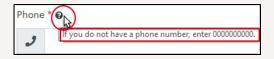
Note: If you make updates to your profile after you started an RFC, the information from section 1 in your pending RFC will not reflect the changes made. You need to also make the updates in Section 1. Your next RFC will display those changes.



First Name

Last Name

Use the **Tooltip** (question mark icon) to view additional instructions for each field.



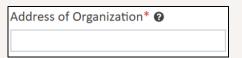
3. Name of Organization

Note: If you are not affiliated with an organization, enter **N/A**.



4. Address of Organization

Note: If you are not affiliated with an organization, enter your mailing address.



5. Phone Number

Note: If you do not have a phone number, enter 0000000000 (ten zeros).

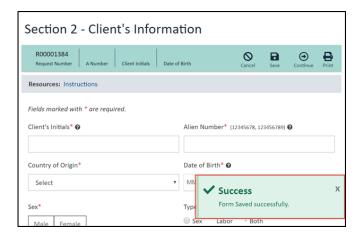


6. Select the **Save and Continue** button at the bottom of the page to move to the next section.



Section 1: Requester's information

You will see Section 2 – Client's
 Information and a Success Message
 letting you know that the information you entered on the previous page was saved.



Section 2: Client's Information

Documentation(optional)

This is not a required field. However,
 If you select one or more checkboxes,
 you must upload a supporting
 document and if you attach a
 document you must select one of the
 checkboxes.

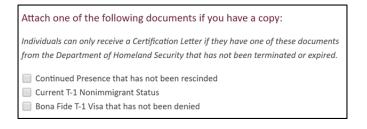
Note: Individuals can only receive a Certification Letter if they have one of these documents from the Department of Homeland Security that is still valid. You may receive an **Additional Information Request** if we need any further documentation.

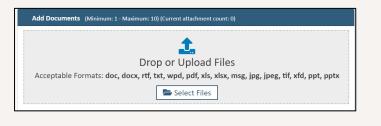
Drag and drop or use Select Files button to upload.

Note: If you are submitting a signed document, make sure to provide a PDF, JPG, or TIF file of the document. If you attach a document make sure you select a checkbox from the **Documentation** section of the form.

3. Select the **Save and Continue** button at the bottom of the page to move to the next section.

Note: You must select the **Save** or **Save** and **Continue** button to save the information you entered.







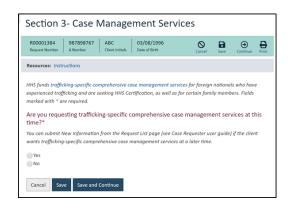
4. You will see Section 3 – Case Management Services and a Success Message letting you know that the information you entered on the previous page was saved.



Section 3: Case Management Services

HHS funds trafficking-specific comprehensive case management services for foreign nationals who have experienced trafficking and are seeking HHS Certification, as well as for certain family members. Fields marked with * are required.

1. In Section 3- Case Management Services, indicate whether the client is interested in being connected with trafficking-specific, comprehensive case management services at this time. This a required question. You can submit New Information from the Request List page if the client wants trafficking-specific comprehensive case management services later.



Select the Save and Continue button.
 You will see Section 4 – Request for
 Certification Letter and a Success Mssage
 letting you know that the information you
 entered on the previous page was saved.



Section 4: Request for Certification Letter

 In Section 4 – Request for Certification Letter indicate whether you are requesting a Certification Letter at this time.

You can submit **New Information** from the **Request List page** if the client wants to receive their **Certification Letter** in the future.

- **2.** If you select **No**, skip to step four.
- **3.** If you select **yes**, indicate who should receive the hard copy of the letter. Enter their correct mailing address:

Note: To ensure delivery, **provie a full street address** instead of a P.O. box when possible.

If your address changes during the Request for Certification process, you can submit additional information using the **New Information** feature after submitting the RFC. Select from the following and provide any missing details:

- **Requester** Information populates from section 1 of the RFC.
- **Client** Information populates from section 2 of the RFC.
- Other- Enter details for who should receive the letter, such as a Case Manager.

Enter the desired Benefits Start Date.

4. Select the **Save and Continue** button to save the information you entered and move to the next page.



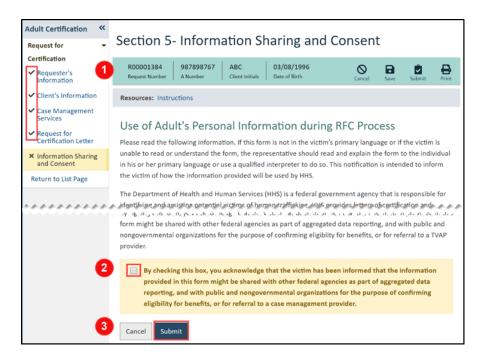




5. You will see Section 5 – Information Sharing and Consent and a Success Message letting you know that the information you entered on the previous page was saved.



Section 5: Information Sharing and Consent



- Verify all sections in the Side Menu have a check mark next to them.
 If you see an X, go back to the section, enter all required information, and save.
- 2. Read the information in the Information Sharing and Consent section and select the Confirmation checkbox.
- 3. Select the **Submit** button to submit the RFC to OTIP.

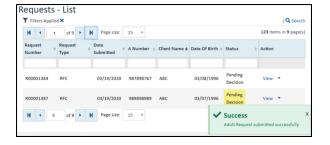
4. You will see the **Submit Confirmation** overlay.

Select the **Close** button to go back to **Section 5** of the RFC in progress.
Select the **Confirm** button to submit the RFC and return to the **Requests - List** page.



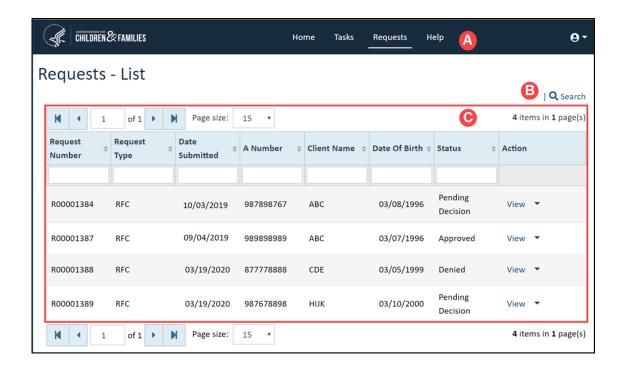
 On the Requests – List page, you will see a success message.
 The submitted RFC will have the status

Pending Decision.



RFC status

The **Requests List** page is where you can see the list of requests you have created.



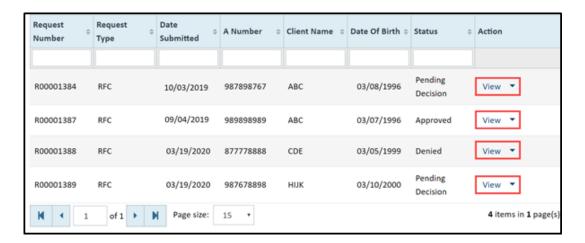
- 1. To access the Request List page, select the Requests link from the Top Navigation Bar (A).
- 2. Search for specific RFC by selecting Search. Select Advanced Search Parameters to search by Date Submitted (B).
- 3. Sort and filter your RFCs using the sorting arrows and filter fields at the top of each column (C).

The Requests List page shows the following statuses for RFCs under the Status column:

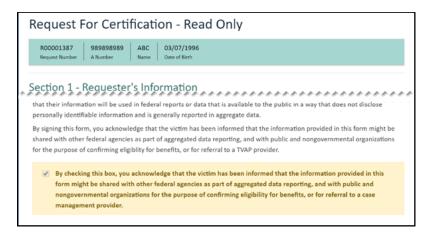
- In Progress: The request is started, but is not submitted to OTIP.
- Pending Decision: The request is submitted and under review.
- Approved: The letter is signed. You can access the letter from your account.
- **Denied**: A letter was not signed. Reach out to trafficking@acf.hhs.gov or 866-401-5510 to discuss the case.

RFC Status

View your submitted RFC



- 1. From the Requests List page, find a submitted RFC you would like to view in a Read-Only format.
- 2. Select the View link.



You see the submitted **Request for Certification—Read-Only** window. You can see the status of an RFC from the **Requests List** page.

These are the type of **Status**:

- Approved: A letter is signed for the client.
- **Denied**: A letter is not signed for the client. Reach out to OTIP to discuss the case.

When a letter is signed, you receive an email letting you know that you can access the letter from your **Shepherd Case Management System** account.

View Letters

1. To view the letter, select the View Letter link from the drop-down menu next to the View link in the Action column.



2. You can see the signed letter based on the decision made for this case.

Note: The case will remain in your **Requests List page** for 30 days after the letter is signed.



Work on In Progress RFC

Find the specific **In Progress** RFC you would like to work on and select **Edit**, in the **Action** column, to complete and submit the RFC.

Request Number	Request Type	Date Submitted	A Number 💠	Client Last Name	Client First Name	Date Of Birth ‡	Status >	Action
R00000011	RFA		123456789	В	Brit	01/01/0001	In Progress	Edit

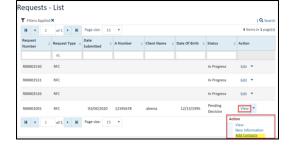
Add/ Delete POC to Request

Add/ Delete Additional POC to request

 From the Request List page, select the drop down arrow next to the View link in the Action column for a request in Pending Decision status.

Verify the following:

- You see the **View** link
- You see the Add Contacts link



- **2.** Select the Add Contacts link Verify the following:
 - You see the Additional Request Contacts overlay
 - You see the Contact Name field
 - You see the Email field



Enter the Contact Name and Email address for an Additional Request POC and select the Add button.

Verify the following:

- You see the success message
- You see the grid updated with the contact you added

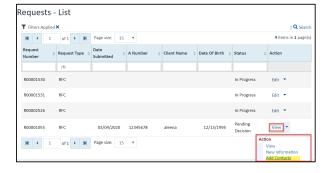




Add/ Delete POC to Request

Delete an Additional POC from Request

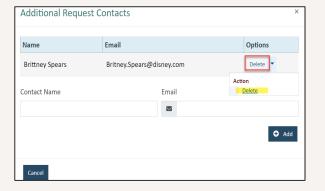
 From the Request List page, select the drop down arrow next to the View link in the Action column for a request in Pending Decision status.
 Select the Add Contacts link.



2. Select the **Delete** link from the **Additional Request Contacts** grid Options column for one of the contacts you added.

Verify the following:

- A. You see the **success** message
- B. You see the grid is updated and the POC you deleted is no longer showing





Submitting New Information

Use the New Information feature to update OTIP if:

- The mailing address for the letter has changed
- •The main point of contact on the case changes
- •Information changes from the submitted RFC like the client would like to request case management services or an HHS Certification Letter

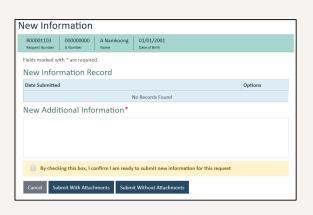
If you already submitted an RFC and need to provide New Information, use the Requests - List page.

 In the Action column, expand the drop-down next to the View link and select New Information.



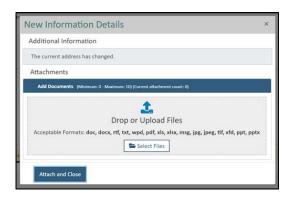
Enter the details you want to submit in the New Additional Information box and select the confirmation checkbox.

Select **Submit With Attachments** if you have document(s) to upload. Select **Submit Without Attachments** if you do not have document(s) to upload.



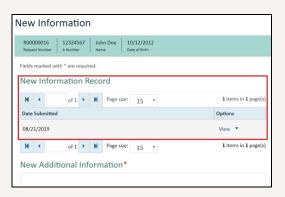
 If you selected Submit with Attachments, you will see the New Information Details window.

Drag and Drop or use **Select Files** button to upload and select **Attach and Close**.

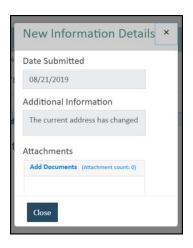


Submitting New Information

4. The new information you have submitted will appear as a New Information Record on the New Information page.

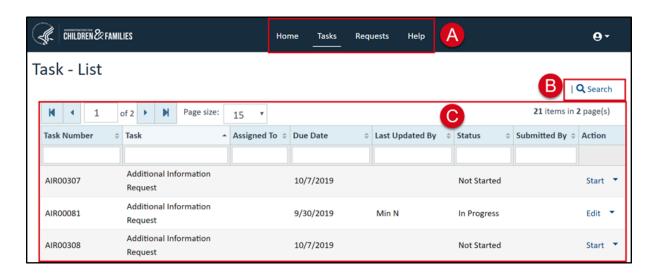


5. Select the **View** link in the **Options** column to see the **New Information** submitted.

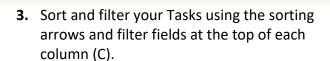


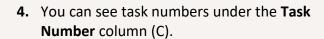
Completing 'Additional Information Request' Task

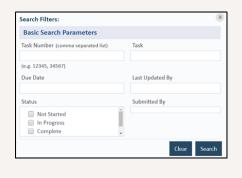
OTIP might need additional information while processing a submitted RFC. If OTIP requests for additional information, you will receive an email. You can access the **Additional Information Request** task from the **Task – List** page.

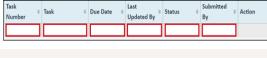


- 1. To access the Task List page, select the Tasks link from the Top Navigation bar (A).
- Search for a specific task by select Search (B).











Submitting 'Additional Information Request' Task

 Look for the Additional Information Request (AIR) task in the Task column. All Additional Information Request task numbers start with AIR followed by a five-digit number.



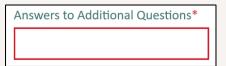
 Select the Start link in the Action column to access an Additional Information Request task that is Not Started.
 Select the Edit link to access an Additional Information Request task that is In Progress.



3. View the **Additional Questions** section of the task to see which information OTIP needs.



4. Enter your answers in the **Answers to Additional Questions** section.



Drag and Drop or use Select Files button if you have any documents you want to upload.

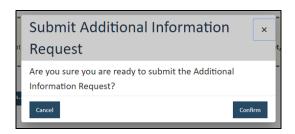


6. Select the **Submit** button to send the additional information to the OTIP Case Specialist.



7. You will see the **Submit Additional Information Request** window.

Select **Cancel** to return to the **Additional Information Request** task.
Select **Confirm** to submit the **Additional Information Request** to OTIP and return to the **Task List** page.



Completing 'Additional Information Request' Task

8. The **Additional Information Request** task status will be Removed from the **Task** – **List** page.



9. To view completed Tasks, select "Complete" in the search panel and click search

