



FASD VIRGINIA

Questions for Providers

It can often be a challenge to find a provider who has experience working with clients diagnosed with or suspected of having an FASD. Unfortunately, we do not yet have consistent required training on FASD for all types of providers. Furthermore, “experience with FASD” is not a stamp often found on a practice’s website. But that does not mean a provider would not be a good fit for you and your family. It is important to schedule an appointment with the provider themselves (scheduling staff will not necessarily know) and ask lots of questions, like the following:

- **Have you had clients in the past who were diagnosed with or suspected of having an FASD? Say a bit about what that experience was like for you.**
- **Can you talk about the developmental, behavioral, cognitive, and physical impacts of prenatal alcohol exposure?**
- **What formal training have you received on FASD and who provided the training?**
- **What formal training have you received on trauma and who provided the training?**
- **What is your experience with evidence-based approaches for people with FASD such as FASCETS and Families Moving Forward? (specific for mental health providers)**
- **What is your philosophy when it comes to working with people with developmental and behavioral differences?**
- **Describe your philosophy when it comes to collaborating with families?**
- **What is your approach to supporting families raising a child/supporting an individual with FASD?**
- **Are you open to collaborating with other specialists and learning more about FASD if needed?**

Do not be afraid to ask the tough questions, and do not hesitate to “break-up” with a provider who is not meeting your needs. Those with FASD deserve the best care possible.

If you are a provider reading this and do not have answers to some of these questions, please check out our “Training Opportunities” at fasdvirginia.org