

Additional Information for Youth Entering/Re-entering YAVFC after Case Closure

Entering/Re-Entering YAVFC after Case Closure

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the circumstances of youth with foster care experience in significant ways. These youth are frequently without a network of support and vulnerable to financial and housing instability. Additionally, the pandemic has potentially impacted the employment and educational opportunities that would allow them to enter YAVFC for extended benefits, including a stipend and Medicaid.

Effective immediately until September 30, 2020, funding has been identified to temporarily approve eligible youth to enter YAVFC regardless of their ability to meet the school/employment/volunteer requirements that are typically required.

Living arrangements for young adults in YAVFC can include:

- Licensed foster home.
- Licensed child caring institution.
- Licensed adult foster home.
- Approved setting in which the individual is living independently, including but not limited to, the following:
 - Rental home/apartment setting, with or without roommates.
 - College dormitory.
 - Relative home.
 - Friend/partner home.
 - Host home/supportive adult home.

If a youth wishes to enroll/re-enroll in YAVFC during the period the pandemic is impacting the circumstances and stability of young adults, a policy exception request can be submitted to the YAVFC program office **allowing a young adult to reside in the home of their parent.**

Jail/incarceration remains an ineligible placement.

Critical Notes from FOM 722-16:

When the youth is not extending care into YAVFC, but entering/re-entering YAVFC after case closure, **the YAVFC case is opened in the county of residence.** If the youth is homeless, the county the youth stays most of the time is the county the YAVFC case is opened.

Foster care **maintenance payments are available for youth who are parents, as well as payment for the youth's child**, if that child is living or placed with the youth in the same home or child caring institution. Payments may be made for the child, regardless of the child's wardship status or whether or not the child is under the care and supervision of MDHHS; [see FOM 902-21, Youth Parent.](#)

Youth who are eligible for YAVFC are **categorically eligible for Medicaid.** The child of a parent in YAVFC is categorically eligible for Medicaid.