



Division Guideline #36

Date: December 9, 2013
Title: Transition Ages Reference Guide
Application: Support coordinators

This reference guide is a tool for support coordinators and describes target populations, age ranges and transition ages for programs that may serve children and youth who also qualify for services from the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DD).

MO HealthNet

MO HealthNet is Missouri's name for the Medicaid Program. Support coordinators are encouraged to assist all individuals eligible for services from the Division of DD to apply for MO HealthNet. There is no age limit for MO HealthNet, but an individual's age may determine in which MO HealthNet program the person is eligible.

Support coordinators who serve youth who are not eligible for MO HealthNet due to their parents' income or resources should assist the youth and parent or guardian to apply for MO HealthNet at least 90 days prior to the youth's 18 birthday. Please refer to the guideline at this link:

<http://dmh.mo.gov/docs/dd/Guideline32.pdf>

MO HealthNet for Kids

- This program provides healthcare coverage for children whose family income falls within certain guidelines:
 - Under 19 years of age;
 - Lives in Missouri and intends to remain;
 - United States citizen or an eligible qualified non-citizen;
 - Cooperate with Child Support Enforcement (CSE) in the pursuit of medical support; and
 - Family income meets the income guidelines.

A summary about MO HealthNet is posted on this website:

<http://dss.mo.gov/mhd/providers/pdf/puzzledterm.pdf>

- [Complete the application on line](#)
- [Download and print the application](#)

Healthy Children and Youth Program (HCY)

HCY is Missouri's name for the Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment Program (EPSDT), mandated by federal Medicaid law in 1989.

- The EPSDT program is known as HCY in Missouri;
 - Serves children and youth eligible for MO HealthNet birth to age 21;
 - HCY ensures children have regular health screens and have access to all medically necessary services required to treat their medical condition or disability.
 - Missouri HCY programs include:
 - Primary, preventive and acute care
 - Dental care
 - Orthodontics (when medically necessary)
 - Behavioral health services
 - Case management
 - Durable medical equipment and supplies
 - Personal care
 - Private duty nursing
 - Speech, occupational, and physical therapy
 - Environmental assessments for lead

Division of DD

Eligibility for services from the Division of DD may be determined at any age. State regulations require redetermination at ages 5, 18 and 22. Waiver level of care must be determined annually for all ages. This applies to people who have a waiver slot assigned to them or for someone on a waiting list, this is not for everyone.

DD eligibility at a glance:

- A DD intake worker coordinates the application; screening/assessment process and eligibility determination; or in some areas, County Boards coordinate the intake application;
- A developmental disability can be defined as intellectual disability, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, head injury, autism, or a learning disability related to a brain dysfunction, or any other mental or physical impairment which occurs before the age of 22;
- At least 2 substantial functional limitations in the following areas:
 - Self-care
 - Language development - receptive
 - and expressive
 - Learning
 - Self-direction
 - Independent living/Economic self-sufficiency
 - Mobility

- Redeterminations for DD services for individuals served are at 5, 18 and 22 years of age;
- There are separate eligibility requirements for DD waiver services.
- Link to DD intake: <http://dmh.mo.go/Intake.htm>

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part C

- Part C of IDEA, known as First Steps in Missouri, is the early intervention program for infants and toddlers, birth to age 3, who have delayed development or diagnosed conditions that are associated with developmental disabilities;
- First Steps makes sure families have the necessary supports, services, and resources;
- To make a referral call 1-866-583-2392 to be connected to a point of entry in your area.
- <https://www.mofirststeps.com/>

Individuals with Disabilities Education Transition Planning

Youth who receive special education services under the IDEA 2004, and especially young adults of transition age, should be involved in planning for life after high school as early as possible and no later than age 16.

- The Individual Education Plan (IEP) includes a “transition plan” when the individual turns 16 and is updated annually; however, it may be decided to begin earlier to meet their needs;
- The individual should be included in the IEP meetings when any transition planning will be discussed;
- Coordination with other agencies involved for a successful transition. Other agencies should be invited to the IEP meeting, but consent must be obtained to invite the outside agencies;
- A successful transition may include: Employment, educational and community based options.
- Link to Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Transition: http://dese.mo.gov/se/ep/transition_progs.htm
- Additional resource for transition: <http://missouritransition.org/moodle/>

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)

Section 110 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 requires states to provide employment and training services that can assist people with disabilities in becoming employed. To be eligible, an individual must have a physical or mental impairment that causes problems with working and needs VR services to be successfully employed.

- VR services are to assist an individual to prepare for, secure, retain or regain employment; however, the primary role of VR is planning and preparing for when an individual graduates or departs school;
- Eligibility for VR services is determined by the VR counselor on an individual basis;
- Referrals can be initiated by the local school district, student, family member, or other educational or community resource agency/organization;
- Individuals may receive one or more of the following transition-related services, which include but are not limited to:
 - Vocational planning

- Career guidance and counseling
 - On-the-job training
 - Assistance with finding a job
 - Independent living services at centers for independent living
- VR and Special Education prepare the transition from school to employment, education, specialized training, etc.;
 - The local school district is primarily responsible, but students with disabilities may be eligible for VR services to ensure a smooth transition.

Link to VR: <http://dese.mo.gov/se/ep/vr.htm>

Department of Mental Health (DMH), Division of Behavioral Health

People eligible for services from the Division of DD may also be eligible for services through the DMH behavioral health system. Programs serve children and youth with severe emotional disturbance, adults with serious mental illness, and individuals of all ages who abuse substances.

Transition from Children's to adult Mental Health System

- The children's mental health currently serves children and young adults through the age of 25, if the treatment team determines that, developmentally, a consumer needs both children and adult services during the transition period. Children in state custody may continue to receive services through the children's mental health system until released from the court, usually by age 21. Interagency discussions are underway to increase the age for consistency with other state programs.

Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS)

People eligible for services from the Division of DD may also be eligible for services through the DHSS.

- Division of Senior and Disability Services (DSDS): Serves individuals with disabilities ages 18 through 64 and seniors age 65 and older.
- DSDS determines eligibility for Missouri's state plan personal care program, and administers 3 Home and Community Based (HCB) waivers (Elderly and Disabled, Adult Day Care and Independent Living)
- Bureau of Special Health Care Needs (BSHCN): Services infants, toddlers, children and youth through ages 21. BSHCN determines eligibility and prior authorizes private duty nursing and personal care for MO HealthNet eligible from birth through age 20, and administers the Medically Complex waiver for individuals age 21 and over aging out of HCY services.

This guideline will be reviewed and updated, if needed, within one year of issuance.