

2818 – CHAFEE INDEPENDENCE PROGRAM MEDICAID

POLICY STATEMENT	The Foster Care Independence Act allows Medicaid coverage to be extended to age 21 for older youth who age out of foster care the month of their 18 th birthday. Applicants may not be determined ineligible based on a diagnosis or pre-existing condition. Chafee Independence Program Medicaid became effective July 1, 2008.
BASIC CONSIDERATIONS	Reference Section 2890 – Child Welfare Foster Care Medicaid for children in placement for whom DFCS has partial or total custody and may be age 18 to 21.
Basic Eligibility Criteria	<p>The eligibility month is the month following a foster child’s 18th birthday or the month a former foster child over the age of 18 and under the age of 21 applies for the Chafee Independence Program Medicaid. Eligibility redeterminations are completed annually.</p> <p>An individual must meet the following eligibility criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Age: A youth must have been in foster care the month of their 18th birthday and under the age of 21. - GA. Residency - U.S. citizen/legal alien - Identity - Social Security Number or application for a Social Security Number - Third Party Resource Liability - Application for other benefits <p>Eligibility will continue until one of the following occurs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Death - Move out-of-state - Case closure is requested by recipient - Another MA program is more beneficial - Incarceration - 21st birthday - Failure to complete an annual eligibility determination
Other Considerations	<p>Chafee Independence recipients are eligible for prior month’s MAO if service occurred on or after July 1, 2008.</p> <p>EMA is available under Chafee Independence Medicaid if services were provided on or after July 1, 2008.</p> <p>Chafee recipients are enrolled in fee-for-service and must be delinked from CMO enrollment. if aging out of RSM Medicaid.</p> <p>RSM recipients who are former foster children may request a Class of Assistance change to Chafee Independence Medicaid.</p>

PROCEDURES

Revenue Maximization

Individuals may apply for the Chafee Independence Program Medicaid with any county DFCS office or RSM Project. Current foster children who are approaching their 18th birthday will have a Continuing Medicaid Determination (CMD) completed. for Chafee Independence Program Medicaid prior to aging out of foster care.

RevMax will follow the steps below to determine eligibility under a CMD for a current foster child in the month of their 18th birthday:

- Complete a Continuing Medicaid Determination (CMD) for the eligibility month following the month of 18th birthday:
 - Verify that individual was in a state's legal custody on their 18th birthday.
 - For ICPC placements in Georgia, verify through Independent Living Regional Coordinators the foster care status in original state of custody.

NOTE: Written verification must be maintained in the case record. An ICPC placement in Georgia aging out of foster care and remaining in Georgia is considered a Georgia resident.

- Verify that individual will not be eligible for CWFC Medicaid criteria
- Accept client's statement as to Georgia residency
- Complete DMA 285 – Third Party Liability
- There is no income or resource test
- SUCCESS
 - Initiate Add-A-Program
 - Class of Assistance will be F40 – Child Welfare Foster Care for month following 18th birthday
 - Living Arrangement will be coded “IL”
 - Document all appropriate SUCCESS screens, in including FCAR, following Appendix D
 - Close existing active case
 - Approve F40 ongoing month
 - Deny current month

NOTE: CWFC recipients will continue to be coded FC for Living Arrangement In SUCCESS.

- If no related case, RevMax will transfer the ongoing case and case record to the RSM Project
- If individual has an active or pending related case, RevMax will transfer the case and case record to the county with the related case.

PROCEDURES**Cont.****New Applications**

Former foster youth may apply with the RSM Project or at any county office.

Follow the steps below to determine Chafee Option Medicaid eligibility:

- Verify that the individual was in foster care on their 18th birth day through SUCCESS screening, contact with Independent Living Coordinator or by contacting the county with legal custody while in foster care.
- Process as an AU of one
- Individuals who were in foster care under Title IV-B or Title IV-E of the Social Security Act are exempt from providing additional documentary evidence of citizenship/identity as long as they were in Foster Care in Georgia.
- Individuals who were in foster care in other states must verify citizenship and identity and foster care status for month of 18th birthday
- No income or resource test
- DMA 285 – Third Party Resource Liability is completed
- Follow Appendix D – Documentation Standards including FCAR.
- Request the closed case record from the appropriate RevMax Regional Office.