

MEDICAID FOR YOUNG ADULTS



What is Medicaid?

Medicaid is a state program that provides medical coverage to young adults who were placed in out of home care, receive adoption assistance benefits or guardianship assistance benefits.

Am I Eligible for Medicaid?

Young adults who meet the following criteria are eligible for Medicaid up until 21 years of age. Young Adults who are eligible below do not have to apply for Medicaid, the CBC (Community-Based Care Agencies) are responsible for applying on your behalf.

1. Young adults who turned 18 while in the legal custody of the department.
2. Young adults who are enrolled in the EMAS (Extension of Maintenance Adoption Subsidy) Program.
3. Young adults who are enrolled in the EGAP (Extension of Guardianship Assistance Program).
4. Young adults who were adopted at age 16 or 17 after being in licensed care (Level I-V) for at least 6 months.
5. Young adults placed with a court-approved dependency guardian at the age of 16 or 17 after spending at least 6 months in licensed care within the 12 months immediately preceding placement with the caregiver.

What Do I Need To Do If I Move?

If you change your physical address between the ages of 18-21, you are responsible for notifying your CBC or former IL specialist so that they can update your address in the system. Failure to update your address will cause a delay in obtaining Medicaid services. Medicaid services are provided based on your physical address on file.

Am I Eligible for Medicaid until Age 26?

If you are under 26 years old, were in the foster care system and were receiving Medicaid when you turned 18, then you are automatically eligible for Medicaid until the age of 26 years old. Apply for Former Foster Youth Medicaid in the month you turn 21.

1. To apply for Medicaid, click this link. <https://www.myflorida.com/accessflorida/>
2. If you need assistance with applying for Medicaid, please contact your former CBC or independent living (IL) specialist. For a list of statewide IL contacts, please select the following link. <http://centerforchildwelfare.fmhi.usf.edu/IndependentLiving/IL%20Directory-Revised.pdf>
3. When applying for Medicaid, you will be asked **“Was anyone in Florida foster care at age 18 or older?”** For the purpose of this question, “foster care” means placement with a relative, non-relative, licensed foster home or group home.
4. If you change your physical address after the age of 21, you are responsible for notifying Access Florida so that they can update your address in the system. Failure to update your address will cause a delay in obtaining Medicaid services. Medicaid services are provided based on your physical address on file.
 - a. If you need help, you can select the link <https://www.myflorida.com/accessflorida/> and click “contact us” for telephone numbers and hours of operation.
 - b. You can also contact your IL specialist in your area if you need help with completing this request.

If anyone has any questions or concerns, please contact Cal Walton, III, Youth and Young Adults Transition Services Specialist, at cal.walton@myflfamilies.com or 850-491-0204.