

Date: December 19, 2024

To: OHP Providers

From: Rusha Grinstead, Medicaid Children and Families Policy manager

Subject: Young Adults with Special Health Care Needs (YSHCN)

Oregon Health Authority (OHA) is pleased to announce a new Oregon Health Plan benefit: Young Adults with Special Health Care Needs. As of Jan. 1, 2025, young adults who qualify will access these benefits under YSHCN:

- The same enhanced vision and dental benefits that are available to pregnant OHP adults through the OHP Supplemental benefit package and to members under age 21 through the OHP Plus benefit package.
- Access to [Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment \(EPSDT\)](#) coverage until they turn 26
- Potential access to [Health-Related Social Needs \(HRSN\) benefits](#)

Who qualifies for YSHCN?

Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 410-200-0455 will define these requirements, effective Jan. 1, 2025. They include:

- **Age:** YSHCN-eligible individuals are ages 19 through 25. In 2025, only members who are 19 or 20 will be enrolled, if eligible. OHA plans to increase the age limit every year until 2030 when eligible members who are 19 through 25 are able to enroll.
- **Clinical:** YSHCN-eligible individuals must have at least one qualifying health care need that began before age 19.

Examples of special health care needs:

- Physical, intellectual and developmental disabilities

- Long-standing medical conditions like asthma, diabetes, or spina bifida
- Mental health conditions like depression or substance use
- **Financial:** YSHCN-eligible individuals must have individual or family income at or below 205 percent of the Federal Poverty Level.

Why is this happening?

In Oregon, one in five children under age 18 has a special health care need. More than 80 percent of YSHCN-eligible individuals in the state don't receive the proper tools to adequately care for their health and social needs. They often need more health and health-related social services than others their age. Many OHP members lose their benefits when they turn 19 and those that maintain their benefits until 21 still lose their comprehensive EPSDT coverage. Providing these tools and services at no-cost helps these young adults access the care they need as they transition to young adulthood.

Questions?

For details about YSHCN eligibility and benefits, see the [YSHCN Provider Guide](#). If you still have questions:

- **For denied claims questions for fee-for-service (open card) members,** please contact the Provider Services Unit at dmap.providerservices@oha.oregon.gov or call 800-336-6016. We are available Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. (including lunch hours).
- **For services to CCO members,** please contact the member's CCO.
- **For questions about the program,** please visit the [YSHCN website](#) or contact the YSHCN program at 1115waiver.renewal@odhsoha.oregon.gov.

Thank you for your continued support of the Oregon Health Plan and the services you provide to our members.