

Expanding Benefits to Young Adults with Special Health Care Needs



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Agenda

- Brief Oregon 1115 Waiver Overview
- Who are Young Adults with Special Health Care Needs (YSHCN)?
- When do YSHCN benefits go into effect?
- Why Expand Benefits to this population?
- Who qualifies? How do YSHCN enroll?
- What benefits are included? How is it different from what happens now?
- How do EPSDT and HRSN fit into the picture?
- Questions & Comments?

Oregon 1115 Waiver



CHANGES

- Eligibility/coverage changes:
 - Extended Oregon Health Plan (OHP) eligibility for young children, youth, young adults, and adults
 - ★ Coverage for young adults with special health care needs up to age 26*
- Health-related social needs (HRSNs) supports including housing, nutrition and climate benefits*

* Indicates an approved change that is first-in-the-nation

Oregon 1115 Waiver Goals



GOALS

- Address and advance health equity
- Create a more equitable, culturally- and linguistically-responsive health care system
- Ensure people can maintain their health coverage
- Improve health outcomes by addressing health-related social needs
- Ensure smart, flexible spending for health-related social needs (HSRN) and health equity



Healthier Oregon OHP members are included in 1115 waiver benefits!

Expanding Benefits for Young Adults

Starting **January 1, 2025**, OHP will offer more benefits to young adults with qualifying health conditions under a new Medicaid eligibility category:

Young Adults with Special Health Care Needs (YSHCN).



Who are Young Adults with Special Health Care Needs (YSHCN)?

Young adults (19-26) with special health care needs (YSHCN) are those with, or at risk for, ongoing conditions:

- Physical, intellectual, or developmental disabilities
- Long-standing medical conditions
- Mental health conditions, substance use, or neurodevelopmental conditions



Why expand benefits for YSHCN?

- In Oregon, **one in five children** under age 18 has a special health care need.
- YSHCN **need more health and social services** than others of the same age.
- **The waiver gives YSHCN extra time to transition from pediatric to adult coverage and care.**



Who qualifies as YSHCN in 2025?

In 2025, young adults **19 – 20** may qualify as YSHCN if they have one of the following health needs:

1

One or more **complex chronic medical** conditions

2

A **mental health condition**, substance use disorder, or neurodevelopmental condition

3

An **intellectual or developmental disability**

4

An “**elevated service need**” identified through the YSHCN eligibility screening tool

YSHCN Eligibility Screening

Have an “**elevated service need**” identified through the YSHCN eligibility screening tool

HOW DOES IT WORK?

- All people 17 – 20 applying for Medicaid through the ONE system will be prompted to answer screening questions to see if they qualify as YSHCN.
- This screening tool may be used by young adults or their caregivers. **They don't need to have a diagnosis to use the tool.**

SCREENING SURVEY DEVELOPMENT

- OHA worked with OHSU’s Oregon Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Needs (OCCYSHN) to develop the tool
- OCCYSHN coordinated an advisory workgroup to review the tool and conducted testing with users in 6 languages.

Changes to Benefits & Eligibility January 1, 2025

CURRENT ELIGIBILITY & COVERAGE (19 – 26)	YSHCN ELIGIBILITY & COVERAGE (19 – 26)
Up to 138% Federal Poverty Level	Up to 305% Federal Poverty level
EPSDT* and enhanced vision & dental benefits end at 21	EPSDT* and enhanced vision & dental benefits end at 26
No existing HRSN benefits	HRSN services covered

* Early Periodic Screening, Diagnostic & Treatment (EPSDT): Federal benefit that covers all medically necessary and appropriate services or treatments for children and youth.

Refresher: EPSDT in Oregon

- Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) is a federally required benefit that provides complete health care services for children and youth under age 21 who are enrolled in Medicaid.
- As of January 1, 2023, all medically necessary and appropriate services are covered for OHP members under 21, **regardless of placement on the Prioritized List.**



- **Starting in 2025, YSHCN will have EPSDT coverage until their 26th birthday.**

Oregon.gov/EPSDT

Health Related Social Needs Services

\$904 million available to provide **Health-Related Social Needs services** to eligible individuals through reimbursement to providers of:



**Housing
Supports**



**Nutrition
Supports**



**Climate
Supports**



**Outreach &
Engagement**

2025 YSHCN Caseload Estimates

	19+20 year old YSHCN
Newly Eligible for OHP (because of YSHCN)	5,895
Current OHP members with expanded benefits	16,339
TOTAL	22,234

Question & Answer

- Do you have additional questions?
- Do you need additional information?
- What do you think young adults will want to know about YSHCN?

