

MISSISSIPPI DIVISION OF
MEDICAID**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STATE PRISONS,
LOCAL JAILS, TRIBAL JAILS AND PRISONS,
AND ALL JUVENILE DETENTION AND YOUTH
CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES IN THE STATE**

The Consolidated Appropriations Act (CAA) of 2023 included new requirements for Medicaid and CHIP agencies to cover certain medical, behavioral health, and dental screening and diagnostic services, and case management services, for incarcerated youth **held post adjudication**. Section 5121 requires that starting January 1, 2025, Medicaid and CHIP agencies cover these services for eligible juveniles within 30 days of their scheduled date of release from a public institution following adjudication, and 30 days post release.

To implement these new requirements, the Division of Medicaid will need to partner with carceral facilities and related entities in the state to:

- Identify all public facilities housing these juveniles:
 - Medicaid eligibility includes individuals up to age 19, and in some cases up to age 21 for foster care beneficiaries certified by the Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services.
 - Medicaid eligibility also includes former foster care youth up to age 26.
 - CHIP eligibility includes individuals up to age 19.
- Identify if any medical, dental, and case management services are already being provided.
- Determine if medical services are being provided by internal or external providers, and method of delivery (i.e., telemedicine, outpatient office visits)
- Update and/or establish operational systems to exchange data for Medicaid and CHIP eligibility, enrollment, notifications, and claims processing functions.
- Ensure any changes to scheduled release dates are communicated and coverage adjusted accordingly. States must be mindful of and ensure the policies, procedures, and processes developed to support Medicaid and CHIP coverage of pre-release services do not effectuate a delay of an individual's release or lead to increased involvement in the juvenile and adult justice systems.

Please take time to review this information in preparation to complete our **Incarcerated Youth Survey** to be released soon. If you have any questions or comments, please email:

incarceratedyouthreentry@medicaid.ms.gov