Medicaid for Independent Young Adults (MIYA)

Medicaid for Independent Young Adults (MIYA) is a specific Medicaid coverage group for young adults who have aged out of foster care created in 2006. MIYA eligibility can be established for any youth who left foster care on or after May 1, 2006 and meet the requirements below.

Eligibility:

Youth eligible for this new coverage group must meet the following requirements:

- The youth resided in foster care & Iowa was responsible for the youth’s placement and care when they turned age 18;
- The youth left foster care on or after May 2006;
- The youth is 18 years old or older, but under 21;
- Their countable income is under 200% federal poverty level (FPL); and
- They are not a required Medicaid household member of a spouse or child’s eligible group.

The vast majority of youth served in the Aftercare program are eligible for MIYA. Most young people are automatically enrolled by DHS when they age out of foster care in Iowa, but they must renew their enrollment annually.

- Youth will receive a MIYA approval letter from the MIYA worker when they leave care that has their annual review date on the letter. Keeping a copy of this letter in the file will help track of their renewal date.
- Youth will then receive a letter annually on their review date (not the date they left care) informing them that they need to renew their MIYA information in order to continue receiving coverage, this is usually due the 5th of the month. If youth return the information after the 5th of the month, but by the 9-14th of the month, they will not receive a cancellation notice.
- If they receive a cancellation notice, youth still have until the last working day of the month to get in the completed renewal. DO NOT send an application when a RENEWAL is due.
- Advocates should provide assistance in completing and returning the required information.
- The IASN Coordinator will send out an email at the beginning of each month with a list of youth that are due for MIYA renewals that month. This information is not always available in a timely manner so please have a back-up system for tracking the review dates.
- Youth need to keep MIYA informed of any address changes so they don’t miss their renewal letters; the advocate can assist in sending in the updated information.

For more information contact:

Gloria Miranda, 515-281-6004 and fax 515-281-5913, email Gloria at gmirand@dhs.state.ia.us