

## **Policy Clarifications – Medicaid – All PMA-17470-850**

**Submitted: 3/15**

**Agency: CAOs**

**Subject: Authorization for PC 30 for Children released from Juvenile Detention**

**Question:**

**[OPS Memo 05-04-08](#) details Medicaid authorization for “youths” released from the state youth development centers (YDCs) and the youth forestry camp (YFC) system.**

- 1. The definition of PC 30 in SH 850 states that the juvenile must be less than 19 years old. OPS Memo 05-04-08 defines an eligible individual as one who has been in an YDC/YFC for three years or less and had been a cash assistance or Medicaid recipient at the time of placement in YDC/YFC. There is no age mentioned in the OPS memo. Is there an age limit for PC 30 eligibility?**
- 2. Policy Clarification PMT12296-392 states that individuals eligible for PC 30 should be authorized as non-continuous eligibility (NCE) periods. Is this correct?**

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**Response By: Division of Health Services**

**Date: 3/18/15**

- 1. Yes, there is an age limit. A “youth” as described in [OPS 05-04-08](#) must be under 21. This criterion corresponds to the age of a child as defined in Pennsylvania’s juvenile justice statutes and MA policy at that time. Because of system limitations, the CAO must contact the CIS Hotline (1-866-620-5057) for assistance in authorizing PC 30 cases at this time.**
- 2. No, individuals authorized in a PC 30 category must be opened for ongoing benefits, not as a NCE. The authorization of ongoing benefits will ensure the youth is opened in managed care, if the facility code provided by the Juvenile Probation Office or the County Children and Youth Agency dictates this. As stated in OPS 05-04-08, the reapplication date must be modified to the last day of the third calendar month after the month in which the release occurred. When PC 30 expires, the CAO must evaluate the individual for other MA programs. If there is a change reported during the PC 30 eligibility period, the CAO will verify continued eligibility in a MA category. If the youth is no longer eligible, the CAO will issue advance notice to close benefits regardless of whether or not the PC 30 eligibility period has expired.**

**Example:** On January 20th, the CAO receives from the YDC/YFC information regarding the release of a youth. The anticipated release date is March 2nd. The CAO contact person then reviews eCIS, determines that the youth will be eligible upon release, and furnishes this information to the YDC/YFC. On February 20th, the CAO receives the confirmation of the release date from YDC/YFC. The CAO will then authorize PC30 effective the date of release. The youth is eligible for Medicaid from March 2nd through June 30th, at which time continued Medicaid eligibility must be redetermined.