



## **Policy Directive 2017-02-01**

### **Title: Medicaid Eligibility for Youth in Detention**

**Date: February 01, 2017**

**From: Jeanine Schieferecke, Senior Manager, Eligibility**

**Program impacted: PPS**

This Policy Directive provides guidance for children placed in a detention facility, or other ineligible living arrangement, who are subsequently placed in a PRTF. Children who are court ordered to detention for a specific period of time, or to await trial, and are placed in a PRTF for the purpose of treatment are not eligible for Medicaid if it is intended for the youth to return to the facility when the treatment is completed. In these situations, the youth is still considered in the ineligible living arrangement. When there is some question as to the next steps for the youth following the PRTF placement (e.g. the PRTF stay will be used to provide input in determining subsequent placements) and the return to the detention facility isn't absolute, the child is potentially eligible for Medicaid. In other words, if the youth enters a PRTF with certainty that s/he will return to the detention facility, there is no eligibility for Medicaid.

As circumstances can vary for each individual, an evaluation of the situation should be made on a case by case basis if it is not clear cut. These should be clearly documented and case action justified. For example, the length of stay is one input into that decision. A longer stay would generally raise sufficient doubt as to the intent for the youth following placement. Also, the statement of the PRTF.

If there is a question as to whether or not Medicaid eligibility should be allowed, an inquiry should be sent to the KDHE Policy Team.