

TO: Local Departments of Social Services

FROM: New York State Department of Health (DOH)

SUBJECT: Clarification of Children and Youth Evaluation Service (C-YES)
Roles and Responsibilities Under Department of Health
Administration

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 1, 2026

CONTACT PERSON: DOH C-YES Team 1-833-861-4467
CYESConnect@health.ny.gov

The purpose of this General Information System (GIS) is to provide information about changes to the Children's Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waiver and procedures for requesting a Children's Waiver eligibility determination for children and youth who do not already have Medicaid by the Children and Youth Evaluation Service (C-YES). This notice supplements information previously communicated in [19 OHIP/ADM-02](#).

C-YES Administration Updates:

Effective April 1, 2026, Children's Waiver C-YES services function will no longer be provided by Maximus; these services will be provided by qualified individuals identified by the state and coordinated by the Department of Health (DOH). Beginning January 1, 2026, through March 31, 2026, there will be a transition period. During this transition period, Maximus C-YES will complete HCBS eligibility determinations received prior to January 1, 2026, assist children/families to obtain Medicaid, and transfer participants to the Health Home program for continued care management.

Beginning January 1, 2026, new referrals for Children's Waiver HCBS for children/youth without Medicaid eligibility will be conducted by qualified individuals identified by the state and coordinated by DOH. These qualified individuals will be responsible for administering all C-YES functions, including but not limited to:

- Serving as the centralized point of communication for all C-YES referrals and inquiries
- Conducting Children's Waiver HCBS eligibility determinations for children/youth who do not have Medicaid
- Assisting Children's Waiver eligible children/youth with the Medicaid application process
- Transferring children/youth to the Health Home program for comprehensive care management
- For children/youth who opt-out of Health Home Care Management, developing the Plan of Care (POC) and coordinating their HCBS, in collaboration with the participant's Medicaid managed care plan, if applicable

Referral and Communication Updates:

- All new referrals for children in need of HCBS who are not already enrolled in Medicaid and inquiries related to C-YES may be directed to:
 - Email: CYESConnect@health.ny.gov or via Secure File Transfer (SFT) to **CYESConnect**
 - Toll-Free: 1-833-861-4467
 - Local: 518-408-5358
- CYESConnect@health.ny.gov will coordinate all referrals, assessments, transfers, and next steps in collaboration with qualified individuals identified by the State, Health Homes, Medicaid Managed Care Plans (MMCPs), and other partners as applicable.
- Maximus will continue to support their existing Children's Waiver participants through March 31, 2026. Maximus may continue to contact the LDSS about their existing cases until April 1, 2026.
- Children already enrolled in Medicaid who are in need of HCBS, can be directed to a Health Home in their county for a Children's Waiver eligibility determination. Health Home locations and contact information can be found in the [Find a Health Home Tool](#).

Medicaid Application Updates:

After completing a Children's Waiver HCBS eligibility determination for a child who is not enrolled in Medicaid, DOH will provide the completed [OHIP-0125 \(EN\)](#) form to the LDSS through the local district liaison, to assist in the processing of the Medicaid application. The OHIP-0125 form must be used when Family of One budgeting is appropriate.

As a reminder, the LDSS should continue to ensure the completed OHIP-0125 forms are stored appropriately and available to conduct Medicaid eligibility for children/youth who were found Children's Waiver HCBS eligible.

Resources

Local Districts are advised to continue to follow [19 OHIP/ADM-02](#), including existing requirements related to Medicaid eligibility determinations, authorization processes, and coordination responsibilities, unless otherwise specified in this GIS.

Additional information on the Department of Health Children and Youth Evaluation Services (C-YES) can be found on the [DOH C-YES Webpage](#).

Please send any questions related to Children and Youth Evaluation Services (C-YES) to CYESConnect@health.ny.gov.