

## Frequently Asked Questions: Re-Entry Services

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### **Am I eligible for re-entry services if I am married?**

Eligibility is considered on a case-by-case basis. If you are married, you've entered into your own agreement as an adult to be in a co-care relationship. The intention of re-entry services is not to support a spouse.

If you live with a spouse, you are not independent. However, there may be circumstances that could potentially make you eligible (ex. You are not living with your spouse, showing instability). Re-entry services could also impact other assistance your family receives as a unit, which may not be in your best interest.

If re-entry services are not the best path for you due to your marital status and circumstances, you may still be eligible to receive [Chafee aftercare services](#). These services are not based on marital status.

### **I am 18 or older, and I have never been in care. Can I be placed in care?**

No, you must have been in care prior to your 18<sup>th</sup> birthday to come into care or qualify for re-entry services.

### **Am I still eligible for services if I choose to live with a roommate?**

Living with a roommate is allowed in an Independent Living Arrangement, but the roommate cannot be a parent (or parental figure). The roommate must also be a contributor to household expenses and not be dependent on you for any needs.

### **What if I have a child?**

Having a child does not make you ineligible to come back into care. If you are the custodial parent and the child lives with you, your eligibility for re-entry services remain the same.

### **Will I have the same case manager?**

Ideally you would return to your previous case manager if you still live in the same circuit, unless there are reasons this would not be in your best interests.

### **I am homeless and need help immediately. What can I do?**

If you are in need of immediate services, we would encourage you to look into [aftercare services](#) as a petition for re-entry services may take time to be heard in Court. A referral may also be made to [HUD's Foster Youth to Independence Voucher Program](#) through the Coordinated Entry System to assist with housing.

### **I was denied re-entry services by the Children's Division. Do I have other options?**

Yes. If we do not recommend you return to care, you may file a petition or the Juvenile Officer may file one on your behalf.

### **Which court can help me file a petition for re-entry?**

A petition for re-entry into foster care can be filed:

- In the court that previously exercised jurisdiction
- In the county where you currently reside
- An adjacent county

**What if I return to custody under re-entry, am released from care, and would like to come back into care again?**

If you were released from re-entry for any of the following reasons, the Children's Division will not file a petition for re-entry services again:

- You were unwilling or unable to develop, implement, or otherwise cooperate with the implementation of the transition plan
- You plead guilty or are found guilty of any felony, or any misdemeanor and are sentenced to a period of incarceration
- You are committed to the legal custody of any sheriff or the Department of Corrections
- Any other circumstance where you fail to cooperate with the Children's Division or the Children's Division does not have services available or the ability to provide services