

ADOPTION ASSISTANCE CONNECTIONS TO AGE TWENTY-ONE (AAC) FACT SHEET

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) administers the Adoption Assistance Connections to age 21 (AAC) program. With the AAC program, the adoption subsidy and Medicaid for an older youth adoption can extend past age 18 to age 21. Any questions can be sent to AdoptionAssistanceToAge21@jfs.ohio.gov.

The following criteria must be met to receive this extension:

INITIAL CRITERIA to be considered for the AAC program

- The child was age 16 or 17 when the adoption assistance agreement became effective (all signatures received).
- The child was adopted at age 16 or 17 from an Ohio Public Children Services Agency (PCSA).
- The adoptive parent(s) must be maintaining parental responsibility.

ADDITIONAL CRITERIA to be eligible for AAC program

- The adopted young adult is:
 - Age 18 but not yet 21,
 - Continuing to receive parental support,
 - Not enlisted in the military service, and
 - Not married.
- The adopted young adult meets one of the following and provides documentation:
 - Completing a secondary education or a program leading to an equivalent credential,
 - Enrolled in an institution that provides post-secondary or vocational education,
 - Participating in a program or activity designed to promote or remove barriers to employment,
 - Employed for at least 80 hours per month, OR
 - Incapable of doing any of the activities above due to a diagnosed medical condition, which is supported by regularly updated information.
- The adoptive parent(s) must provide documentation of parental responsibility.

Adoptive parent(s) must submit the following items:

1. The AAC program application (JFS 00147).
2. A copy of the initial signed Adoption Assistance Agreement from AA subsidy with the PCSA.
3. Documentation that the young adult meets one of the 5 criteria noted above.
4. Documentation of parental responsibility.

Redetermination of eligibility occurs semi-annually (every 180 days).

AAC Subsidy cannot exceed the per diem amount of foster care

A family cannot receive 2 subsidies in the same month

Mail Applications:
ODJFS – OFC – AAC
P.O. Box 183204
Columbus, OH 43218-3204