

Money Follows the Person Eligibility and Enrollment Guidelines

Eligibility Criteria

Individual's who meet the criteria below are eligible to enroll in the Money Follows the Person (MFP) Demonstration Project.

Vermont resident.

Meet requirements for 90 consecutive days in a qualified inpatient facility, excluding nursing facility Medicare-rehabilitation days.

Receiving Vermont Long-Term Care Medicaid for at least one day prior to transition from the qualifying inpatient stay.

Express a desire to live in a community setting.

Qualified Inpatient Facility

A qualified inpatient facility includes the following institutions.

Nursing facility

Hospital

The qualified inpatient stay must be immediately before beginning participation in the MFP demonstration project.

Nursing Facility Medicare Rehabilitation Exclusion

When a person is admitted to a skilled nursing facility solely for the purposes of skilled rehabilitation services covered under Medicare hospital insurance Part A, up to 100 of these days are not considered toward the 90-day qualified stay.

Enrollment

To enroll in the Money Follows the Person Program an eligible individual must sign the MFP Informed Consent form and an Application Referral form.

Participation

To become a participant the individual must be enrolled and Transition into a Qualified Residence.

Qualified Residence

To participate in MFP the person must transition to a qualified MFP residence on the date of transition.

1. A home owned or leased by the individual or the individual's family member; this option is not regulated by the state and the lease is maintained with the landlord or owner.
2. An apartment with an individual lease is a residential type that can be in an apartment building, assisted living facility, and/or public housing unit. The apartment will have lockable access and egress, and which includes living, sleeping, bathing, and cooking areas over which the individual or the individual's family has domain and control. Apartments are regulated. An apartment building is regulated by the lease and held by the landlord. An assisted living facility is regulated by the state, and public housing units are regulated through Section 8 by the Vermont State Housing Authority.
3. A residence, in a community-based residential setting, in which no more than four unrelated individuals reside. These types of community based settings can include: group homes (not applicable to MFP), Licensed Level III Residential Care (including enhanced residential care), and Assisted Living Residences. These three types of community based alternative residential settings are regulated by DAIL, Division of Licensing and Protection.
4. A residence, in a community based residential setting, in which one or two individuals unrelated to the caregiver reside. These will all fall under the category of Adult Family Care homes. They will be required to meet health and safety standards established by DAIL and will be monitored regularly by Community Development staff and case managers. They will not be formally licensed by DAIL's Division of Licensing and Protection.

Period of Participation

The person's MFP participation will continue through the first 365 days post-transition. Any days spent in an inpatient setting do not count towards the 365 MFP post-transition participation days.

Temporary Suspension of Participation

If an MFP participant spends 30 days or fewer in an inpatient setting for any reason during a person's participation period, the person remains a participant in MFP.

If an inpatient stay occurs within 90 days of leaving the qualifying inpatient stay, MFP will extend the date for accessing the unused MFP Transition Funds by the number of days spent in an inpatient setting.

Suspension of Participation

If an MFP participant spends 31 days or more in an inpatient setting the individual's MFP participation is suspended. The individual may continue to be enrolled in the MFP program.

After 90 continuous days in the inpatient facility the individual's enrollment in MFP will end.

Re-Activation of MFP Participation Status

If an individual is deemed eligible for MFP after an inpatient stay of more than 31 days and less than 90 days the individual may be re-activated as a participant without re-establishing the 90-day inpatient requirement.

Prior to transitioning back to home and community based services a thorough review of the previous transition's care plan will be conducted to mitigate any obstacles for another transition.

If an inpatient stay occurs within 90 days of leaving the qualifying inpatient stay, MFP will extend the date for accessing the unused MFP Transition Funds by the number of days spent in an inpatient setting.

When re-activated into MFP, the participant continues their initial MFP enrollment through the 365 days of participation (excluding days in an inpatient setting).

The participant can have two re-activations of participation within an enrollment.

Re-Enrollment

An individual can be enrolled in the MFP program three times.

Prior to transitioning back to home and community based services a thorough review of the previous transition's care plan will be conducted to mitigate any obstacles for another transition.

Retroactive Eligibility

People receiving Vermont Long-Term Care Medicaid Choices for Care Home and Community Based Services are retroactively eligible to enroll in MFP when they meet MFP Eligibility as of 4/1/2011.

Effective Enrollment

The effective enrollment is the date the individual signs the Informed Consent form and the Application Referral form.

Retroactive Enrollment and Participation

Retroactive enrollment and participation begin on the day the individual transitioned from the qualifying inpatient setting to the qualified MFP home and community based residence.

Retroactive Participation Guidance

The guidance for participation period, participant's temporary suspension, suspension, re-admittance, and re-enrollment apply to retroactive participants.

Note: If the participation period is completed before the effective enrollment, the retroactive enrollment will not count as one of the three enrollments available to the participant. Transition Funds are not available for individuals whose participation period has ended.

Transition Funds

MFP enrollees are eligible for financial assistance, up to \$2500, to help remove identified barriers to transitioning and remaining on Home and Community Based Services. The funds can be accessed from the date of MFP enrollment through 90 days after transition to a qualified home and community based setting.

Retroactive participants are eligible for financial assistance, up to \$2500, for items or services intended to help the Retroactive participant successfully remain in a home and community based setting. Approved MFP funds can be accessed for 90 days from the date the MFP Informed Consent is signed or until the participant reaches 365 days of participation, whichever is sooner.

Expenses must be deemed modest and reasonable and must be pre-approved by MFP. MFP Transition Funds will not pay for past-due expenses.