

# YOUNG ADULT REVIEW PANEL MEETING (YARP)

## FAQ



MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF  
Children & Families

### Why am I having a Young Adult Review Panel meeting?

1

You may have a Young Adult Review Panel (YARP) meeting for different reasons, such as:

- There was a disagreement at your foster care review (at 17.5 years old) about whether you should stay with DCF after turning 18.
- You left DCF after turning 18 but want to sign back in before you turn 23.
- You need extra support because you're having trouble reaching your goals.

### What should I bring to the meeting?

2

You don't have to bring anything, but here are some things that might be helpful:

- Letters of support (from teachers, mentors, employers, etc.)
- Report cards, transcripts, and/or Individualized Education Plan (if you're in school)
- Your work schedule
- Extracurricular activity schedule (sports, clubs, etc.)
- A budget or list of expenses (like rent, phone bill, food, and transportation)

### Who will be at the meeting?

3

The YARP panel usually includes:

- An Area Program Manager
- A Supervisor
- A Social Worker
- An Adolescent Outreach Worker

You can also invite anyone who supports you, just let your Social Worker know so they can be included. This might be:

- Family members or foster parents
- Teachers or school staff
- Mentors or coaches
- A therapist or counselor
- A trusted friend or community member

### What happens during the meeting?

4

- The meeting starts with introductions and an explanation of what will happen.
- You'll be asked about your goals and how DCF can support you.
- Your support team can also speak on your behalf if you want them to.
- You're encouraged to ask questions and share your thoughts—this is about YOU!

### How will I know the panel's decision?

5

- You'll get recommendations on services and resources that can help you.
- DCF will send you the panel's official decision in writing within 10 business days.

### I think I need help preparing for or participating in this meeting. How do I request additional support or an accommodation?

6

DCF is committed to supporting young adults with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation to help you with this meeting, you can ask your social worker or any DCF staff for support.

Some examples of reasonable accommodations can include communication access such as sign language interpreters, providing written materials before the meeting, providing a note taker during the meeting, flexible timelines, or other accommodations not listed here. DCF will provide reasonable accommodations consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act and state law unless doing so would create an undue hardship to the DCF.

### Final thoughts?

This meeting is for you, and your voice matters! Be open, ask questions, and take advantage of the support available to help you succeed.