

Changes to Youth Transition Decision-Making (YTDM) Meeting Facilitator Training and Standards

In July 2021, DHS transitioned from Family Team Decision-Making (FTDM) meetings to Solution Focused Meetings (SFMs) for family conferencing. The transition to SFM meetings impacted the Youth Transition Decision-Making (YTDM) Meeting Facilitator Training. The process to become a Youth Transition Decision-Making meeting facilitator was dependent on the FTDM facilitator training and process. As a result, the need to revise the current training and process for becoming a YTDM meeting facilitator was identified. Upon reviewing the process to become a YTDM meeting facilitator, the opportunity to streamline the process to become a YTDM meeting facilitator was identified.

Various internal and external stakeholders including DHS Field and Policy, CJJP, and YTDM meeting facilitators were engaged in the change process.

The process and requirements to become a Youth Transition Decision-Making meeting facilitator are changing. As a prerequisite to attend YTDM Meeting Facilitation Training, the facilitator will be required to shadow/observe one YTDM meeting facilitated by a trained YTDM meeting facilitator. The YTDM facilitator will attend a 1.5 day YTDM Meeting Facilitation Training using DHS-approved curriculum offered by CWPTA and other identified stakeholders and/or contractors as appropriate.

A new quality assurance process is being implemented. As a result, the YTDM facilitator will not need to complete coaching, go through an approval process, or maintain an approval number. The facilitator will receive a certificate of completion at the conclusion of the training and must maintain a copy for verification, as needed. All current YTDM meeting facilitators will continue to be qualified to facilitate YTDM meetings and will not need to continue any coaching or ongoing approval process.

The Youth Transition Decision-Making Meeting Standards document will be updated to reflect changes. The process to complete a referral for YTDM meetings will remain the same.

YTDM meetings will continue to be used to enhance core casework functions of youth engagement, assessment, service planning, monitoring, and coordination. Revising the YTDM Meeting Facilitator Training provided an opportunity to streamline the process of become a YTDM meeting facilitator. This will increase the number of available facilitators to meet the needs of youth transitioning to adulthood.