



Mississippi Department of Mental Health

Bureau of Behavioral Health Services

Division of Children and Youth Services

**Supported Employment for Transition -
Age Youth IPS Services – CYS**

Notice of Funding Opportunity FY 2027

Supported Employment for Transition - Age Youth IPS Services – CYS

The Department of Mental Health/Division of Children and Youth Services is now accepting funding applications for state fiscal year 2027(July 1, 2026– June 30, 2027).

The submission of this application to the Department of Mental Health is not a guarantee of funding.

This grant will be reimbursed on a “Cost Reimbursement” basis via the use of Cash Requisitions to the Division of Children and Youth Services. Only Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs) or a designated private provider are eligible to apply for this funding opportunity. We anticipate multiple grant awards. The funding associated with the grant opportunity is meant to defray a proportion of operational costs for the service.

The purpose of the Supported Employment program is to enhance state and community capacity to provide and implement the Individual Placement and Support (IPS) model, an evidence-based supported employment program to transition-aged youth and young adults with serious mental illness/severely emotionally disturbed (SMI/SED), including persons with co-occurring mental and substance use disorders. The expected outcome of the program is to enhance partnerships with MDRS, MDES and CPS to eventually expand Supported Employment Services throughout the state using the IPS model, and have an increase in the number of competitive employment opportunities for transition-aged youth and young adults aged 15-24 with SMI/SED.

Using the IPS model, the Supported Employment Program for Transition-Age Youth will help young adults with mental illnesses discover paths to self-sufficiency and recovery rather than disability and dependence.

The purpose of this funding is to assist with travel expenses for the IPS Employment Specialist(s) and other needed supports to implement the IPS model and to promote gainful employment for young adults who indicate that employment is one of their goals.

A. Application Guideline Requirements: Please submit the following required forms which can be found in the MS Department of Mental Health’s Service Provider Manual.

1. Proposed Budget Summary Form: 100-1
2. Proposed Budget Personnel Form: 100-2
3. Proposed Budget Line-Item Form: 100-3
4. Budget Narrative/Justification.
5. Program Narrative (not to exceed 3 pages) addressing B.-E

B. Objectives

- i. Provide mental health, employment, and support services needed to assist the IPS youth and young adults who indicate that employment is one of their goals.

- ii. Enhance existing partnerships with MDRS, MDES, and CPS to eventually expand supported employment services throughout the state using the IPS model.
- iii. Increase the number of competitive employment opportunities for transition-aged youth and young adults with SMI/SED.

C. Performance Metrics

- 6 face-to-face contacts will be made with hiring managers each week
- 75% of youth/young adults served through IPS will maintain gainful employment
- 10% or less of youth/young adults who were employed will become unemployed
- 95% of youth/young adults served through IPS will be maintained in their home and community

Reporting on Performance Measures

DMH grant recipients must review the performance data they submit to DMH, assess their progress, and use this information to improve the management of their grant. Recipients are also required to report on their progress by addressing the objectives identified in the grant. The assessment should be designed to help you determine whether you are achieving the objectives and outcomes you intend to achieve and whether adjustments need to be made. You will be required to submit a monthly report on the performance measures to the Division of Children and Youth Services.

D. Specific Requirements

1. Through funding from this grant, each Supported Employment provider will:

- a. Serve transition-aged youth/young adults with SMI/SED as listed in the most current edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM) of the American Psychiatric Association that seriously impair their functioning in community living.
- b. Include and provide services to young adults that choose to participate within the scope of the population serviced through this grant.
- c. Provide an appropriate workspace and equipment for the IPS Employment Specialist such as a desk, computer or laptop, internet access, office supplies, phone line, copier, meeting space, etc.
- d. Travel to employment destinations to enroll employers and provide support to young adults served in the IPS program.

2. Staffing Requirements

- a. The IPS Employment Specialist must travel to and participate in face-to-face meetings with the local Vocational Rehabilitation counselors at least once a month to coordinate services for clients.
- b. IPS Employment Specialists must travel to or attend virtual MAP Team meetings for the CMHC's catchment area at least once per month.
- c. The IPS Employment Specialist must travel to meet with and collaborate with enrolled employers to promote employment opportunities and provide the support necessary to sustain employment for young adults participating in the program.

3. Service Requirements

- a. Providers shall implement the evidence-based IPS/SE by adhering to the twenty-five-item fidelity scale found at The IPS Employment Center – Research, Dissemination, Training,
- b. The Supported Employment Program will serve transition-aged youth with SMI/SED who have indicated that employment is one of their goals.
- c. The IPS Employment Specialists will be mobile and develop relationships with local community providers for possible employment opportunities. IPS Employment Specialists will conduct job discoveries with individuals served and find and maintain competitive work in the community. The IPS Employment Specialist will offer on-going support to transition-aged youth/young adults and provide support to ensure that employment is maintained.
- d. The IPS Employment Specialist will make at least 6 contacts with hiring managers each week.

E. Reporting Requirements

Grantees are required to submit required data to DMH to continue funding and using data to assess progress and improve services. Additional reports may be required as specified by DMH.

- Monthly Data Reports included in this RFA must be submitted to the Division of Children and Youth Services by the 10th of the month.
- Any questions regarding the monthly report can be sent to Katherine Johnson at katherine.johnson@dmh.ms.gov.
- Failure to meet reporting requirements or established metrics, unless required otherwise by federal law, shall result in:
 - Immediate suspension of grant payments pending corrective action
 - Agency review for potential grant termination; and
 - Termination of grant award if metrics remain unmet in 120 days following the due date of annual report.

F. Other Guidelines

- Providers must also comply with all additional training and technical assistance required and/or provided by the Department of Mental Health.
- Any travel reimbursement listed in the budget cannot exceed the current State of Mississippi reimbursement rate (currently \$0.725 per mile).
- Indirect/administrative costs listed in the budget cannot exceed 8% of the budget total. Provide a list of staff from the Proposed Budget Personnel Form 100 -2 which also provides a portion of their time to other grant funded services, to include: the grant funded service, the position the staff holds, and the percentage of time the staff will be providing the other service(s).
- Agencies that are not able to submit timely and accurate data as required by DMH may not be eligible for future funding for this service.
- Comply with all provisions of HB1171 as passed in the 2026 legislative session.

G. Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be evaluated based on:

- Program design, feasibility, and alignment with goals

- Capacity to deliver services
- Budget and cost effectiveness
- Impact on target population

A review panel will score applications using standardized rubric.



Supporting a Better Tomorrow...One Person at a Time

Monthly SE-TAY Report - CYS

Due by the 10th of the following month

Month Reporting For: _____

Year: _____

CMHC Region: _____

Date Completed: _____

1. Total **admissions:** _____
 - a. Interest in employment _____
 - b. Interest in education _____
2. Number **face-to-face employer contacts** (with hiring managers): _____
3. Number of new competitive employment opportunities added this reporting period _____
4. **Number enrolled** in IPS program: _____
 - a. Employment _____
 - b. Education _____
5. Number of **face-to-face meetings** (between IPS Emp Spec & VR Counselor): _____
6. Number of youth/young adults in the IPS program requiring a higher level of care _____