



City of Chicago Shelter Exit Policy Briefing

March 15, 2024

Summary of Limited Stay Extension

Policy

- Shelter-based case use a **standardized extension screening document** to determine eligibility for an extension.

Progress Toward Housing

Asylum Seeker Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ASERAP)-eligible households
An extension may be granted if a resident/household is actively engaging in the housing location process with Catholic Charities. (4,155 as of 3/15/24)

Progress toward housing for non-ASERAP-eligible households.
An extension may be granted if there is a signed lease with a move-in date confirmed. The extension would be through their move-in day.
(Still being assessed)

Outmigration
An extension may be granted if a family is planning to move out of shelter and is pending support on an outmigration request. The extension would be through their departure date.

Familial Circumstances

- Medical Care, Gender-Based Violence, Disability, Medical Isolation & Quarantine, Pregnancy/Infant, Families With Children Under 18, Bereavement, Mental Health, Public Benefits Enrollment. *(Length of extensions are based on circumstances and case-by-case)*



The City is actively prioritizing public health needs as it continues the new arrivals mission by...



Requiring
MMR/MMRV
Vaccination for
Shelter Entry and
Stay



Implementing Site-
Specific Medical
Assessment Pauses
When Needed



Adding Medical
Quarantine to the
previously existing
Limited Stay Extension
Policy



Adding Familial
Extension to the
previously existing
Limited Stay
Extension Policy



MMR/MMRV Vaccination Requirement

- **Measles is a highly transmissible infectious disease. Thankfully, vaccines are very effective.**
- **To prevent the avoidable spread of infectious disease, the City will require that all residents who enter or stay in a City-operated shelter system be vaccinated for Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) or Measles, Mumps, Rubella, and Varicella (MMRV) depending on age.**
- Additional vaccines may be added to this list at the discretion of the CDPH Commissioner.
- Residents at all City-operated shelters must be vaccinated against MMR/MMRV as a condition of shelter entrance and stay.
- Additionally, the City will encourage shelters that receive City funding to review any relevant policies they have in place at their shelters.
- New arrivals at the Landing Zone who fail to report their vaccination status or refuse voluntary vaccination will not be placed in a shelter.

★ Medical Assessment Pause



- To ensure the City can effectively implement public health mitigation practices, DFSS may pause the Limited Stay Policy at sites selected by CDPH as requiring individual assessments.
 - The pause for selected sites will last until CDPH assesses immunity status and reaches 95% vaccination rate at all sites.
 - If a confirmed case of a public health incident, such as Measles, is found at any one of the selected shelters, the medical quarantine extension will be triggered for all non-immune shelter residents at the shelter.

★ Medical Quarantine Added to the Limited Stay Extension Policy

- **Extensions for specific circumstances have always been a part of the Limited Stay Policy, including extensions for medical care and for medical isolation.**
- To address known exposure, DFSS will update the Limited Stay Extension Policy to include an extension for medical quarantine.
 - Receiving this extension requires complying with vaccination, quarantine, and isolation compliance, as applicable.
 - Operationally, this means all exposed, non-immune residents remain in shelter through their quarantine period plus 7 days, as long as they get vaccinated and comply with quarantine and isolation requirements.





Familial Addition to Limited Stay Extension Policy

- While we know Chicago's limited resources cannot meet the full scale of need across the new arrivals mission, we are constantly evaluating options that will lead to better care for all Chicagoans and to cause the least disruption possible to families in shelter.
- In light of current bed availability, families with children who are in shelter as of today will **receive 30-day extensions** (up to 3x through June 10, 2024).
 - Families who qualify for ASERAP already have extension options available based on existing criteria under DFSS's Limited Stay Extension Policy.
 - Today's decision covers about 4,500 additional individuals with shelter exit dates originally planned for March, April, and May.
- This decision prioritizes bed availability for families with children currently in shelter and aims to minimize disruption for the duration of the school year and will continue to support new arrivals on their paths to stability and self-sufficiency.





Thank You