

This flowchart outlines the decision-making process for pursuing Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) placement for children/youth in Colorado. It includes multiple pathways depending on custody, health coverage, and availability of resources.

1. Initial Step: Determine if the county plans to pursue PRTF placement:
 - 1.a. If No: Explore other options like child welfare services or community-based services.
 - 1.b. If Yes: Continue to the next step.
2. County Custody: Determine if the county has custody of the child/youth:
 - 2.a. If Yes: Continue to the PRTF facility availability step.
 - 2.b. If No: Assess if the child/youth is covered by Health First Colorado (Medicaid).
 - 2.c. If Not Covered: Outreach to commercial insurance and/or encourage the family to access the Office of Behavioral Health's Children and Youth Mental Health Treatment Act (CYMHTA).
 - 2.d. If Covered: Contact the Regional Accountability Entity (RAE) to coordinate funding for PRTF services.
3. RAE Coordination: Check if the RAE approves funding:
 - 3.a. If Yes: Confirm if a PRTF facility is located and available.
 - 3.b. If No: Follow two pathways depending on the denial reason:
 - 3.b.a. For clinical needs, follow the RAE appeal process and then CYMHTA second opinion at HealthFirstColorado.org
 - 3.b.b. For non-covered benefits, follow the EPSDT (Early Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment) funding process: hcpf.colorado.gov
4. Facility Availability: Determine if a PRTF facility is located and available:
 - 4.a. If No: Identify what the difficulty is the result of:
 - 4.a.a. For bed waitlists, provide community-based or other residential services until a bed becomes available.
 - 4.a.b. For complexity, RAE begins creative solutions: hcpf.colorado.gov
 - 4.b. If Yes: Proceed to placement.
5. Placement: Once the child/youth enters the PRTF:
 - 5.a. Healthcare policy and financial pays daily rate inclusive of clinical services and room and board as long as the independent team continues to certify the need for PRTF.
 - 5.b. If RAE funding is approved, RAE pays a daily rate for services if deemed medically necessary.
 - 5.c. If not approved, provide community-based services or step down to QRTP (Qualified Residential Treatment Program), or continue with 80/20 funding in PRTF.