

Mental Health Diversion (MHD) in Young Adult Court (YAC) Pilot Guidelines

San Francisco County

Effective October 2nd, 2025

- Only in-custody clients may be referred to MHD in YAC. These clients must receive a 1001.36 eligibility report from Jail Health Services returned to the criminal court of origin.
- Counsel may seek an MHD disposition for charges that are eligible for traditional YAC. Charges that are ineligible for traditional YAC remain ineligible for MHD in YAC.
- Prior to appearing on the Department 26 calendar for an MHD in YAC referral for qualifying charge(s), the following must be filed in Department 26:
 - 1001.36 eligibility report from Jail Health Services demonstrating a qualifying diagnosis with the “YAC” box checked
 - Police report
 - RAP sheet
- Once these materials have been filed, MHD in YAC referrals should be calendared on Thursday mornings at 11am in Department 26. During this hearing, the court will order a treatment plan. Once the treatment plan has been returned, counsel must file a formal petition for MHD in YAC.
- All MHD in YAC clients will participate in the traditional YAC program led by Felton Institute. A waitlist will be created once the Felton Institute team has reached maximum capacity. If a participant and counsel are not amenable to being on a waitlist, other departments hearing MHD cases should be considered.

These guidelines will be reevaluated following the MHD in YAC Pilot Phase (through 2025).