



## AFFORDABLE CARE ACT MASSACHUSETTS IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

May 26, 2015

### Quick Links

[MA-ACA Website](#)



These Updates, published by the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) in consultation with the other state agencies involved in ACA implementation, will bring you news related to the implementation of provisions of the ACA here in Massachusetts.

### Grants and Demonstrations

The ACA provides funding opportunities to transform how health care is delivered, expand access to care and support healthcare workforce training.

### Grant Activity

For information about ACA grants awarded to and grant proposals submitted by the Commonwealth, visit the Grants page of the **Massachusetts National Health Care Reform website** at: [www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/commissions-and-initiatives/healthcare-reform/national-health-care-reform-plan/grants-and-demonstrations.html](http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/commissions-and-initiatives/healthcare-reform/national-health-care-reform-plan/grants-and-demonstrations.html)

### Guidance

Prior guidance can be found at: [www.hhs.gov/healthcare/index.html](http://www.hhs.gov/healthcare/index.html)

### News

**5/14/15- 5/15/15 The Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission (MACPAC) held a public meeting in Washington, D.C.** The meeting kicked off with a planning session for MACPAC's Congressionally-mandated study on Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) payment (which is scheduled for publication February 1, 2016).

Topics of other meeting sessions included: an update on CMS's Financial Alignment Initiative Demonstration (including results from enrollees in several states); a discussion of CMS's proposed rule on the application of mental health parity requirements to Medicaid and CHIP; an update on trends in Medicaid spending and state budgets; and a briefing on CMS's proposed rule to extend the enhanced matching rate for states upgrading their eligibility and enrollment systems. With respect to children's coverage, the Commission also discussed the impact of cost sharing on access and use of services as well as other design considerations for the future of children's coverage. Other

topics discussed included: Medicaid estate recovery policy and Medicaid managed care rate setting.

MACPAC was established by the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act and later expanded and funded through ACA §2801 and §10607. The commission consists of experts, government officials, executives and medical professionals. MACPAC is tasked with reviewing state and federal Medicaid and CHIP access and payment policies and making recommendations to Congress, the HHS Secretary, and the states on a wide range of issues affecting Medicaid and CHIP populations, including the implementation of health care reform.

Read the agenda at: [www.macpac.gov/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/MACPAC-May-2015-Meeting-Agenda.pdf](http://www.macpac.gov/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/MACPAC-May-2015-Meeting-Agenda.pdf)

Access the meeting materials at: [www.macpac.gov/public\\_meeting/may-2015-macpac-public-meeting/](http://www.macpac.gov/public_meeting/may-2015-macpac-public-meeting/)

MACPAC invites stakeholders to submit comments on their work throughout the year at: [comments@macpac.gov](mailto:comments@macpac.gov)

Learn more about MACPAC at: [www.macpac.gov](http://www.macpac.gov)

**5/14/15 HHS reports that, through the ACA, 137.7 million individuals now have access to free preventative health services.** Under ACA §2713, most health insurance plans are required to provide coverage for recommended preventive health care services without cost sharing.

In a report released by HHS, an estimated 28.5 million children, 55.6 million women and 53.5 million men now have free access to preventive services. These services include vaccinations, well-baby visits, and diabetes and blood pressure screenings. The report also shows that 3,999,092 people living in Massachusetts now have access to these services without cost sharing.

To learn more about this announcement, visit: [HHS.GOV](http://HHS.GOV)

To read a fact sheet regarding these services and data, visit: [HHS.GOV](http://HHS.GOV)

## Upcoming Events

### **Integrating Medicare and Medicaid for Dual Eligible Individuals (also known as One Care) Implementation Council Meeting**

Friday, May 29, 2015  
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM  
1 Ashburton Place, 21st Floor  
Boston, MA

MBTA and driving directions to the Transportation Building are available here: [www.mhd.state.ma.us/default.asp?pgid=dist/HQ\\_directions&sid=about](http://www.mhd.state.ma.us/default.asp?pgid=dist/HQ_directions&sid=about).

MBTA and driving directions to 1 Ashburton Place are located here: [www.sec.state.ma.us/secdir.htm](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/secdir.htm).

A meeting agenda and any meeting material will be distributed prior to the meeting.

Reasonable accommodations are available upon request. Please contact Donna Kymalainen at [Donna.Kymalainen@umassmed.edu](mailto:Donna.Kymalainen@umassmed.edu) to request accommodations.

### **Integrating Medicare and Medicaid for Dual Eligible Individuals (also known as One Care) Open Meeting**

Monday, June 8, 2015  
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
1 Ashburton Place, 21st Floor

Boston, MA

The purpose of this meeting is to continue discussion of key implementation topics for One Care. An agenda will be provided in advance of the meeting.

We welcome attendance from all stakeholders and members of the public with an interest in One Care. Reasonable accommodations will be made for participants who need assistance. Please send your request for accommodations to Donna Kymalainen at [Donna.Kymalainen@state.ma.us](mailto:Donna.Kymalainen@state.ma.us)

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Bookmark the **Massachusetts National Health Care Reform website** at: [National Health Care Reform](#) to read updates on ACA implementation in Massachusetts.

Remember to check the Mass.Gov website at: [Dual Eligibles](#) for information on the "**Integrating Medicare and Medicaid for Dual Eligible Individuals**" initiative.



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