



Eligibility Operations Memo 16-03
June 15, 2016

TO: MassHealth Eligibility Operations Staff

FROM: Amy Dybas, Director, Member Policy Implementation

RE: **Average Cost of Nursing Facility Services**

Introduction

In accordance with 130 CMR 520.019(G)(1), MassHealth must impose a period of ineligibility for payment of nursing facility services when it has determined that a MassHealth applicant or member has made a disqualifying transfer of resources.

When calculating the period of ineligibility, MassHealth uses the average cost to a patient paying privately for nursing facility services in the Commonwealth. Periodically, this figure is revised to reflect increased costs.

Revised Average Cost of Nursing Facility Services

Effective July 1, 2016, the average cost to a person paying privately for nursing facility services in the Commonwealth **increased** from \$310 to \$354 a day.

The date MassHealth **receives** the application or eligibility review form determines which of the following amounts to use when calculating the period of ineligibility for a disqualifying transfer of resources.

- If received before July 1, 2016, use \$310.
- If received on or after July 1, 2016, use \$354.

Questions

If you have any questions about this memo, please have your MEC designee contact the Policy Hotline.