



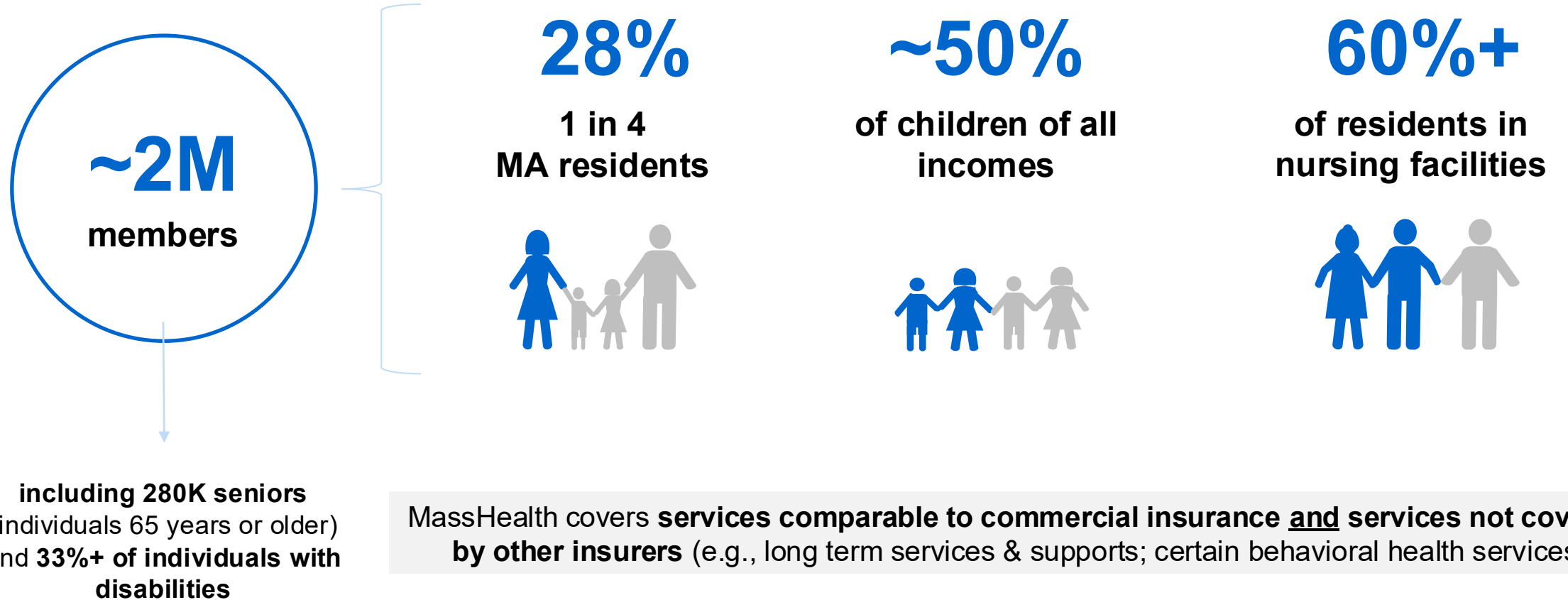
Preparing for Work and Education Requirements in Massachusetts

Executive Office of Health and Human Services

June 2026

Overview of MassHealth: Massachusetts' state Medicaid and CHIP program

MassHealth provides health benefits and help paying for them to qualifying children, families, seniors, and people with disabilities living in Massachusetts.



Work and Education Requirements for Certain Adults



When does this happen?	January 1, 2027
Who do we think is impacted, based on current information?	<p>Certain non-disabled adults, ages 19 to 64.</p> <p>However, members are exempt from this requirement (meaning that work requirements do not apply to them) if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• They are pregnant;• They are a parent, guardian or caretaker of a child under age 14 or someone with a disability;• They are medically frail;• They participate in a substance use treatment or rehab program; or• They meet another exemption identified by the federal government*
What is the change?	<p>Affected members will need to do one of the following activities to retain their MassHealth coverage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work 80 or more hours per month;• Volunteer 80 or more hours per month;• Participate in a work program for 80 or more hours per month;• Be enrolled in an educational program at least half-time;• Do a combination of the above activities for 80 or more hours per month; or• Earn at least \$580 per month.

*See appendix for a more detailed list of federal work requirement exemptions

MassHealth's Guiding Principles to Implement Work and Education Requirements





Supporting Members through Work and Education Requirements



MassHealth's goal is to use existing data to minimize the number of people who need to take action to meet work requirements and maintain coverage. MassHealth has ~2M members, but not everyone is subject to work requirements.

Step 1:

Automatically identify members who don't fit criteria

First, MassHealth will automatically identify individuals who are not impacted by work and education requirements based on available data. We will filter out children, people age 65+, pregnant individuals, people with disabilities, and others.

Step 2:

See if remaining members already meet requirements

Then, MassHealth will use available data (such as income) to automatically confirm if members already meet work and education requirements, so they don't need to take action. Over time, MassHealth aims to add more data sources so we can confirm even more members.

Step 3:

Help members who need to take action

Everyone else will need to take action to show MassHealth that work and education requirements don't apply to them (e.g., they have a disability or meet another exemption) **OR** they are meeting these requirements through work, education, or volunteering.

How Will Members Know if They Are Impacted by These Changes?

MassHealth has begun communicating with stakeholders and will send more information to affected members starting this summer.



MassHealth will **conduct direct outreach** to impacted members through mailed notices, texts, phone calls, and emails.

MassHealth will also host **public webinars** and develop a member-facing website.

Communications will be in the **top 6 member languages*** and will be designed to be clear, simple, and accessible.



MassHealth will work with a broad coalition, including **community-based organizations, providers, health plans, sister agencies, non-profits, employers, and other partners** across the state to amplify key messages.

MassHealth will provide **ongoing information, sharable communications, and technical assistance** with these group



MassHealth will also issue **general communications** through its website, social media, and other outlets, so members are aware of updates and know to look for important notices.

This will include a **dedicated website and a communications toolkit with sharable materials**, developed in partnership with Health Care for All.

*English, Spanish, Brazilian Portuguese, Simplified Chinese, Vietnamese and Haitian Creole

Next Steps

What Do Members Need to Do? How Can They Prepare?

MassHealth members should take these actions to keep getting the best coverage available:



Continue to get care, refill prescriptions, and go to your appointments.

You will hear directly from MassHealth before anything changes about your coverage.



If anything changes, tell us right away.

Tell us if you move, get a new number, are pregnant, or have another change that could affect your coverage.



Always read and reply to letters or messages from MassHealth.

Create a MyServices account to see eligibility notices, and be on the lookout for more information in Summer 2026.



If you have questions or need help, contact us!

Call us at (800) 841-2900, TDD/TTY: 711, visit a [MassHealth Enrollment Center](#), or find an [assister](#) near you.

Next Steps & Questions



Key Milestones:

- Winter 2026** Implementation planning, system design, and stakeholder engagement
- Summer 2026** Kickoff of member education and outreach efforts
- Fall 2026** Coverage changes for certain immigrants go into effect
- Winter 2027** Work requirements, more frequent renewals, and shortened retroactive coverage period go into effect

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MassHealth Federal Updates and Impact

The federal government is making changes that impact how Medicaid is funded and who can use the program. MassHealth is watching federal actions closely. We're here to help explain how federal changes may affect members and partners.

Changes to MassHealth are not happening right away, and they will not affect all MassHealth members. MassHealth members and providers should keep getting and delivering care.



More information is available at <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/masshealth-federal-updates-and-impact>