



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Office of Medicaid
www.mass.gov/masshealth

MassHealth
Acute Inpatient Hospital Bulletin 172
October 2019

TO: Acute Inpatient Hospital Providers Participating in MassHealth

FROM: Daniel Tsai, Assistant Secretary for MassHealth

RE: Affidavits for Proof of Zero Income, Massachusetts Residency, and Incarceration Status

Introduction

MassHealth requires applicants and members to verify certain eligibility factors including, but not limited to, income and residency. If MassHealth is unable to verify a certain eligibility factor through data matches, additional documentation will be required from the individual. MassHealth has created three affidavits as a way to verify zero income, Massachusetts residency, and incarceration status for applicants and members who have no other way to verify these eligibility factors.

MassHealth member eligibility regulations at 130 CMR 506.005(B)(3) provide that, for income verification purposes, if the attested income and the income from the electronic data source are not reasonably compatible, or if the electronic data match is unavailable, paper verification of income is required. Verification of gross monthly income may include any reliable evidence of the applicant's or member's earned or unearned income, which may include an affidavit.

MassHealth member eligibility regulations at 130 CMR 503.002 provide that, as a condition of eligibility, an applicant or member must be a resident of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The regulation states that residency may be verified by an affidavit supporting residency signed under pains and penalty of perjury.

MassHealth member eligibility regulations at 130 CMR 503.002(H) provide that inmates of a penal institution may not receive MassHealth benefits except under one of the following conditions, if they are otherwise eligible for MassHealth:

- they are inpatients in a medical institution; or
- they are living outside the penal institution, are on parole, probation, or home release, and are not returning to the institution for overnight stays.

New Forms

The following forms have been created by MassHealth and the Health Connector as joint documents in an effort to keep the format and content of affidavits consistent and to ensure that all of the necessary information and attestations are collected.

Affidavit to Verify Zero Income

In certain cases, an applicant or member may be required to verify income when he or she has attested to having no income. This may happen due to the applicant's or member's household composition or tax filing status.

Affidavit to Verify Massachusetts Residency

In certain cases, an applicant or member may be required to verify his or her Massachusetts residency.

The Affidavit to Verify Massachusetts Residency allows an applicant or member to confirm that he or she meets the requirements to be considered a Massachusetts resident.

Affidavit to Verify Incarceration Status

In certain cases, an applicant or member may be required to verify his or her incarceration status.

The Affidavit to Verify Incarceration Status allows an applicant or member to confirm that he or she is no longer incarcerated, or to report that MassHealth records are correct and he or she is incarcerated.

Using the New Forms

These forms may be offered to applicants and members who either walk in or call for assistance and have no other way to verify these eligibility factors. These forms are effective immediately.

An affidavit does not have to be on one of these forms to be acceptable, as long as the necessary content and signature(s) are present.

As with all factors that may be verified with an affidavit, whether on one of these forms or in another format, it does not have to be notarized.

As long as the statement or affidavit includes all of the necessary information and signatures, the eligibility factor should be verified.

Submitting the Form

Forms can be submitted to the Health Insurance Processing Center by mail or fax, or to any of the MassHealth Enrollment Centers (MECs), or Health Connector walk-in centers in person. All of the contact information is listed on the affidavit.

Obtaining the Form

Forms can be found on the Health Connector web site at:
www.mahealthconnector.org/verification-documents and on the MassHealth website at
www.mass.gov/service-details/masshealth-member-forms.

MassHealth Website

This bulletin is available on the [MassHealth Provider Bulletins](#) web page.

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Questions

If you have any questions about the information in this bulletin, please contact the MassHealth Customer Service Center at (800) 841-2900, email your inquiry to providersupport@mahealth.net, or fax your inquiry to (617) 988-8974.