



**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**Executive Office of Health and Human Services**  
**Office of Medicaid**  
[www.mass.gov/masshealth](http://www.mass.gov/masshealth)

**MassHealth**  
**Acute Inpatient Hospital Bulletin 178**  
**January 2021**

**TO:** Acute Inpatient Hospital Providers Participating in MassHealth  
**FROM:** Daniel Tsai, Assistant Secretary for MassHealth  
**RE:** **Massachusetts Application for Health and Dental Coverage and Help Paying Costs (ACA-3)**

### **Background**

MassHealth has updated the Application for Health and Dental Coverage and Help Paying Costs (ACA-3). The Application, most recently revised in January 2021, is for the following populations in Massachusetts:

- individuals younger than age 65 who do not need long-term-care services (either in a nursing facility or in the community);
- parents of children younger than age 19; and
- adult relatives living with or taking care of children younger than age 19 (regardless of the age of the parent or adult relative) when neither parent is living in the home.

Individuals aged 65 or older, including those who are applying with a spouse who is under the age of 65, and those of any age who need long-term-care services (either in a nursing facility or in the community) will need to fill out the Application for Health Coverage for Seniors and People Needing Long-Term-Care Services (SACA-2).

### **Summary of Changes**

The following changes were made in the January 2021 version of the ACA-3:

- Updated alimony language on question 33 deductions section for persons 1-4 (pages 5, 9, 13, and 17 respectively)
- Removed “higher education tuition and fees” from question 33 deductions section for persons 1-4 (pages 5, 9, 13, and 17 respectively)
- Added clarifying language to the Rights and Responsibilities section (Step 9, numbers 9. and 10.) to specify that liens will be placed for LTC members if they’re not expected to return home, and that estate recovery will pursue an amount equivalent to the total cost of care.

### **Supplies and Use of Revised Forms**

The July 2020 version of the ACA-3 can be used until January 31, 2021.

The January 2021 version of the ACA-3 is currently available.

### **How to Apply**

To apply, applicants can use any of the following options.

**MassHealth**  
**Acute Inpatient Hospital Bulletin 178**  
**January 2021**  
**Page 2 of 2**

Individuals are encouraged to apply online at [MAhealthconnector.org](http://MAhealthconnector.org). Applying online may be the fastest way to get coverage.

Mail the filled-out, signed application to

Health Insurance Processing Center  
P.O. Box 4405  
Taunton, MA 02780.

Fax the filled-out, signed application to (857) 323-8300.

To apply by telephone, call the MassHealth Customer Service Center at (800) 841-2900, TTY: (800) 497-4648 for people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or speech disabled, or the Health Connector at (800) MA ENROLL ((800) 623-6765).

Visit a MassHealth Enrollment Center (MEC) to apply in person.

### **Location of Printable Application on the MassHealth Website**

The new Member Booklet for Health and Dental Coverage and Help Paying Costs (ACA-1) and the ACA-3 can be printed from the MassHealth website.

Go to [www.mass.gov/lists/masshealth-member-applications](http://www.mass.gov/lists/masshealth-member-applications).

### **MassHealth Website**

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

To sign up to receive email alerts when MassHealth issues new bulletins and transmittal letters, send a blank email to [join-masshealth-provider-pubs@listserv.state.ma.us](mailto:join-masshealth-provider-pubs@listserv.state.ma.us). No text in the body or subject line is needed.

### **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](mailto:providersupport@mahealth.net), or fax your inquiry to (617) 988-8974.