



**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 194**  
**March 2023**

**TO:** Acute Inpatient Hospitals Participating in MassHealth

**FROM:** Mike Levine, Assistant Secretary for MassHealth

**RE: Updated Application for Seniors and People Needing Long-Term-Care Services (SACA-2)**

**Background**

MassHealth has updated the application for health benefits for seniors and people needing long-term care services. The Application for Health Coverage for Seniors and People Needing Long-Term-Care Services (SACA-2), revised March 2023, is for the following populations in Massachusetts:

- A person who is 65 years of age or older and who is living at home and
  - is not the parent of a child younger than 19 years of age who lives with the person; or
  - is not an adult relative living with and taking care of a child younger than 19 years of age when neither parent is living in the home; or
  - is disabled and is either employed 40 hours or more a month or is currently employed and has been employed for at least 240 hours in the six months immediately before the month of application; or
- a person of any age who needs long-term-care services in a medical institution or a nursing facility; or
- a person who is eligible under certain programs to get long-term care services to live at home; or
- a member of a married couple living together and
  - both spouses are applying for health coverage;
  - there are no children younger than 19 years of age living with the couple; and
  - one spouse is 65 years of age or older and the other spouse is younger than 65 years of age.

A person 65 years of age or older should complete the Application for Health and Dental Coverage and Help Paying Costs (ACA-3) if they meet any of the following exceptions. The person is

- the parent of a child younger than 19 years of age who lives with them; or
- an adult relative living with and taking care of a child younger than 19 years of age when neither parent is living in the home.

## **Summary of Changes**

The following changes were made in the March 2023 version of the SACA-2:

- Updated language in the “How to Apply” section.
- Added “acquired” and “derived” to Question 8 for person 1 and Question 18 for person 2. This update clarifies a person’s citizenship status.
- Updated language in “Other Income.” This includes adding the question “How many hours per week?” for net farming and fishing.
- Updated example in “One-Time-Only Income” section.
- Removed the question “Did you receive unemployment benefits in this calendar year?” It’s no longer needed for the Health Connector program determination.
- Removed duplicative language in Step 3, “American Indian Alaskan Native,” to save space. This step now refers the reader to Supplement B, where there is detailed information.
- Added a new Step 4, “Previous Medical Bills.” Since July 1, 2022, applicants under 65 have had the option to request payment of medical bills they have incurred in the three months before they applied for MassHealth.
- Added language to the signature page about permission to contact members via email or text message.
- Updated Supplement D and reordered questions about health plan coverage to account for both individual and family plans.
- Updated the language for teletypewriter (TTY) for MassHealth Service Center to include the broader term, TDD: “TDD/TTY: 711.” If someone calling the MassHealth Customer Service Center needs a TDD/TTY connection, they can call 711.

## **Supplies and Use of Previous Version of the SACA-2**

The March 2022 version of the SACA-2 will be accepted through March 31, 2024.

When you receive a supply of the March 2023 version of the SACA-2, please recycle the previous version.

## **How to Apply**

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

Applicants may also use any of the following options:

**Mail** the filled-out, signed application to

Health Insurance Processing Center  
PO Box 4405  
Taunton, MA 02780

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

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**Call** the MassHealth Customer Service Center at (800) 841-2900, TDD/TTY: 711 or the Health Connector at (800) MA ENROLL ([800 623-6765]).

Go to [www.mass.gov/masshealth/appointment](http://www.mass.gov/masshealth/appointment) to make a reservation for a phone or video appointment.

The MassHealth Enrollment Centers (MECs) are open, and we encourage applicants or members to schedule an appointment. For questions, call (800) 841-2900, TDD/TTY: 711.

### **Application on the MassHealth Website**

You may access the SACA-2 on the MassHealth website. Go to [www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-masshealth-coverage-for-seniors-and-people-of-any-age-who-need-long-term-care](http://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-masshealth-coverage-for-seniors-and-people-of-any-age-who-need-long-term-care).

### **MassHealth Website**

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[Sign up](#) to receive email for alerts when MassHealth issues new bulletins and transmittal letters.

### **Questions**

If you have questions about the information in this bulletin, please

- contact the MassHealth Customer Service Center at (800) 841-2900, TDD/TTY: 711,
- email your inquiry to [providersupport@mahealth.net](mailto:providersupport@mahealth.net), or
- fax your inquiry to (617) 988-8974.