



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

**MassHealth**  
**Adult Foster Care Bulletin 17**  
**June 2019**

**TO:** Adult Foster Care Providers Participating in MassHealth  
**FROM:** Daniel Tsai, Assistant Secretary for MassHealth  
**RE:** **MassHealth Accreditation Requirements for Adult Foster Care (AFC) Providers**

### **Background**

MassHealth amended the Adult Foster Care (AFC) program regulation at 130 CMR 408.000, effective May 5, 2017, to revise and clarify certain AFC program requirements. In March 2018, MassHealth issued AFC Bulletin 14, which provided guidance regarding the accreditation requirement codified at 130 CMR 408.404(A)(11). This bulletin, AFC Bulletin 17, slightly modifies AFC Bulletin 14 by extending the deadline for AFC providers to submit evidence of accreditation to MassHealth to **December 31, 2019**. Except when modified by AFC Bulletin 17, AFC Bulletin 14 remains in full force and effect.

### **Accreditation Requirement**

As explained in 130 CMR 408.404(A)(11) and AFC Bulletin 14, as a condition of participation in the MassHealth AFC program, AFC providers must

1. obtain accreditation from either the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA), the Council on Accreditation (COA), or the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF), and
2. submit evidence of such accreditation to MassHealth or its designee.

Pursuant to AFC Bulletin 17, AFC providers must submit such evidence of accreditation to MassHealth via the Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) Provider Portal by **December 31, 2019**. Note that this is an extension from the deadlines set forth in the MassHealth AFC program regulations at 130 CMR 408.000 and AFC Bulletin 14. MassHealth will not grant any further extensions of this deadline. AFC providers who fail to submit the required evidence of accreditation to MassHealth by **December 31, 2019** will be subject to sanctions, up to and including termination from participation in the MassHealth AFC program.

Except to the extent modified by AFC Bulletin 17, AFC providers must continue to comply in all respects with the AFC program regulations, including 130 CMR 408.404(A)(11), and the subregulatory guidance issued thereunder, including AFC Bulletin 14.

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## **Contact and Questions**

### **Contact Information for MassHealth LTSS Provider Service Center**

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<b>Phone</b>	Toll-free <b>(844) 368-5184</b>
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:support@masshealthltss.com">support@masshealthltss.com</a>
<b>Portal</b>	<a href="http://www.MassHealthLTSS.com">www.MassHealthLTSS.com</a>
<b>Mail</b>	MassHealth LTSS PO Box 159108 Boston, MA 02215
<b>Fax</b>	<b>(888) 832-3006</b>
<b>LTSS Provider Portal</b>	Trainings, general information, and future enhancements will be available at <a href="http://www.MassHealthLTSS.com">www.MassHealthLTSS.com</a> .

## **MassHealth Website**

This bulletin is available on the MassHealth website at [www.mass.gov/masshealth-provider-bulletins](http://www.mass.gov/masshealth-provider-bulletins).

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.