




**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**Executive Office of Health and Human Services**  
**Office of Medicaid**  
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**MassHealth**  
**Adult Foster Care Bulletin 30**  
**July 2023**

**TO:** Adult Foster Care Providers and Group Adult Foster Care Providers Participating in MassHealth

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

**RE:** **Updated MassHealth Accreditation Requirements for Adult Foster Care and Group Adult Foster Care Providers**

**Background**

As described in 130 CMR 408.404(A)(10) and 130 CMR 408.504(A)(9), Adult Foster Care (AFC) and Group Adult Foster Care (GAFC) providers must obtain accreditation specific to their AFC or GAFC programs, as applicable. These providers must be accredited by a nationally recognized accreditation organization determined acceptable by MassHealth. Acceptable accreditation organizations include the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA), the Council on Accreditation (COA), and the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF).

This bulletin is effective as of August 1, 2023, for AFC and GAFC provider applicants. It takes effect January 1, 2024, for existing GAFC providers, as described in this bulletin. This bulletin supersedes applicable sections of AFC Bulletins 25, 17, and 14.

**Accreditation Requirements for New AFC and GAFC Providers**

As of August 1, 2023, all AFC and GAFC provider applicants must be fully accredited before becoming an AFC or GAFC provider. AFC and GAFC providers must be accredited with one of the accreditation organizations noted in this bulletin.

As of August 1, 2023, MassHealth must receive evidence of full accreditation as part of the provider enrollment process for any new AFC and GAFC provider applicants. Such full accreditation must be specific to the provider applicant's AFC or GAFC program. AFC and GAFC provider applicants will not be enrolled without meeting the enrollment requirements, including submission of evidence of such full accreditation for the provider applicant's AFC or GAFC program.

The GAFC accreditation requirement timeline outlined in [AFC Bulletin 25](#) remains in effect until January 1, 2024, for all existing GAFC providers. After January 1, 2024, GAFC providers must comply with the requirements in this bulletin.

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**Maintenance of Accreditation; Failure to Submit Required Evidence of Accreditation**

Once accreditation is achieved, it must be maintained as long as the AFC or GAFC provider participates in the MassHealth AFC or GAFC program. Evidence of accreditation must be uploaded to the LTSS provider portal. AFC and GAFC providers who fail to submit the required evidence of accreditation to MassHealth will be subject to sanctions, up to and including termination from participation in the MassHealth AFC or GAFC program.

**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 Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS) Provider Service Center.

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