



**MassHealth**  
**Community Health Center Bulletin 116**  
**March 2023**

**TO:** Community Health Centers Participating in MassHealth

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

**RE: Updated 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 packet, most recently revised in March 2023, is for the following populations in Massachusetts:

- People younger than 65 who do not need long-term-care services, either in a nursing facility or in the community,
- Parents of children younger than 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.

People in the following categories will need to fill out the Application for Health Coverage for Seniors and People Needing Long-Term-Care Services (SACA-2):

- Those 65 or older, including people who are applying with a spouse who is under 65, and
- People of any age who need long-term-care services, either in a nursing facility or in the community.

### **Summary of Changes**

The following changes were made in the March 2023 version of the ACA-3:

- Added “acquired or derived” to Question 9 on each person. 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 on Step 3, “American Indian Alaskan Native” to save space. That 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.

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- Updated Supplement A and reordered questions about health plan coverage to account for both individual and family plans.
- Added language to the signature page regarding permission to contact members via e-mail or text message.
- Updated the language for teletypewriter (TTY) for MassHealth Service Center to include the broader term, TDD: “TDD/TTY: 711.” If someone calling MassHealth Customer Service Center needs a TDD/TTY connection, they can call 711.

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

The March 2022 version of the ACA-3 will be accepted through March 31, 2024.

The March 2023 version of the ACA-3 is currently available.

### **How to Apply**

Applicants can use any of the following options.

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

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.

To apply by phone, applicants can call the MassHealth Customer Service Center at (800) 841-2900, TDD/TTY: 711. They can also call 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.

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

The new Application (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.

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

### **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.