

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services www.mass.gov/masshealth

Continuous Eligibility

What is Continuous Eligibility?

Continuous Eligibility (CE) is a period of time during which certain MassHealth members will not lose coverage regardless of most changes that would otherwise affect eligibility.

CE is a valuable tool that helps states ensure that these members have consistent access to needed health care services and stay enrolled in the health coverage for which they are eligible.

Who is eligible for CE?

• **Members who were recently pregnant:** Provides 12 months of CE to members following the end of pregnancy;

Be sure to let MassHealth know you're pregnant to receive this coverage!

- Members recently released from jail or prison: Provides 12 months of CE to adults 19–64 years of age upon release from a jail or prison for the first year after they return to the community;
- Members younger than 19 years of age: Provides 12 months of CE to members younger than 19 years of age; and
- Members who are verified homeless: Provides 24 months of CE to adults who are verified homeless and adults 19–64 years of age. MassHealth members are "verified homeless" if they have been in the Massachusetts Homeless Management Information System for six months or more.

What are the benefits of CE?

- Improves health status and wellbeing in the shorter and longer term;
- Lowers the risk of negative impact when family income unexpectedly changes;
- Promotes health equity;
- Drives more efficient health care spending;
- Reduces administrative burden and costs;
- Enhances MassHealth's ability to fully measure the quality of care; and
- Provides states with better tools to hold health plans accountable for quality and improved health outcomes.

When does CE end?

Members with CE remain covered throughout their eligibility period regardless of changes, except if the initial eligibility was determined incorrectly or if they age out, die, move out of state, or request cancellation.

CE is an individual benefit!

CE applies to an individual person, not the person's whole household.

Household members without CE must continue to report changes, respond to requests for information, and complete renewals and other requests from MassHealth or they risk losing coverage.

Questions?

Call MassHealth at **(800) 841-2900**, TDD/TTY: 711. Representatives are available Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.