

# Signing Bonuses Available for Long Term Care Facility Staff

**Be a Healthcare Hero:** Find employment in a Massachusetts long term care facility and you may be eligible for a **\$1,000** signing bonus.

*The Commonwealth is funding this initiative to ensure long term care facilities in Massachusetts can continue to provide high quality care for residents. If you are a healthcare professional who is unemployed due to a layoff or furlough, you can still provide critical services throughout these facilities statewide. Nursing students at all levels of education are encouraged to apply to any of the nursing positions or as a patient care technician. Students enrolled in CNA programs can apply for CNA positions and be tested at a later time. In addition, entry-level individuals who have not yet enrolled in CNA educational programs can apply as resident care assistants.*

## 1. How do I apply for a temporary position in a long term care facility?

Access the [COVID-19 Long Term Care Facility Staffing portal](#) online and click “I am looking for work.” You will receive confirmation that your intake was received and directions on next steps.

## 2. Which positions are eligible for the signing bonus?

All positions posted on the Commonwealth’s [COVID-19 Long Term Care Facility Staffing portal](#) at long term care facilities are eligible for the signing bonus, including: Resident Care Assistants, Certified Nursing Assistants (CNA)/Patient Care Technicians; Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN); Registered Nurses (RN); Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN); Occupational Therapists (OT); Occupational Therapy Assistants (OTA); Physical Therapists (PT); Physical Therapy Assistants (PTA); Licensed Independent Clinical Social Workers (LICSW); and Activities Assistants/Recreational Therapists.

## 3. What else do I have to do to qualify for the signing bonus?

To be eligible for the signing bonus, you must:

- Apply through the [portal](#) on or before May 15, 2020
- Be hired through the [portal](#) by a long term care facility for the position to which you applied
- Work at the long term care facility to which you were hired for 128 hours within 30 days

## 4. Am I still eligible for the signing bonus if I am furloughed from another health care position?

Yes, you are still eligible for the signing bonus as long as you meet the qualifying criteria. If you are recalled to work unexpectedly within the 30 day duration, you may be eligible for a partial, prorated signing bonus.

## 5. What if I get sick while working at the long term care facility?

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is provided for workers at long term care facilities. If you do become COVID-19 positive and cannot meet the 128 hour eligibility you will still be eligible for the signing bonus.

## 6. If I am receiving or have applied to receive unemployment benefits, will this signing bonus impact my status or benefit levels?

If you are receiving unemployment insurance benefits, you can temporarily work for a long term care facility. Wages earned from part time employment may impact your weekly Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefit amount. If you are receiving UI benefits, wages earned from temporary work in a long term care facility may reduce your unemployment benefits if they exceed 1/3 of your weekly benefit payment. If your part time wages equal or exceed your weekly UI benefit level will no longer qualify for UI benefits, including the additional \$600 supplement. For more information, please visit the Department of Unemployment Assistance website [here](#).

*For additional questions, please contact Amar Parikh at [amar.parikh@massmail.state.ma.us](mailto:amar.parikh@massmail.state.ma.us) and Meera Ramamoorthy at [meera.ramamoorthy@massmail.state.ma.us](mailto:meera.ramamoorthy@massmail.state.ma.us).*