TO: MassHealth Eligibility Operations Staff

FROM: Amy Andrade, Director, Member and Provider Services

RE: Average Cost for Nursing Facility Services

Introduction
In accordance with 130 CMR 520.019(G)(1), MassHealth must impose a period of ineligibility for payment of nursing facility services when it has determined that a MassHealth applicant or member has made a disqualifying transfer of resources.

When calculating the period of ineligibility, MassHealth uses the average cost to a patient paying privately for nursing facility services in the Commonwealth. Periodically, this figure is revised to reflect increased costs.

Revised Average Cost of Nursing Facility Services
Effective March 1, 2012, the average cost to a patient paying privately for nursing facility services in the Commonwealth increased from $274 a day to $279 a day.

The date MassHealth receives the application or eligibility review form determines which of the following amounts to use when calculating the period of ineligibility for a disqualifying transfer of resources.

- If received before March 1, 2012: use $274.
- If received on or after March 1, 2012: use $279.

Questions
If you have any questions about this memo, please have your MEC designee contact the Policy Hotline.