***Commonwealth of Massachusetts***

***Executive Office of Health and Human Services***

## Office of Medicaid

*www.mass.gov/masshealth*

**Eligibility Operations Memo 19-18**

**November 1, 2019**

TO: MassHealth Eligibility Operations Staff

FROM: Heather Rossi, Deputy Policy Director for Eligibility [Signature of Heather Rossi]

RE: **Average Cost of Nursing Facility Services**

# Introduction

If a MassHealth applicant or member has made a disqualifying transfer of resources, MassHealth must impose a period of ineligibility for payment of nursing facility services. See 130 CMR 520.019(G)(1): *Financial Eligibility.*

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 **November 1, 2019,** the average cost to a person paying privately for nursing facility services in the Commonwealth is being **increased** from $366.73 to $367.21 a day.

When calculating the period of ineligibility for a disqualifying transfer of resources, use the date that MassHealth received the application or eligibility review form in order to determine which amount should be used.

* If an application is received **before** November 1, 2019, use $366.73
* If an application is received **on or after** November 1, 2019, use $367.21.

# Questions

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