



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

Eligibility Operations Memo 20-14
July 6, 2020

TO: MassHealth Eligibility Operations Staff

FROM: Heather Rossi, Deputy Policy Director for Eligibility

RE: **Application for Health Coverage for Seniors and People Needing Long-Term-Care Services**

Background

MassHealth has updated the application for health benefits for seniors and people needing long-term-care services. The *Application for Health Coverage for Seniors and People Needing Long-Term-Care Services* (SACA-2), revised in July 2020, is intended for the following populations in Massachusetts:

- an individual 65 years of age or older who is living at home and
 - is not the parent of a child younger than 19 years of age who lives with the individual; or
 - is not an adult relative living with and taking care of a child younger than 19 years of age when neither parent is living in the home; or
 - is disabled and is either employed 40 hours or more a month or is currently employed and has been employed for at least 240 hours in the six months immediately before the month of application; or
- an individual of any age who needs long-term-care services in a medical institution or a nursing facility; or
- an individual who is eligible under certain programs to get long-term-care services to live at home; or
- a member of a married couple living together and
 - both spouses are applying for health coverage;
 - there are no children younger than 19 years of age living with the couple; and
 - one spouse is 65 years of age or older and the other spouse is younger than 65 years of age.

An individual 65 years of age or older should complete the *Application for Health and Dental Coverage and Help Paying Costs* (ACA-3) if he or she meets any of the following exceptions. The individual is

- the parent of a child younger than 19 years of age who lives with him or her; or
- an adult relative living with and taking care of a child younger than 19 years of age when neither parent is living in the home.

Summary of Changes

The following changes were made in the July 2020 version of the SACA-2:

- added a link that gives users to access to the COVID-19 page on the mass.gov web page;
- explained how MassHealth uses information about race and ethnicity;
- updated language in the “Other Income: Alimony” section to reflect the current tax law;
- added a new section 7 to capture information about Health Reimbursement Accounts;
- modified the language in “Schedule D: Health Insurance” in question 16 so it is consistent with language in the online application.

Supplies and Use of Earlier Versions of the SACA-2

You can continue to use the March 2020 version of the SACA-2 until August 1, 2020.

When you receive a supply of the July 2020 version of the SACA-2, please recycle the March 2020 version. Although the March 2020 version will be accepted until August 1, 2020, it should **not** be distributed to the public once the new version has been received.

How to Apply

To apply, applicants can use any of the options below.

Mail the filled-out, signed application to:

MassHealth Enrollment Center
P.O. Box 290794
Charlestown, MA 02129-0214.

Fax the filled-out, signed application to (617) 887-8799.

Location of Printable Application on the MassHealth Website

The new *Senior Guide to Health Care Coverage* (SACA-1) and the SACA-2 can be viewed and printed from the MassHealth website. Instructions and other information are available. Go to www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-masshealth-coverage-for-seniors-and-people-of-any-age-who-need-long-term-care.

Questions

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