



Eligibility Operations Memo 20-17
November 2, 2020

TO: MassHealth Eligibility Operations Staff
FROM: Heather Rossi, Deputy Policy Director for Eligibility
RE: **Average Cost of Nursing Facility Services**

Introduction

This EOM provides the new average cost of nursing facility services that MassHealth will begin using on November 1, 2020, to calculate a period of ineligibility.

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, 2020**, the average cost to a person paying privately for nursing facility services in the Commonwealth is being **increased** from \$367.21 to \$391.00 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 to determine which amount should be used.

- If an application is received **before** November 1, 2020, use \$367.21
- If an application is received **on or after** November 1, 2020, use \$391.00.

Questions

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