***Commonwealth of Massachusetts***

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

*www.mass.gov/masshealth*

**Eligibility Operations Memo 21-20**

**December 2021**

TO: MassHealth Eligibility Operations Staff

FROM: Heather Rossi, Deputy Policy Director for Eligibility

# RE: Average Cost of Nursing Facility Services [signature of Heather Rossi]

## Introduction

This EOM provides the new average cost of nursing facility services that MassHealth will begin using on December 1, 2021, 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 **December 1, 2021,** the average cost to a person paying privately for nursing facility services in the Commonwealth is being **increased** from $391.00 to $410.00 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** December 1, 2021, use $391.00
* If an application is received **on or after** December 1, 2021, use $410.00.

## Questions

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