Eligibility Operations Memo 22-13 November 2022

TO: MassHealth Eligibility Operations Staff

FROM: Heather Rossi, Director for Eligibility Policy Yheathu Kassi

**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, 2022, 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**, **2022**, the average cost to a person paying privately for nursing facility services in the Commonwealth is being **increased** from \$410.00 to \$427.00 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, 2022, use \$410.00
- If an application is received **on or after** November 1, 2022, use \$427.00.

## **Questions**

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