



Eligibility Operations Memo 23-07
March 2023

TO: MassHealth Eligibility Operations Staff
FROM: Heather Rossi, Director of Eligibility Policy

RE: **Updated Application for Health and Dental Coverage and Help Paying Costs (ACA-3)**

Background

MassHealth has updated the Application for Health and Dental Coverage and Help Paying Costs (ACA-3). The Application, most recently revised in March 2023, is for the following populations in Massachusetts:

- People younger than 65 who do not need long-term-care services (either in a nursing facility or in the community),
- Parents of children younger than 19, and
- Adult relatives living with or taking care of children younger than 19 (regardless of the age of the parent or adult relative) when neither parent is living in the home.

People in the following categories will need to fill out the Application for Health Coverage for Seniors and People Needing Long-Term-Care Services (SACA-2):

- Those 65 or older, including those who are applying with a spouse who is under 65, and
- People of any age who need long-term-care services (either in a nursing facility or in the community).

Summary of Changes

The following changes have been made in the March 2023 version of the ACA-3:

- Added “acquired or derived” to Question 9 on each person. This update clarifies a person’s citizenship status.
- Updated language in “Other Income.” This includes adding the question, “How many hours per week?” for net farming and fishing.
- Updated example in “One-Time Only Income” section.
- Removed the question, “Did you receive unemployment benefits in this calendar year?” It is no longer needed for the Health Connector program determination.
- Removed duplicative language on Step 3, “American Indian Alaskan Native,” to save space. That step now refers the reader to Supplement B where there is detailed information.

- Added a new Step 4, “Previous Medical Bills.” Effective July 1, 2022, applicants under 65 have the option to request payment of medical bills they have incurred in the three months prior to the date of their application for MassHealth.
- Updated Supplement A and reordered questions about health plan coverage to account for both individual and family plans.
- Added language to the signature page regarding permission to contact members via e-mail or text message.
- Updated the language for teletypewriter (TTY) for MassHealth Service Center to include the broader term, TDD: “TDD/TTY: 711.” If someone calling MassHealth Customer Service Center needs a TDD/TTY connection, they can call 711.

Supplies and Use of Revised Forms

The March 2022 version of the ACA-3 will be accepted through March 31, 2024.

The March 2023 version of the ACA-3 is currently available.

How to Apply

Applicants can use any of the following options.

Individuals are encouraged to apply online at www.MAhealthconnector.org. Applying online may be the fastest way to get coverage.

Mail the filled-out, signed application to

Health Insurance Processing Center
PO Box 4405
Taunton, MA 02780

Fax the filled-out, signed application to (857) 323-8300.

To apply by phone, applicants can call the MassHealth Customer Service Center at (800) 841-2900, TDD/TTY: 711. They can also call the Health Connector at (800) MA ENROLL ((800) 623-6765).

Go to www.mass.gov/masshealth/appointment to make a reservation for a phone or video appointment.

The MassHealth Enrollment Centers (MECs) are open, and we encourage applicants or members to schedule an appointment. For questions, call (800) 841-2900, TDD/TTY: 711.

Location of Printable Application on the MassHealth Website

The updated Application for Health and Dental Coverage and Help Paying Costs (ACA-3) can be printed from the MassHealth website.

Go to www.mass.gov/lists/masshealth-member-applications.

Questions

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