

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services Office of Medicaid

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Eligibility Operations Memo 24-07

DATE: November 2024

TO: MassHealth Eligibility Operations Staff

FROM: Heather Rossi, Deputy Chief Operating Officer, Eligibility Policy and Implementation

Yleasky Kossi

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, 2024, 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

Starting November 1, 2024, the average cost to a person paying privately for nursing facility services in the Commonwealth will increase from \$433.00 to \$441.00 per 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, 2024, use \$433.00.
- If an application is received on or after November 1, 2024, use \$441.00.

Questions?

Have your MEC designee contact the Policy Hotline.

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