Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Office of Medicaid
www.mass.gov/masshealth

Eligibility Operations Memo 26-11

DATE: October 2026

TO: MassHealth Eligibility Operations Staff

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

RE: **Average Daily Cost of Nursing Facility Services for Calculating a Period of Ineligibility**

Introduction

This EOM provides the new average daily cost of nursing facility services that MassHealth will begin using on November 1, 2026, 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): *MassHealth: Financial Eligibility*.

When calculating the period of ineligibility, MassHealth uses the average daily cost to a patient paying privately for nursing facility services in the Commonwealth. Periodically, this figure is revised to reflect increased costs.

Revised Average Daily Cost of Nursing Facility Services

Starting November 1, 2026, the average cost to a person paying privately for nursing facility services in the Commonwealth will increase from $450.00 to $469.00 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 to use.

- If an application was received before November 1, 2026, use $450.00.
- If an application is received on or after November 1, 2026, use $469.00.

Questions?

Have your MEC designee contact the Policy Hotline.