



Frail Elder Waiver Fact Sheet

Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) waivers are MassHealth programs that provide services to eligible individuals in their own homes or community. The Frail Elder Waiver (FEW) is a Home- and Community- Based Services (HCBS) waiver designed to make supports available to eligible frail elders aged 60 and older who meet the level of care for a nursing facility but prefer to remain in the community.

An eligible person may enroll in FEW at any time.

There is a maximum number of participants who can be served each year.

Eligibility Criteria for the Frail Elder Waiver

To qualify for FEW, an individual must

- Be either
 - 60-64 years of age and have a disability, or
 - 65 years of age or older
- Meet clinical eligibility requirements
- Need FEW services and to remain eligible, continue to receive at least one FEW service per month
- Live in a community setting that meets the requirements of the CMS Community Rule and does not include assisted living, group homes or rest home.
- Be able to be safely served in the community within the terms of FEW, and
- Meet the financial requirements to qualify for MassHealth Standard in the community. Special financial rules exist for waiver applicants and participants.
- Not be enrolled in another HCBS waiver, One Care Plan, or PACE program.

Financial Requirements for HCBS Waiver applicants

Financial eligibility for FEW is determined directly by MassHealth. If you need assistance applying for MassHealth, you may contact your local ASAP or contact MassHealth Customer Service.

Financial requirements for HCBS waiver applicants

- **Income** ≤ 300% of the SSI Federal Benefit Rate (\$2,982 per month in 2026)
- **Countable assets** ≤ \$2,000
- **Countable assets** of applicant's spouse (if applicable) ≤ \$ 162,660 (in 2026)

Frail Elder Waiver and Senior Care Options (SCO)

Frail Elder Waiver participants age 65 or older, may be able to enroll in a Senior Care Options (SCO) plan. FEW participants who are enrolled in SCO have access to all waiver services and all services offered by their SCO plan. Enrollment in SCO is voluntary.

Services Offered to Frail Elder Waiver Participants

All FEW participants work with a Case Manager to develop their Comprehensive Service Plan, which includes the participant's goals and the waiver services and supports the participant needs in the community. MassHealth cannot pay for waiver services delivered before a Comprehensive Service Plan is developed and approved for your specific services.

Alzheimer's/Dementia Coaching
Assisted Transportation
Assistive Technology – Electronic Comfort Animals
Assistive Technology for Telehealth
Chore
Companion
Complex Care Training and Oversight (formerly Skilled Nursing)
Enhanced Technology/Cellular Personal Emergency Response System (PERS)
Environmental Accessibility Adaptation
Evidence Based Education Programs
Goal Engagement Program
Grocery Shopping and Delivery
Home Based Wandering Response Systems
Home Delivered Meals
Home Delivery of Pre-packaged Medication
Home Health Aide
Home Safety/Independence Evaluations (formerly Occupational Therapy)
Homemaker
Laundry
Medication Dispensing System
Orientation and Mobility Services
Peer Support
Personal Care
Respite
Supportive Day Program
Supportive Home Care Aide
Transitional Assistance
Transportation
Virtual Communication and Monitoring (VCAM)

For more information about how to enroll in a FEW, please visit

[Frail Elder Waiver: Information for applicants and participants](#)



To find a list of ASAPs, please visit

[Find Your Regional Aging Services Access Point \(ASAP\)](#)

or call

MassHealth Customer Service at 800-841-2900 TDD/TTY:711

MassOptions at 800-243-4636

