




**MassHealth**  
**HCBS Waiver Provider Bulletin 22**  
**September 2023**

**TO:** Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) and Moving Forward Plan (MFP) Waiver Providers Participating in MassHealth

**FROM:** Mike Levine, Assistant Secretary for MassHealth 

**RE:** **Updated COVID-19 Vaccine Guidance for Certain Home Care Workers**

### **Introduction**

MassHealth is issuing this bulletin to update the COVID-19 vaccine guidance for home care agency workers, which is defined, in part, as individuals who are employed by a Home and Community-based Waiver Services (HCBS) provider pursuant to 130 CMR 630.000 and who provide one or more of the following services defined in that regulation: home health aide, homemaker, occupational therapy, personal care, physical therapy, respite services, skilled nursing services, speech/language therapy, or supportive home care aide. This updated guidance also applies to Non-Agency (self-employed) HCBS Waiver providers. See 105 CMR 159.00.

This bulletin supersedes and replaces HCBS Waiver Provider Bulletins 14, 17, and 18.

### **COVID-19 Vaccine Guidance**

Vaccination remains the safest strategy for avoiding hospitalizations, long-term health outcomes, and death. MassHealth strongly encourages HCBS Waiver providers to remain up to date on COVID-19 vaccinations, per the most current applicable Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendation. MassHealth does not mandate that HCBS Waiver providers receive COVID-19 vaccinations.

MassHealth HCBS Waiver provider agencies must develop and implement a policy to provide education to their direct care workers regarding the importance of vaccination, as well as provide resources and assistance to support direct care workers in becoming vaccinated.

### **COVID-19 Vaccine Attestation Form**

As of September 12, 2023, Non-Agency (self-employed) HCBS Waiver providers no longer need to complete the COVID-19 Vaccine Attestation Form.

### **MassHealth Website**

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**Questions**

If you have questions about the information in this bulletin, please contact the HCBS Provider Network Administration Unit.

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The HCBS Provider Network Administration Unit at ForHealth Consulting at UMass Chan Medical School is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.