



New Citizenship Documentation Requirements

New!

Due to a change in Federal law, effective July 1, 2006, MassHealth now requires individuals who state they are U.S. citizens or nationals to provide acceptable documentation of their citizenship and identity when first applying for MassHealth or upon MassHealth redetermination.

- ✓ **Verification of citizenship and identity is a one-time activity.** Members who have verified citizenship and identity satisfactorily will not be asked to do so again.
- ✓ **The new Federal Law does not include changes for documented immigrants,** who must continue to provide proof of their status when they apply for MassHealth.
- ✓ **MassHealth will use electronic data matching to the greatest extent possible and allowable** to assist members with fulfilling this new requirement.

Timeframes:

- ⇒ **Applicants:** MassHealth coverage will not begin until all necessary documentation, including proof of citizenship and identity, are submitted within the necessary timeframes. MassHealth will inform applicants when documents are due - either 60 or 30 days, depending on coverage type.
 - **Time-limited presumptive coverage for pregnant women and children will not be delayed** pending documentation of citizenship and identity, but this documentation must still be submitted within 60 days of application in order for MassHealth benefits to continue.
- ⇒ **Current members:** MassHealth requires a redetermination of eligibility at least once each year. When a member's redetermination is due, the member will be notified that they have either 60 or 30 days, depending on coverage type, to provide documentation of citizenship and identity. These timeframes may be extended if the member indicates to MassHealth that he or she is making a good faith effort to submit the documentation.

Phone Numbers for Assistance in Obtaining Necessary Documentation:

- ⇒ **To receive or renew a Passport:** National Passport Information Center, U.S. Department of State: 1-877-487-2778
- ⇒ **For Certificate of Naturalization or Certificate of U.S. Citizenship:** U.S. Department of Homeland Security: 1-800-375-5283 / TTY 1-800-767-1833
- ⇒ **For Massachusetts Birth Certificates:** Registry of Vital Records and Statistics, Massachusetts Department of Public Health: 150 Mount Vernon Street, 1st Floor, Dorchester, MA 02125-3105, 617-740-2600
- ⇒ **For a Massachusetts Driver's License or Massachusetts ID card:** Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles: 617-351-4500 / TTY 617-536-7534 or 1-877-768-8833
- ⇒ **General questions:** MassHealth Customer Service: 1-800-841-2900 / TTY 1-800-497-4648

Please see next page for acceptable documentation to verify citizenship and identity.