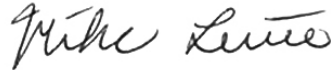




**MassHealth**  
**Independent Nurse Bulletin 12**  
**April 2023**

**TO:** Independent Nurse Providers Participating in MassHealth

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

**RE:** **Continuous Skilled Nursing Retention Bonuses for Independent Nurse Providers**

**Introduction**

The Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) is establishing a continuous skilled nursing (CSN) Retention Bonus Program, available to licensed nurses who are MassHealth-enrolled independent nurse (IN) providers and who provide CSN services in accordance with the service commitment requirements in this bulletin. Retention bonuses will be paid directly to INs each service quarter (every three months).

In addition to retention bonus amounts and service commitment requirements, this bulletin sets forth IN billing procedures and prohibited provider activity. The Retention Bonus Program will be accessible to INs for dates of service from April 2023 through March 2024.

**Retention Bonus Amounts and Service Commitment Requirements**

INs serving eligible MassHealth members will receive a retention bonus every three months for the duration of this program as long as they meet the following service commitment requirements.

<b>Service Commitment</b>	<b>Retention Bonus Amount</b>
480 hours in 3 months	\$3,250.00
360 hours in 3 months	\$2,000.00
260 hours in 3 months	\$1,200.00

To meet the service commitment requirements, nurses must directly provide CSN services to MassHealth members enrolled in the Community Case Management (CCM) Program. INs may only collect one retention bonus per service quarter, even if they also work for a CSN agency. Hours worked for an agency and as an independent nurse may not be aggregated to meet service commitment requirements.

**Billing Procedures and Payment Schedule**

**Payment Schedule**

INs should submit retention bonus claims to MassHealth each service quarter, during the calendar month immediately after the previous quarter ends. Please see billing schedule below.

**MassHealth  
Independent Nurse Bulletin 12  
April 2023  
Page 2 of 3**

<b>Service Quarter</b>	<b>Billing Month</b>
April 2023–June 2023	July 2023
July 2023–September 2023	October 2023
October 2023–December 2023	January 2024
January 2024–March 2024	April 2024

### **Procedure Codes**

INs must use the following procedure codes and modifiers when billing for CSN retention bonuses.

- T1030 U1: Nursing care, in the home, by registered nurse, per diem (CSN nurse retention bonus for 480 hours) (use for RN and LPN) (per nurse)
- T1030 U2: Nursing care, in the home, by registered nurse, per diem (CSN nurse retention bonus for 360 hours) (use for RN and LPN) (per nurse)
- T1030 U3: Nursing care, in the home, by registered nurse, per diem (CSN nurse retention bonus for 260 hours) (use for RN and LPN) (per nurse)

### **Billing Procedures**

Before billing MassHealth for a retention bonus, the IN must ensure that they have billed MassHealth for all qualifying CSN services provided during the service quarter. When billing for a retention bonus, the IN must ensure that each claim submission is attached to a CCM member whom the IN has served, even if the IN also qualifies for the retention bonus by having served other CCM members.

When MassHealth receives a retention bonus claim, it will suspend the claim for manual review before issuing a final claim status.

If an IN has any questions about the status of a claim submission, they should contact the LTSS Service Center by email at [support@masshealthltss.com](mailto:support@masshealthltss.com) and title their email “[IN Name] CSN Retention Bonus Claim [MassHealth Internal Control Number (ICN)].”

### **Documentation Requirements and Noncompliance**

In accordance with 130 CMR 414.417(C), INs must participate in any quality management and program integrity processes requested by MassHealth. Accordingly, INs must maintain a record that complies with 130 CMR 414.000 for each CCM member they serve. INs who do not adhere to the requirements in this bulletin may be subject to sanction in accordance with 130 CMR 450.238.

### **MassHealth Website**

This bulletin is available on the [MassHealth Provider Bulletins](#) web page.

[Sign up](#) to receive email alerts when MassHealth issues new bulletins and transmittal letters.

Follow us on Twitter [@MassHealth](#)

## **Questions**

If you have questions about the information in this bulletin, please contact the Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS) Provider Service Center.

**Phone:** Toll free (844) 368-5184  
**Email:** [support@masshealthltss.com](mailto:support@masshealthltss.com)  
**Portal:** [www.MassHealthLTSS.com](http://www.MassHealthLTSS.com)  
**Mail:** MassHealth LTSS  
P.O. Box 159108  
Boston, MA 02215  
**Fax:** (888) 832-3006