

INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR HEALTH BENEFITS DURING COVID-19

This notice is about services for individuals who qualify for MassHealth, Children's Medical Security Plan, or Health Safety Net.

During COVID-19, most individuals will not lose coverage and will have access to services including

- Telehealth visits (via phone or live video) for both physical and behavioral health
- 90-day supplies of medications and medication deliveries
- COVID-19 testing and treatment

If you have coverage under the Health Safety Net, be sure to seek care from an Acute Care Hospital or Community Health Center.

Reporting changes

During this emergency, we are reminding members to report changes in their circumstances. This will ensure that MassHealth has the latest information on file and that you are getting the right benefit.

Requests for information and renewals for MassHealth members

During this emergency, we are reminding members to respond to mail they receive from MassHealth, such as Request for Information and Renewal forms, as soon as possible. This will ensure MassHealth has the latest information on file and that you are getting the best benefit for you.

Self-Attestation

During this emergency, we will allow members and applicants to self-attest, tell us that certain information they report on an application is true when other proof cannot be provided. We will still try to verify by electronic sources first. If you applied for health benefits and the letter included in this envelope asks for more information, you may provide it by calling (800) 841-2900, TTY at (800) 497-4648, or by filling out and signing a self-attestation form available online as proof of your situation at www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-emergency-related-waivers-for-members-and-applicants

Information you can self-attest

- Massachusetts Residency
- Relationship
- Access to health insurance
- Proof of Income/Assets

Important: We cannot accept a self-attestation form for proof of citizenship or immigration status. If a letter asks you to verify this information, please follow the steps in the letter to send that information to MassHealth.

Do you have an injury, illness, or disability?

To report a recent injury, illness, or disability that has lasted, or is expected to last, for at least 12 months, call (833) 517-0250 or TTY at (866) 693-1390 for a disability evaluation. For more information on COVID-19 and MassHealth coverage, please visit the website at www.mass.gov/info-details/masshealth-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19-applicants-and-members

Retroactive eligibility for individuals under the age of 65

If you are under the age of 65 and you applied for coverage on or after March 1, 2020, MassHealth will, upon request and if you're eligible, backdate the start date of your coverage. The start date may be as early as the first day of the third calendar month before the month of application, but not earlier than March 1, 2020. For example, if you applied for coverage on August 14, 2020, upon request, MassHealth will backdate your eligibility to May 1, 2020 (the first date of the third calendar month before your application). You must request this change from MassHealth.

Public Charge

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has issued guidance that it will not consider testing, treatment, or preventive care related to COVID-19 as part of a public charge inadmissibility determination, even if Medicaid or another public benefits program pays for it.

For other questions about the public charge rule and MassHealth, please visit <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/information-about-the-public-charge-rule-and-how-it-may-impact-you>.

Help with food

If you need help with food assistance, you are not alone. As a result of COVID-19, one in three people in Massachusetts needs help getting food, many for the first time. Several programs can help you and your family get the food you need to stay healthy.

Visit <http://Mass.gov/FindFoodHelp> for food assistance resources that can provide you with information about immediate access to food, as well as ongoing monthly financial support to buy food.

