



**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**Executive Office of Health and Human Services**  
**Office of Medicaid**  
600 Washington Street  
Boston, MA 02111  
[www.mass.gov/masshealth](http://www.mass.gov/masshealth)



**MassHealth**  
**Long Term Care Facility Bulletin 94**  
**April 2007**

**TO:** Nursing Facilities and Chronic Disease and Rehabilitation Inpatient Hospitals  
Participating in MassHealth

**FROM:** Tom Dehner, Acting Medicaid Director *TD*

**RE:** **2007 Social Security Benefit Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) for Residents of Long-Term-Care Facilities**

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**Background**

Effective January 1, 2007, a Social Security cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) increased monthly benefits for most recipients of Retirement/Survivors/Disability Insurance (RSDI) by 3.3%.

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**Patient-Paid Amount Increase for Residents of Long-Term-Care Facilities**

An increase in monthly income will usually result in an increase to the monthly patient-paid amount (PPA) for residents of long-term-care facilities. PPA increases must be applied toward claims submitted to MassHealth for January 2007, and for each month thereafter.

Recently, system-generated notices about the new PPAs were mailed to members, spouses, and responsible parties. Notices indicating old and new PPAs for each member were mailed to affected providers. A notice is not generated if there is no change in the PPA.

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**Personal Needs Allowances**

The personal needs allowance (PNA) for MassHealth members in nursing facilities and chronic disease hospitals remains \$60 per month.

The PNA for SSI recipients in nursing facilities and chronic disease hospitals remains \$65 per month.

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**Questions**

If you have any questions about the information in this bulletin please contact MassHealth Customer Service at 1-800-841-2900, e-mail your inquiry to [providersupport@mahealth.net](mailto:providersupport@mahealth.net), or fax your inquiry to 617-988-8974.

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