

## Notice of Proposed Agency Action

**SUBJECT:** MassHealth: Payment for In-State Acute Hospital Services, Effective June 18, 2026

**AGENCY:** Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS), Office of Medicaid

EOHHS hereby announces that it will apply new payment methods to in-state acute inpatient and outpatient hospitals and is making technical changes to the rate year 2026 acute inpatient and outpatient hospital payment methods, as described in the rate year 2026 Notice of Final Agency Action published on or around September 24, 2025 (RY26 Notice) and the rate year 2026 Notice of Final Agency Action published on or around December 27, 2025 (RY25 Amendment 1 Notice) (collectively, the RY25 Notices).

Specifically, EOHHS is implementing the following changes, effective June 30, 2026.

- Updating the bonus opportunity specifications for the Clinical Quality Incentive program.
- Making minor technical corrections for the Clinical Quality Incentive program.

These changes in payment methodologies are in addition to any payment that the qualifying in-state acute hospitals may receive for services rendered to MassHealth members under the acute inpatient and outpatient payment methods described in the RY26 Notices.

EOHHS estimates that there will be no effect on annual aggregate expenditures for MassHealth state plan acute hospital services as a result of these changes.

All changes to hospital payment methods described in this notice are in accordance with state and federal law and are within the range of reasonable payment levels to acute hospitals.

Except for the changes in this notice, the RY26 acute inpatient and outpatient hospital payment methods described in the RY26 Notice remain unchanged. The [RY26 Notice](#) is under the heading “Federal Fiscal Year 2026 Notices” on the “Special Notices for Acute Hospitals” page.

You can [provide written comments or get further information](#) by email or by contacting Jin Pantano at EOHHS, MassHealth Office of Providers and Pharmacy Programs, 100 Hancock Street, 6th Fl., Quincy, MA 02171. EOHHS specifically invites comments about the proposed action’s effect on member access to care.

**Statutory Authority:** M.G.L. c. 118E; St. 2025, c. 9; St. 2012, c. 224; 42 USC 1396a; 42 USC 1396b.

**Related Regulations:** 130 CMR 410, 415, 450; 42 CFR Parts 431 and 447.

Posted: June 18, 2026