

Notice of Proposed Agency Action

SUBJECT: MassHealth: Payment for In-State Acute Hospital Services, Effective March 28, 2025

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 hospitals, as described in the rate year 2025 Notice of Final Agency Action published on or around September 27, 2024 (RY25 Notice), the rate year 2025 Notice of Final Agency Action published on or around October 1, 2024 (RY25 Amendment 1 Notice), and the rate year 2025 Notice of Final Agency Action published on or around December 30, 2024 (RY25 Amendment 2 Notice) (collectively, the RY25 Notices).

Specifically, EOHHS is increasing the Supplemental Payment for Continuity of Access of High Public Payer Acute Hospitals by \$7,000,000 effective March 28, 2025.

This change in payment methodology is 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 RY25 Notices.

EOHHS expects that annual aggregate expenditures for MassHealth state plan acute inpatient hospital services will increase by \$7,000,000 as a result of this change.

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 RY25 acute inpatient and outpatient hospital payment methods described in the RY25 Notice remain unchanged. The RY25 Notice is under the heading “Federal Fiscal Year 2025 Notices” on the “Special Notices for Acute Hospitals” page on the MassHealth website: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/special-notices-for-acute-hospitals>.

For further information, or to provide written comments regarding this action, contact Jin Pantano at EOHHS, MassHealth Office of Providers and Pharmacy Programs, 100 Hancock Street, 6th Fl., Quincy, MA 02171 or AcuteHospitalRFA@mass.gov. EOHHS specifically invites comments about the proposed action’s effect on member access to care.

Statutory Authority: M.G.L. c. 118E; St. 2024, c. 140; St. 2012, c. 224; 42 USC 1396a; 42 USC 1396b.

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

Posted: March 19, 2025