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NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES IN STATEWIDE METHODS AND STANDARDS
FOR SETTING PAYMENT RATES

SUBJECT: MassHealth: Rates for MassHealth Personal Care Attendant Services

AGENCY: Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services

SUMMARY: MassHealth Proposed Rate Changes for Personal Care Attendant Services Effective October 1, 2020.

DESCRIPTION OF CHANGES: The following are proposed changes to rates for personal care attendant (PCA) services effective on October 1, 2020. The proposed changes are for the New Hire Orientation rate only. Specifically, the New Hire Orientation requirements are being amended to incorporate an additional paid hour, changing the total paid new hire orientation hours from three hours (at a rate of \$53.40 per diem, or \$17.80 per hour) to four hours (at a rate of \$71.20 per diem, or \$17.80 per hour). The other rates remain in effect as updated effective July 1, 2020.

The proposed rate noted above includes the PCA wage and the employer expense component, which includes employer required taxes and workers' compensation insurance. The proposed increase in rate is pursuant to the terms of the collective bargaining agreement negotiated between the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the PCA union (1199SEIU) and in accordance with 101 CMR 309.00: Rates for Certain Services for the Personal Care Attendant Program.

The estimated annual aggregate state expenditures as a result of the above changes to PCA rates effective October 1, 2020, is \$110,000.

Individuals may submit written comments, or request a copy of any notices or written comments, concerning the matters herein by e-mailing ehs-regulations@state.ma.us. Please submit electronic comments as an attached Word document or as text within the body of the e-mail with the phrase "MassHealth Changes in Rates for Personal Care Attendant Services" in the subject line. All submissions must include the sender's full name and address. Individuals who are unable to submit comments or request a copy of any notices or written copies by e-mail should send written comments or requests by mail to EOHHS, c/o Debby Briggs, 100 Hancock Street, 6th Floor, Quincy, MA 02171.

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