

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services**

**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 September 7, 2023

DESCRIPTION OF CHANGES:

The following are proposed changes to rates for personal care attendant (PCA) services effective for dates of service provided on or after September 7, 2023.

A one-and-a-half hour paid training for electronic visit verification (EVV) will be required for PCAs who must use EVV. The fee schedule for the hour-and-a-half EVV training is based on the PCA rates in effect on the date the PCA receives such EVV training.

The proposed rates noted above include the PCA wage and the employer expense component, which includes employer required taxes and workers' compensation insurance. The proposed increase in rates 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 increase in annual aggregate expenditures due to this change to PCA rates, effective September 7, 2023, is \$944,205 during each of the first two years of this rate's effectiveness (approximating the EVV implementation period). The estimated increase in annual aggregate expenditures is \$472,087 for subsequent years. The actual fiscal impact may differ depending on meeting expected implementation timelines, the actual utilization of EVV training, and the utilization of EVV exemptions.

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