Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Under the authority of M.G.L. c. 118E and in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) will hold a remote public hearing on Monday, November 30, 2026, at 12:00 p.m. relative to the adoption of amendments to the following regulation.

The proposed regulation contains rates effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2027. There is no fiscal impact on cities and towns.

101 CMR 414.00: Rates for Family Stabilization Services

101 CMR 414.00 governs the payment rates for family stabilization services provided to publicly aided individuals by governmental units. These services are purchased by the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind (MCB), the Department of Children and Families (DCF), and the Department of Mental Health (DMH).

Pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 118E, Section 13D, EOHHS is required to establish by regulation, and biennially review, the rates to be paid by governmental units to providers of social service programs. In accordance with this requirement, the rates for family stabilization services, specific to the DMH's flexible support rates, are being increased by a cost adjustment factor (CAF) of 2.68%. The CAF was determined by using baseline and prospective Massachusetts Economic Indicator data from the IHS Joint Economic Spring 2026 Forecast, baseline scenario data. The CAF reflects the period between the rates' base period (Calendar Year 2026 Q4) and the prospective period calendar years 2027 and 2028). The proposed rates for these services have incorporated staff salaries benchmarked to the most recent Massachusetts Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) median wages for 2025 at the 53rd percentile. The tax and fringe rate has been benchmarked to 26.93%. This benchmark is derived from the MA Comptroller's FY27 proposed rate, less terminal leave and retirement. The administrative allocation has been benchmarked to 12% to remain consistent across all Chapter 257 regulations.

The total annualized cost to state government from the increase in rates proposed by these amendments is $2.44 million, which represents an increase of 9.68% over FY26 spending of approximately $25.28 million. This cost will not be realized until January 1, 2027, at which point the FY27 cost to state government will be $1.22 million. This increase in spending in FY27 for DMH's flexible support services will be covered

through a combination of the Chapter 257 Reserve Account and the purchasing agency's FY27 budget.

Register to testify and get instructions to join the hearing online at mass.gov/info-details/executive-office-of-health-and-human-services-public-hearings. You can join by phone at (646) 558-8656. The meeting ID is 935 397 8200#.

You can submit written testimony instead of, or in addition to, live testimony. Submit written testimony to ehs-regulations@mass.gov as an attached Word or PDF document or as text within the body of the email. Put the name of the regulation in the subject line. All written testimony must include the sender's full name, mailing address, and organization or affiliation, if any. You can also mail written testimony to EOHHS, c/o D. Briggs, 1 Enterprise Drive, 4th Floor, Quincy, MA 02171. Written testimony will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on November 30, 2026. EOHHS specifically invites comments as to how the amendments may affect beneficiary access to care for MassHealth-covered services.

You can review the current draft of the proposed regulation at mass.gov/info-details/executive-office-of-health-and-human-services-public-hearings. You can also request a copy in writing from MassHealth Publications, 1 Enterprise Drive, 4th Floor, Quincy, MA 02171. To view or download related supporting materials, go to mass.gov/info-details/proposed-regulations-supporting-materials.

Email the Disability Accommodations Ombudsman at ADAAccommodations@mass.gov to make special accommodation requests. You can also call (617) 847-3468, TTY: (617) 847-3788. Please allow two weeks to schedule sign language interpreters.

EOHHS may adopt a revised version of the proposed regulation taking into account relevant comments and any other practical alternatives that come to its attention.

In case of inclement weather or other emergency, hearing cancellation announcements will be posted on the MassHealth website at mass.gov/info-details/executive-office-of-health-and-human-services-public-hearings.

Date of Newspaper Ad: November 6, 2026