

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 two remote public hearings on Friday, October 30, 2026, at the respective times listed below relative to the adoption of amendments to the following regulations.

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, which includes the services covered by these regulations. The administrative allocation for the updated rates has been benchmarked to 12%, which is the standard rate applied across all Chapter 257 regulations. There is no fiscal impact on cities and towns.

Hearing 1: 10:00 a.m.: 101 CMR 411.00: Rates for Certain Placement, Support, and Shared Living Services

101 CMR 411.00 governs the rates paid by governmental units for certain placement, support, and shared living services provided to publicly aided individuals. Services with rates established by this regulation are purchased by the Department of Children and Families (DCF), the Department of Youth Services (DYS), the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), MassAbility (MBY), and the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind (MCB). In accordance with statutory requirements, the rates for these services are being updated to include an increase by a cost adjustment factor (CAF) of 3.00%. The CAF was determined by using the Massachusetts Economic Indicator data from the IHS Joint Economic Fall 2025 Forecast, baseline scenario data. The CAF reflects the period between the rates' base period (calendar year 2026 Q2) and the prospective period of fiscal years 2027 and 2028. Staff salaries have been benchmarked to the Massachusetts Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) median wages as dated May 2024 at the 53rd percentile. The tax and fringe rate has been benchmarked to 24.97%. This benchmark is derived from the MA Comptroller's FY25 approved rate less terminal leave and retirement.

At this time, only the DCF rates for all adoption management support services (AMSS) product-based services and the rate for the Youth Permanency Connections service are being amended. All the other rates were updated in an earlier promulgation.

The total annualized cost to state government from the proposed amendments to this regulation is approximately \$593,521, which represents an increase of 11.63% over FY25 spending of approximately \$5.1 million on these services. The increase in spending in FY27 will be covered through the Chapter 257 Reserve Account.

The proposed regulation contains rates effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2026.

Hearing 2: 11:00 a.m.: 101 CMR 418.00: Payments for Youth Short-Term Stabilization and Emergency Placement Services

101 CMR 418.00 establishes the payment rates for youth short-term stabilization and emergency placement services provided to publicly aided individuals by governmental units and under EOHHS's regulatory authority. These services are purchased by the Department of Youth Services (DYS) and the Department of Public Health (DPH). In accordance with statutory requirements, the rates for youth short-term stabilization and emergency placement services, specific to staffing support and youth detoxification and stabilization program rates, are being updated to include an increase by a cost adjustment factor (CAF) of 2.70%. The CAF was determined by using baseline and prospective Massachusetts Economic Indicator data from IHS Economics – Spring 2026 Forecast, baseline scenario data. The CAF reflects the period between the rates' base period (Calendar Year 2026 Q3) and the prospective period (Calendar Year 2026 Q4 through Calendar Year 2028 Q3). The staff salaries have been benchmarked to the Massachusetts Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) median wages as dated May 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 approved rate less terminal leave and retirement.

The total annualized cost to state government from the increase in rates amended by this regulation is \$1.37 million, which represents an increase of 14.63% over FY26 spending of approximately \$9.39 million. This cost will not be realized until October 1, 2026, at which point the FY27 cost to state government will be \$1.03 million. This will be covered through a combination of the Chapter 257 Reserve Account and the purchasing agencies' FY27 budgets.

The proposed regulation contains rates effective for dates of service on or after October 1, 2026.

[Register to testify and get instructions](https://mass.gov/info-details/executive-office-of-health-and-human-services-public-hearings) to join the hearings 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 Friday, October 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 regulations](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/executive-office-of-health-and-human-services-public-hearings) at [mass.gov/info-details/executive-office-of-health-and-human-services-public-hearings](https://www.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](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/proposed-regulations-supporting-materials), go to [mass.gov/info-details/proposed-regulations-supporting-materials](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/proposed-regulations-supporting-materials).

[Email the Disability Accommodations Ombudsman](mailto:ADAAccommodations@mass.gov) 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 regulations 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](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/executive-office-of-health-and-human-services-public-hearings) will be posted on the MassHealth website at [mass.gov/info-details/executive-office-of-health-and-human-services-public-hearings](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/executive-office-of-health-and-human-services-public-hearings).

Date of Newspaper Ad: October 9, 2026