

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Division of Medical Assistance
Office of Medicaid**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to the authority of M.G.L. c. 6A, section 16 and in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, a remote public hearing will be held on Friday, October 7, 2022, at 11:00 relative to the adoption of:

130 CMR 429.000: Medical Assistance Program: Mental Health Center

The proposed amendments to 130 CMR 429.000 amend and update the language and requirements for mental health centers enrolled as MassHealth providers. These amendments are being proposed with an effective date of January 1, 2023, to align with the concurrent promulgation of amendments to the rates for mental health centers (101 CMR 306.00).

The proposed amendments for mental health center services: 1) Amend language throughout the regulations to clarify and update current definitions to reflect programmatic and industry expectations; 2) Add programmatic requirements for designated Behavioral Health Urgent Care providers; 3) Amend the definitions to include definitions related to expanded programmatic services, and clinic administration; 4) Amend provider eligibility, enrollment processes and revocation processes, notice and reports, site visits, and recordkeeping requirements to clarify language; 5) Amend the maximum allowable fees, and non-reimbursable services sections to clarify billing; 6) Amend the scope of services section to clarify required and optional services, and add services to the scope of reimbursable services provided by a mental health center, including: Certified Peer Services, Structured Outpatient Addiction Programs, Enhanced Structured Outpatient Addiction Programs, Peer Recovery Coach Services, Recovery Support Navigator Services, and Intensive Outpatient Program services; 7) Amend the staff composition requirements to clarify minimum staff requirements, and personnel qualifications; 8) Amend the supervision, training and staff requirements to clarify requirements; and 9) Clarify qualifications requirements for staff members rendering billable services.

EOHHS is proposing these amendments to ensure that regulations reflect current industry terms and practice for mental health centers and to improve mental health center services for MassHealth members.

The proposed regulation is planned to go into effect no sooner than January 1, 2023. There is no fiscal impact on cities and towns.

To register to testify at the hearing and to get instructions on how to join the hearing online, go to www.mass.gov/service-details/masshealth-public-hearings. To join the

hearing by phone, call (646) 558-8656 and enter meeting ID 935 397 8200# when prompted.

You may also submit written testimony instead of, or in addition to, live testimony. To submit written testimony, please email your testimony to masshealthpublicnotice@mass.gov as an attached Word or PDF document or as text within the body of the email with 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. Individuals who are unable to submit testimony by email should mail written testimony to EOHHS, c/o D. Briggs, 100 Hancock Street, 6th Floor, Quincy, MA 02171. Written testimony will be accepted through 5:00 p.m. on October 7, 2022. The Division of Medical Assistance (the Division) specifically invites comments as to how the amendments may affect beneficiary access to care.

To review the current draft of the proposed actions, go to www.mass.gov/service-details/masshealth-public-hearings or request a copy in writing from MassHealth Publications, 100 Hancock Street, 6th Floor, Quincy, MA 02171.

Special accommodation requests may be directed to the Disability Accommodations Ombudsman by email at ADAAccommodations@mass.gov or by phone at (617) 847-3468 (TTY: (617) 847-3788 for people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or speech disabled). Please allow two weeks to schedule sign language interpreters.

The Division may adopt a revised version of the proposed actions 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 www.mass.gov/service-details/masshealth-public-hearings.

September 16, 2022