Division of Medical Assistance

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Office of Medicaid

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Under the authority of M.G.L. c. 6A, section 16 and in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, the Division of Medical Assistance (the Division) will hold a remote public hearing on Friday, April 26, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., relative to the emergency adoption of amendments to the following regulations.

130 CMR 506.000: Health Care Reform: MassHealth: Financial Requirements

130 CMR 520.000: MassHealth: Financial Eligibility

130 CMR 450.000: Administrative and Billing Regulations

The regulatory changes will go into effect as an emergency on April 1, 2024. The proposed amendments are expected to increase annual aggregate MassHealth expenditures by approximately \$4,800,000. There is no fiscal impact on cities and towns.

These proposed amendments will eliminate all copayments for MassHealth members. These copayments had been temporarily eliminated through March 31, 2024; the amendments will eliminate copayments permanently. This will promote access to prescription drugs for MassHealth members, as well as ensuring full payment for providers.

EOHHS will file a state plan amendment to implement these changes, and the public may comment on the state plan amendment as well as the regulatory amendments.

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 April 26, 2024. The Division specifically invites comments as to how the amendments may affect beneficiary access to care.

To review the emergency regulation, 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 final, revised version of the emergency 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 www.mass.gov/service-details/masshealth-public-hearings.

March 29, 2024