

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 October 9, 2024, at 2 p.m. relative to the adoption of amendments to the following regulations.

- The following new regulation:
 - **130 CMR 458.000: Homeless Medical Respite Services**
- Conforming amendments to the following regulation:
 - **130 CMR 450.000 Administrative and Billing Regulations**

The proposed new regulation and amendments are effective for dates of service on or after January 3, 2025.

The proposed new program regulation, 130 CMR 458.000, sets forth the requirements for homeless medical respite services, including establishing; 1) homeless medical respite as a new MassHealth provider type; 2) homeless medical respite service as a new MassHealth covered service; 3) definitions relevant to the new homeless medical respite program; 4) processes for eligible entities to enroll as MassHealth homeless medical respite providers; 5) minimum requirements for participation in the homeless medical respite program, and requirements for enrolled providers; and 6) member eligibility criteria for receipt of the service.

Also included are proposed amendments to 130 CMR 450.000. Regulation 130 CMR 450.000 sets forth the administrative and billing rules and requirements for all MassHealth providers and lists the covered services for all MassHealth coverage types. The amendments to 130 CMR 450.000 add new services to the list of covered services for each coverage type. Specifically, homeless medical respite services and doula services are added as covered services under the applicable coverage types.

MassHealth will hold a separate hearing for the new proposed rate regulations, 101 CMR 321.00: *Rates for Homeless Medical Respite Services* and has issued a separate notice for such hearing.

To register to testify at the hearing and to get instructions on how to join the hearing online, go to www.mass.gov/info-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 p.m. on October 9, 2024. The Division specifically invites comments as to how the amendments may affect beneficiary access to care.

To review the current draft of the proposed regulation, go to www.mass.gov/info-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 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/info-details/masshealth-public-hearings.

September 18, 2024