

**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 Friday, April 3, 2026, at 3 p.m. relative to the adoption of amendments to the following regulation.

101 CMR 350.00: *Rates for Home Health Services*

The proposed regulation contains rates effective for dates of service on or after August 1, 2026. There is no fiscal impact on cities and towns.

The proposed rates comply with M.G.L. Chapter 118E, §13C, which requires that rates established by EOHHS for health care services be “adequate to meet the costs incurred by efficiently and economically operated facilities providing care and services in conformity with applicable state and federal laws and regulations and quality and safety standards and which are within the financial capacity of the Commonwealth”.

EOHHS proposes to establish two per member per month rates for new optional home health agency value based payment (VBP) services, which align with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services’ (CMS) home health value based purchasing program. The home health agency VBP service rates will only be accessible to home health agencies who opt to participate through an additional contract and meet provider eligibility requirements that will be established in 130 CMR 403.000: *Home Health Agency*. The home health agency VBP Rate 1 is proposed at \$2,957.60 per member per month and VBP Rate 2 is proposed at \$3,286.22 per member per month. Differential VBP rates are paid based on the eligible provider’s performance on certain quality measures. The proposed home health agency VBP rates are developed based on the current rates of relevant component services established in 101 CMR 350.00 and the respective weighted average monthly utilization. Relevant component services include medication administration visits, skilled nursing visits, home health aide visits, and therapy visits. In addition, costs for medical social work visits were added, accounting for two visits per month at the 2025 Medicare rate of \$149.24 per visit.

EOHHS is proposing these amendments, subject to federal approval, to ensure that payment rates are consistent with efficiency, economy, and quality of care, and to satisfy the requirements of M.G.L. 118E, sections 13C and 13D. The estimated aggregate annual fiscal impact of the proposed amendments is \$3.4 million in Rate Year 1 and additional \$3 million in Rate Year 2 for a total additional investment of \$6.4 million for both rate years relative to the base spending for the eligible population. The proposed amendments are not anticipated to impose new costs on small businesses,

and any impact on small business providers will vary based on the volume of services provided.

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/executive-office-of-health-and-human-services-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 ehs-regulations@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 April 3, 2026. EOHHS specifically invites comments as to how the amendments may affect beneficiary access to care for MassHealth-covered services.

To review the current draft of the proposed regulation, go to www.mass.gov/info-details/executive-office-of-health-and-human-services-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.

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 www.mass.gov/info-details/executive-office-of-health-and-human-services-public-hearings.

March 13, 2026