### Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services Office of Medicaid

www.mass.gov/masshealth

MassHealth Personal Care Attendant Program Bulletin 13 September 2022

**TO**: Personal Care Management Agencies Participating in MassHealth

FROM: Amanda Cassel Kraft, Assistant Secretary for MassHealth

**RE:** Enhanced Rates and Reporting Requirements for Personal Care

Management Agencies Related to Section 9817 of the American Rescue Plan

Act

### Introduction

The Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) has established enhanced rates for certain home and community-based services (HCBS) under 101 CMR 453.00: *Enhanced Rates for Certain Home- and Community-Based Services Related to Section 9817 of the American Rescue Plan Act* for dates of service beginning July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023. 101 CMR 453.00 also includes enhanced rates for personal care management (PCM) agencies performing PCM functions under the MassHealth personal care attendant (PCA) program.

EOHHS is extending the enhanced rates for PCM agencies through June 30, 2023, or until such time that EOHHS updates 101 CMR 309: *Rates for Certain Services for the Personal Care Attendant Program*. This bulletin extends the requirements of <u>Personal Care Bulletin 11</u>, published in January 2022, sets forth billing instructions in effect for MassHealth-covered PCM functions for dates of service beginning July 1, 2022, and provides information regarding the required attestation and reporting requirements regarding use of the funds associated with the temporary rate increase established pursuant to 101 CMR 453.00.

This bulletin does not apply to PCAs. PCA rates are established pursuant to 101 CMR 309.00 and any related administrative bulletins.

**Enhanced PCM Functions Rates and Billing Instructions for Dates of Service beginning July 1, 2022** 

### **Enhanced Rates**

To promote workforce development and strengthen the HCBS workforce, rates for the following services were established in 101 CMR 453.00 at an amount 10% higher than the existing rates for these services as established in 101 CMR 309.00: *Rates for Certain Services for the Personal Care Attendant Program* for dates of services beginning July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023, or until such time that EOHHS updates 101 CMR 309: *Rates for Certain Services for the Personal Care Attendant Program*.

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### **Personal Care Management Services Rates**

Code	Unit	Rate	Add-on	Total
99456	Per Session	\$241.28	\$24.13	\$265.41
99456 TS	Per Session	\$138.67	\$13.87	\$152.54
T1023	Per Session	\$109.93	\$10.99	\$120.92
T2022	Per Session	\$53.63	\$5.36	\$58.99

### **Service Provision**

All PCM agencies receiving enhanced funding must conduct personal care management functions in accordance with all applicable program requirements and regulations as set forth in 130 CMR 422.000: *Personal Care Attendant Services* and the PCM agency contract.

### Administrative and Billing Requirements

All existing provider billing processes will remain in effect during the period of enhanced funding. Providers must submit claims according to the policies and procedures set forth in applicable administrative and billing regulations and supporting guidance.

# **Allowable Uses of Enhanced Funding**

PCM agencies will be required to use at least 90% of enhanced funds for the specific purposes of recruiting, building, and retaining their direct care and support workforce.

EOHHS guidance about allowable uses of the enhanced funding, including eligible direct care and support staff and categories of compensation, is available at <a href="https://www.mass.gov/doc/for-masshealth-providers-home-and-community-based-service-enhanced-rate-add-ons-using-american-rescue-plan-act-arpa-funding/download">www.mass.gov/doc/for-masshealth-providers-home-and-community-based-service-enhanced-rate-add-ons-using-american-rescue-plan-act-arpa-funding/download</a>.

# **Attestation and Spending Report**

As a condition of receipt of these additional funds, eligible PCM agencies must complete an attestation assuring EOHHS that they will use at least 90% of the funds for HCBS workforce development and submit a spending report to EOHHS that accounts for how the enhanced funds were used.

Providers will be required to submit a spending report no later than December 31, 2022, to report on enhanced funds related to the period of July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022. A final spending report will be due December 31, 2023 and must account for enhanced funds related to the period of July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023.

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### **Spending and Report Deadlines**

Rate Enhancement Period	<b>Funds Expended by</b>	Spending Report Deadline	
July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022	September 30, 2022	December 31, 2022	
July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023	September 30, 2023	December 31, 2023	

EOHHS guidance about the attestation and spending report requirements is located at <a href="https://www.mass.gov/info-details/strengthening-home-and-community-based-services-and-behavioral-health-services-using-american-rescue-plan-arp-funding">https://www.mass.gov/info-details/strengthening-home-and-community-based-services-and-behavioral-health-services-using-american-rescue-plan-arp-funding</a>. PCM agencies are encouraged to check this site regularly for updated information.

# Failure to Submit an Attestation or Spending Report

PCM agencies may be subject to sanction for failure to submit an attestation form and/or spending report in accordance with the EOHHS guidance noted above and pursuant to the PCM agency contract.

### **MassHealth Website**

This bulletin is available on the <u>MassHealth Provider Bulletins</u> web page.

Sign up to receive email alerts when MassHealth issues new bulletins and transmittal letters.

## **Questions**

Providers may submit questions related to the enhanced funding and other questions related to this bulletin to <u>ARPAMedicaidHCBS@mass.gov</u>.

The MassHealth LTSS Provider Service Center is also open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. LTSS Providers should direct their questions about this letter or other MassHealth LTSS Provider questions to the LTSS Third Party Administrator (TPA) as follows:

**Phone:** Toll free (844) 368-5184

Email: <a href="mailto:support@masshealthltss.com">support@masshealthltss.com</a>
Portal: <a href="mailto:www.MassHealthLTSS.com">www.MassHealthLTSS.com</a>

**Mail:** MassHealth LTSS

PO Box 159108 Boston, MA 02215

**Fax:** (888) 832-3006