

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services Office of Medicaid One Ashburton Place Boston, Massachusetts 02108



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www.mass.gov/eohhs

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to the authority of M.G.L. c. 6A, s. 16 and in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, a public hearing will be held on Friday, December 16, 2016, at 10 a.m. in Amphitheater III S6-102 at the UMass Medical School (Main Entrance-School Side) – University Campus, 55 Lake Avenue North, Worcester, MA relative to the adoption of:

130 CMR 501.000: MassHealth: General Policies; 130 CMR 502.000: MassHealth: Eligibility Process (formerly The Request for Benefits); 130 CMR 503.000: MassHealth: Universal Eligibility Requirements; 130 CMR 505.000: MassHealth: Coverage Types; 130 CMR 506.000: MassHealth: Financial Requirements; 130 CMR 515.000: MassHealth: General Policies; 130 CMR 516.000: MassHealth: Eligibility Process; 130 CMR 517.000: MassHealth: Universal Eligibility Requirements; 130 CMR 518.000: MassHealth: Citizenship and Immigration; 130 CMR 520.000: MassHealth: Financial Eligibility; 130 CMR 522.000: MassHealth: Other Division Programs; 130 CMR 610.000: MassHealth: Fair Hearing Rules

Pursuant to Executive Order 562, the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) proposes to update MassHealth regulations at 130 CMR 501.000 through 522.000 to clarify regulatory language and purpose, to ensure compliance with federal and state law, delete outdated references, align definitional terms across agency regulations, improve accuracy, readability and organization, and communicate certain policy changes.

In addition, EOHHS proposes to amend the Board of Hearing regulations at 130 CMR 610.000 to reflect changes related to the implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and to simplify and modernize the regulations to ensure a clear, concise, and uniform regulatory scheme for the parties involved in fair hearings before the Board of Hearings.

The proposed regulation is planned to go into effect no sooner than February 1, 2017. There is no fiscal impact on cities and towns.

Individuals who notify EOHHS of their intent to testify at the hearing will be afforded an earlier opportunity to speak. Speakers may notify EOHHS of their intention to testify at the hearing by registering online at <u>www.mass.gov/masshealth/proposedregs</u>. Individuals may also submit written testimony by e-mailing <u>masshealthpublicnotice@state.ma.us</u>. Please submit electronic testimony as an attached Word document or as text within the body of the e-mail with the

name of the regulation in the subject line. All submissions must include the sender's full name, mailing address, and organization or affiliation, if any. Individuals who are unable to submit testimony by e-mail should mail written testimony to EOHHS, c/o D. Briggs, 100 Hancock Street, 6th Floor, Quincy, MA 02171. Written testimony must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 16, 2016.

All persons desiring to review the current draft of the proposed actions may go to <u>www.mass.gov/masshealth/proposedregs</u> or request a copy in writing or in person from MassHealth Publications, 100 Hancock Street, 6th Floor, Quincy, MA 02171.

Special accommodation requests may be directed to the Disability Accommodations Ombudsman by e-mail at <u>masshealthhelp@ehs.state.ma.us</u> 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 actions taking into account relevant comments and any other practical alternatives that come to its attention.

November 24, 2016