




MassHealth
Adult Foster Care Bulletin 14
March 2018

TO: Adult Foster Care Providers Participating in MassHealth

FROM: Daniel Tsai, Assistant Secretary for MassHealth 

RE: **MassHealth Accreditation Requirements for Adult Foster Care (AFC) Providers**

Overview

MassHealth amended the Adult Foster Care (AFC) program regulation at 130 CMR 408.000 effective May 5, 2017, to revise and clarify certain AFC program requirements. This bulletin provides guidance about the accreditation requirement provided at 130 CMR 408.404(A)(11). AFC providers are required to provide evidence of accreditation to MassHealth by **June 30, 2019**.

Accreditation Requirement

Pursuant to 130 CMR 408.404(A)(11), MassHealth requires evidence of accreditation to be submitted to MassHealth or its designee. Evidence of this accreditation must be submitted to MassHealth by **June 30, 2019**. Note that this is an extension from the date stated in the AFC regulations at 130 CMR 408.000.

Accreditation must be obtained by a nationally recognized accreditation organization determined acceptable by MassHealth. In accordance with 130 CMR 408.404(A)(11), acceptable accreditation organizations include the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA), the Council on Accreditation (COA), and the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF). AFC providers must obtain accreditation specific to, or applicable to, their AFC program. If an AFC provider is accredited by one of the acceptable accreditation organizations noted above, but the accreditation is not specific to, or does not apply to, the provider's AFC program, the provider must obtain accreditation that is specific to, or applies to, their AFC program within the timeframes specified in this bulletin and to comply with the accreditation requirement at 130 CMR 408.404(A)(11).

In order to ensure that all AFC providers meet the accreditation requirement by the June 30, 2019 deadline, MassHealth is requiring AFC providers to provide evidence that they are completing the following milestones toward obtaining accreditation.

Accreditation milestones

By **April 30, 2018**, AFC providers must submit the following to the LTSS Provider Portal at www.masshealthltss.com:

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Accreditation Requirement (cont.)

1) Documentation showing that the AFC provider has selected an accrediting body, selected a certification type, and has obtained the self-audit and accreditation preparation tools from the relevant accrediting body. Acceptable documentation includes a receipt from the purchase of materials.

2) In the event the AFC provider is already accredited, documentation showing current accreditation. Acceptable documentation includes a copy of the certification/accreditation agreement.

By **December 31, 2018**, the AFC provider must submit documentation to the LTSS Provider Portal demonstrating that they have scheduled an onsite survey date with the accrediting body.

By **February 1, 2019**, the AFC provider must submit documentation to the LTSS Provider Portal that they have performed an initial gap analysis and received a report from the accrediting organization that reflects process gaps necessary to achieve accreditation.

By **June 30, 2019**, the AFC provider must submit a copy of the final report and determination to the LTSS Provider Portal. The final report and determination will serve as evidence of accreditation for purposes of 130 CMR 408.404(A)(11).

Once accreditation is achieved, it must be maintained at all times as long as the AFC provider participates in the MassHealth AFC program.

Contact and Questions

Contact Information for MassHealth LTSS Provider Service Center

Phone	Toll-free 1-844-368-5184
Email	support@masshealthltss.com
Portal	www.MassHealthLTSS.com
Mail	MassHealth LTSS PO Box 159108 Boston, MA 02215
Fax	1-888-832-3006
LTSS Provider Portal	Trainings, general information, and future enhancements will be available at www.MassHealthLTSS.com .