

**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 January 9, 2026, at 2 p.m. relative to the adoption of amendments to the following regulation.

101 CMR 15.00: Criminal Offender Record Checks

The amendments to 101 CMR 15.00 are intended to strengthen the criminal background check process for applicants and employees throughout the EOHHS Secretariat in order to better protect EOHHS' vulnerable clients.

In our best judgment, there are no elements of the proposed actions that might impact local governments.

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 January 9, 2026.

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.

December 19, 2025

Small Business Impact Statement
(As required by M.G.L. c. 30A §§ 2, 3 & 5)

101 CMR 15.00: *Criminal Offender Record Checks*

Estimate of the Number of Small Businesses Impacted by the Regulation: 0

- **Will small businesses have to create, file, or issue additional reports?**
No. No, small businesses will not have to create, file or issue additional reports.
- **Will small businesses have to implement additional recordkeeping procedures?**
No. Small businesses will not have to implement additional recordkeeping procedures.
- **Will small businesses have to provide additional administrative oversight?**
No. Small businesses will not have to provide additional administrative oversight.
- **Will small businesses have to hire additional employees in order to comply with the proposed regulation?**
No. Small businesses will not have to hire additional employees to comply with the proposed regulations.
- **Does compliance with the regulation require small businesses to hire other professionals (e.g. a lawyer, accountant, engineer, etc.)?**
No. Small businesses will not have to hire other professionals.
- **Does the regulation require small businesses to purchase a product or make any other capital investments in order to comply with the regulation?**
No. Small businesses will not have to purchase a product or make any other capital investments.
- **Are performance standards more appropriate than design/operational standards to accomplish the regulatory objective?**
(Performance standards express requirements in terms of outcomes, giving the regulated party flexibility to achieve regulatory objectives and design/operational standards specify exactly what actions regulated parties must take.)
Yes, performance standards are more appropriate here.
- **Do any other regulations duplicate or conflict with the proposed regulation?**
No. No other regulations conflict with the proposed regulation.
- **Does the regulation require small businesses to cooperate with audits, inspections or other regulatory enforcement activities?**
No. No, the regulation will not have any impact or require small businesses to cooperate with audits, inspections or other regulatory enforcement activities.
- **Does the regulation require small businesses to provide educational services to keep up to date with regulatory requirements?**
No. Small businesses do not need to provide educational services to keep up with regulatory requirements.
- **Is the regulation likely to deter the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts?**
No. The regulation is not likely to deter the formation of small businesses.

- **Is the regulation likely to encourage the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts?**
No. The regulation is not likely to encourage the formation of small business in Massachusetts.
- **Does the regulation provide for less stringent compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses?**
No. No, the regulation will not have any impact on small businesses in Massachusetts.
- **Does the regulation establish less stringent schedules or deadlines for compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses?**
No. No, the regulation will not have any impact on small businesses in Massachusetts.
- **Did the agency consolidate or simplify compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses?**
No. No, the regulation will not have any impact on small businesses in Massachusetts.
- **Can performance standards for small businesses replace design or operational standards without hindering delivery of the regulatory objective?**
No. No. Regulations are required.
- **Are there alternative regulatory methods that would minimize the adverse impact on small businesses?**
No. No, the regulation will not have any impact on small businesses in Massachusetts.