

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to the authority of M.G.L. c. 118E and in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, a remote public hearing will be held on November 5, 2024, at 10 a.m. relative to the adoption of:

101 CMR 444.00: Rates for Certain Substance Use Disorder Services

101 CMR 444.00 governs the rates of payment used by state governmental units for certain substance use disorder services, including rates related to the provision of opioid treatment services when provided in federally certified and state-licensed opioid treatment programs (OTP). This regulation also governs rates of payment for recovery support navigator (RSN) services and individualized treatment and stabilization (ITS) services.

The proposed regulation will maintain the rates for opioid treatment services when provided in OTP until June 30, 2025. Effective July 1, 2025, the rates for opioid treatment services when provided in an OTP will transition to 101 CMR 346: *Rates for Certain Substance-Related and Addictive Disorders Programs*. The proposed regulation will establish codes for structured outpatient addiction program (SOAP) and enhanced structured outpatient addiction program (E-SOAP), which will subsequently be removed from CMR 306: *Rates for Mental Health services Provided in Community Health Centers and Mental Health Centers*. The proposed regulation will also increase the current rates for ITS, RSN, SOAP and E-SOAP services.

The proposed amended regulation contains rates effective for dates of service on or after January 3, 2025.

EOHHS is proposing these changes, subject to federal approval, to ensure that payment rates are consistent with efficiency, economy, and quality of care and satisfy the requirements of M.G.L. 118E, sections 13C and 13D. It is estimated that annual aggregate fiscal impact on the fee-for-service (FFS) MassHealth expenditure will increase by approximately \$611,829 as a result of these proposed rates.

There is no fiscal impact on cities and towns.

To register to testify at the hearing and to get instructions on how to join the hearing online, go to www.mass.gov/service-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 5:00 p.m. on November 5. EOHHS specifically invites comments as to how the amendments may affect beneficiary access to care.

To review the current draft of the proposed actions, go to www.mass.gov/service-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 actions 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/service-details/executive-office-of-health-and-human-services-public-hearings.

October 11, 2024

Small Business Impact Statement

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

CMR No.: 101 CMR 444.00: Rates for Certain Substance Use Disorder Services

Estimate of the Number of Small Businesses Impacted by the Regulation: There are 180 providers governed by the proposed regulation.

Select Yes or No and Briefly Explain

Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to create, file, or issue additional reports? No. Small businesses will not have to create, file, or issue additional reports as a result of the proposed amendments to 101 CMR 444.00.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to implement additional recordkeeping procedures? No. Small businesses will not have to implement additional recordkeeping procedures as a result of the proposed amendments to 101 CMR 444.00.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to provide additional administrative oversight? No. Small businesses are not required by 101 CMR 444.00 to provide additional administrative oversight. The proposed regulation establishes the rates to be paid by governmental units for certain substance use disorder services.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to hire additional employees in order to comply with the proposed regulation? No. 101 CMR 444.00 does not require small businesses to hire additional employees to remain in compliance.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does compliance with the regulation require small businesses to hire other professionals (e.g. a lawyer, accountant, engineer, etc.)? No. Small businesses are not required by 101 CMR 444.00 to hire other employees to remain in compliance.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation require small businesses to purchase a product or make any other capital investments in order to comply with the regulation? No. 101 CMR 444.00 does not require small businesses to purchase any particular product or make any capital investments.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	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.) No. Performance standards are not more appropriate than design or operational standards to accomplish the regulatory objective of establishing rates for EOHHS health care services as the proposed regulation is required by statute under M.G.L. Chapter 118E, Section 13C.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do any other regulations duplicate or conflict with the proposed regulation? No. There are no other regulations that duplicate or conflict with the proposed regulation.

Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation require small businesses to cooperate with audits, inspections or other regulatory enforcement activities? Yes. This regulation uniformly requires all providers to periodically file cost data.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation require small businesses to provide educational services to keep up to date with regulatory requirements? No. 101 CMR 444.00 does not require small businesses to provide educational services to keep up to date with regulatory requirements.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Is the regulation likely to <i>deter</i> the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts? No. The proposed regulation is not likely to deter or encourage the formation of small businesses as this proposed regulation establishes uniform governmental rates of payment for certain substance use disorder services.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Is the regulation likely to <i>encourage</i> the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts? No. The proposed regulation is not likely to deter or encourage the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts as this proposed regulation establishes uniform governmental rates of payment for certain substance use disorder services.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation provide for less stringent compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? No. The proposed regulation does not distinguish between small and other businesses.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation establish less stringent schedules or deadlines for compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? No. The proposed regulation does not distinguish between small and other businesses.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Did the agency consolidate or simplify compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? No. The proposed regulation does not distinguish between small and other businesses.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Can performance standards for small businesses replace design or operational standards without hindering delivery of the regulatory objective? No. Distinguishing between small and other businesses would not be practicable to implement the proposed regulation.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Are there alternative regulatory methods that would minimize the adverse impact on small businesses? No. The proposed regulation does not have an adverse impact on small businesses.