## 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 Friday, April 4, 2025, at 1 p.m. relative to the adoption of amendments to the following regulation.

## 101 CMR 310.00: Rates for Adult Day Health Services

Pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 118E, Section 13D, the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) is required to establish and periodically review the rates to be paid by governmental units to providers of noninstitutional healthcare services, including adult day health services provided under the MassHealth program.

Effective for dates of service provided on and after July 1, 2025, EOHHS proposes to decrease the per diem and partial per diem rates for the basic level of care (codes S5102 and S5101, respectively) and eliminate the admission and re-engagement services (codes S5105 and S5105KZ, respectively). All other adult day health rates, specifically the rates for the complex level of care and transportation services, are proposed to remain at current levels.

These rate updates are intended to maintain member access to all services. Complex care and transportation rates are maintained at neutral levels to preserve current support for programs serving individuals with higher needs and to ensure continued access through stable transportation services.

EOHHS is proposing these amendments, subject to federal approval, to ensure that payment rates are consistent with efficiency, economy, and quality of care, and to satisfy the requirements of M.G.L. 118E, sections 13C and 13D. The estimated aggregate annual fiscal impact of the proposed amendments is a savings of \$5.59 million, which represents a 4.85% decrease over FY2024 base spending. There is no fiscal impact on cities and towns. The proposed amendments are not anticipated to impose new costs on small businesses, and any impact on small business providers will vary based on the volume of services provided.

To register to testify at the hearing and to get instructions on how to join the hearing online, go to <u>www.mass.gov/info-details/executive-office-of-health-and-human-services-public-hearings</u>. 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 <u>ehs-regulations@mass.gov</u> 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, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Quincy, MA 02171. Written testimony will be accepted through 5 p.m. on April 4, 2025. EOHHS specifically invites comments as to how the amendments may affect beneficiary access to care for MassHealth-covered services.

To review the current draft of the proposed regulation, go to <u>www.mass.gov/info-</u> <u>details/executive-office-of-health-and-human-services-public-hearings</u> or request a copy in writing from MassHealth Publications, 100 Hancock Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Quincy, MA 02171.

Special accommodation requests may be directed to the Disability Accommodations Ombudsman by email at <u>ADAAccommodations@mass.gov</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 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 <u>www.mass.gov/info-details/executive-office-of-health-and-human-services-public-hearings</u>.

March 14, 2025

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

CMR No: 101 CMR 310.00				
Estimate of the Number of Small Businesses Impacted by the Regulation: 76 adult day health (ADH) providers				
Select Yes or No and Briefly Explain				
Yes	No X	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 this regulation.		
Yes	No X	Will small businesses have to implement additional recordkeeping procedures? No. Small businesses will not have additional responsibilities to keep records as a result of the proposed amendments to this regulation.		
Yes	No X	Will small businesses have to provide additional administrative oversight? No. Small businesses are not required by this regulation to provide additional administration oversight as a result of the proposed amendments to this regulation.		
Yes	No X	Will small businesses have to hire additional employees in order to comply with the proposed regulation? No. This regulation does not require small businesses to hire additional employees to remain in compliance.		
Yes	No X	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 this regulation to hire other professionals.		
Yes	No X	Does the regulation require small businesses to purchase a product or make any other capital investments in order to comply with the regulation? No. This regulation does not require small businesses to purchase any particular product or make any capital investments.		
Yes	No X	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. The regulation is required by statute under MGL Chapter 118E, § 13D and establishes the specific rates to be paid by governmental units for ADH services.		
Yes	No 🖾	Do any other regulations duplicate or conflict with the proposed regulation? No regulations duplicate or conflict with this regulation.		
Yes	No	Does the regulation require small businesses to cooperate with audits, inspections or other regulatory enforcement activities? Yes. This regulation does require that providers periodically file cost data, which is required in order for EOHHS to develop and establish rates for providers of ADH services.		

Yes	No X	Does the regulation require small businesses to provide educational services to keep up to date with regulatory requirements? No. This regulation does not require small businesses to provide educational services to keep up to date with the regulatory requirements.
Yes	No X	Is the regulation likely to <i>deter</i> the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts? No. The regulation is not likely to deter or encourage the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts. It establishes rates by which providers of ADH services are to be paid when purchased by governmental units.
Yes	No X	Is the regulation likely to <i>encourage</i> the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts? No. The regulation is not likely to deter or encourage the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts. It establishes rates by which providers of ADH services are to be paid when purchased by governmental units.
Yes	No X	Does the regulation provide for less stringent compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? No. The regulation contains uniform requirements for the reporting of cost data to EOHHS in order to enable EOHHS to develop rates that are reasonable and adequate to meet the costs incurred by efficiently and economically operated ADH providers, as required of EOHHS by statute.
Yes	No X	Does the regulation establish less stringent schedules or deadlines for compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? No. The regulation contains uniform requirements for the reporting of cost data to EOHHS in order to enable EOHHS to develop rates that are reasonable and adequate to meet the costs incurred by efficiently and economically operated ADH providers, as required of EOHHS by statute.
Yes	No ⊠	Did the agency consolidate or simplify compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? No. This regulation does not consolidate or simplify compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses. The cost reporting requirements are applied uniformly to all ADH providers in order for EOHHS to develop rates for ADH services.
Yes	No X	Can performance standards for small businesses replace design or operational standards without hindering delivery of the regulatory objective? No. This regulation is in accordance with EOHHS's statutory obligation under MGL Chapter 118E, § 13D to establish, by regulation, the rates to be paid by governmental units to providers of ADH services.
Yes	No ⊠	Are there alternative regulatory methods that would minimize the adverse impact on small businesses? No. The regulation does not have an adverse impact on small businesses. The regulation establishes uniform rates to be paid by governmental units to providers of ADH services, and as required by statute.