# 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 Tuesday, April 22, 2025, at 10 a.m. relative to the adoption of amendments to the following regulation.

### 101 CMR 352.00: Rates for Certain Children's Behavioral Health Services

## **Summary of Proposed Regulation**

Pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 118E, Section 13D, EOHHS is required to establish and periodically review the rates to be paid by governmental units to providers of noninstitutional healthcare services, including certain children's behavioral health services provided under the MassHealth program.

Effective for dates of service on or after August 1, 2025, the proposed amendments increase the rates for seven existing children's behavioral health services established in 101 CMR 352.00 by updating the corresponding rate models utilizing appropriate inputs from two data sources: provider salaries from May 2023 Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) salary data for Massachusetts, and other expenses primarily from FY 2023 Uniform Financial Reports (UFRs). EOHHS also proposes to establish a new service, Family-based Intensive Treatment (FIT), and set its weekly rate at \$1,115.05, which is calculated based on a model budget patterned after the intensive care coordination (ICC)-family support and training (FS&T) model budget, with appropriate adjustments. In addition, EOHHS proposes to remove the current rates established in 101 CMR 352.00 for mobile crisis intervention services provided in a hospital emergency department (H2011-HN and H2011-HO), as these services are now provided by acute hospitals and paid for by MassHealth directly to acute hospitals.

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. There is no anticipated fiscal impact on fee-for-service (FFS) MassHealth spending for the proposed amendments as there is no current FFS utilization of the services receiving increases or being established. 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/info-details/executive-office-of-health-and-human-services-

<u>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 <a href="mailto:ehs-regulations@mass.gov">ehs-regulations@mass.gov</a> 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 Tuesday, April 22, 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 <a href="www.mass.gov/info-details/executive-office-of-health-and-human-services-public-hearings">www.mass.gov/info-details/executive-office-of-health-and-human-services-public-hearings</a> 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 <a href="mailto:ADAAccommodations@mass.gov">ADAAccommodations@mass.gov</a> 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 <a href="https://www.mass.gov/info-details/executive-office-of-health-and-human-services-public-hearings">www.mass.gov/info-details/executive-office-of-health-and-human-services-public-hearings</a>.

March 28, 2025

#### **Small Business Impact Statement** (As required by M.G.L. c. 30A §§ 2, 3 & 5) CMR No.: 101 CMR 352.00: Rates for Certain Children's Behavioral Health Services Estimate of the Number of Small Businesses Impacted by the Regulation: There are 45 providers governed by the proposed regulation. Select Yes or No and Briefly Explain Yes 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 352.00. Yes Will small businesses have to implement additional recordkeeping procedures? No $\times$ No. Small businesses will not have to implement additional recordkeeping procedures as a result of the proposed amendments to 101 CMR 352.00. Yes Nο Will small businesses have to provide additional administrative oversight? $\times$ No. Small businesses are not required by 101 CMR 352.00 to provide additional administrative oversight. The proposed regulation establishes the rates to be paid by governmental units for certain children's behavioral health services. Yes Will small businesses have to hire additional employees in order to comply with the proposed No regulation? No. 101 CMR 352.00 does not require small businesses to hire additional employees to remain in compliance. Yes No Does compliance with the regulation require small businesses to hire other professionals (e.g. a lawyer, $\times$ accountant, engineer, etc.)? No. Small businesses are not required by 101 CMR 352.00 to hire other employees to remain in compliance. Yes No Does the regulation require small businesses to purchase a product or make any other capital $\times$ investments in order to comply with the regulation? No. 101 CMR 352.00 does not require small businesses to purchase any particular product or make any capital investments. Yes No 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 No Do any other regulations duplicate or conflict with the proposed regulation? $\times$ No. There are no other regulations that duplicate or conflict with the proposed regulation. Yes No 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 No Does the regulation require small businesses to provide educational services to keep up to date with $\times$ regulatory requirements? No. 101 CMR 352.00 does not require small businesses to provide educational services to keep up to date with regulatory requirements. Yes Is the regulation likely to *deter* the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts? No 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 certain children's behavioral health services.

Yes	No	Is the regulation likely to <i>encourage</i> the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts?
	$\boxtimes$	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 children's behavioral health services.
Yes	No	Does the regulation provide for less stringent compliance or reporting requirements for small
	$\boxtimes$	businesses?
		No. The proposed regulation does not distinguish between small and other businesses.
Yes	No	Does the regulation establish less stringent schedules or deadlines for compliance or reporting
	$\boxtimes$	requirements for small businesses?
		No. The proposed regulation does not distinguish between small and other businesses.
Yes	No	Did the agency consolidate or simplify compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses?
	$\boxtimes$	No. The proposed regulation does not distinguish between small and other businesses.
Yes	No	Can performance standards for small businesses replace design or operational standards without
	$\boxtimes$	hindering delivery of the regulatory objective?
		No. Distinguishing between small and other businesses would not be practicable to implement the
		proposed regulation.
Yes	No	Are there alternative regulatory methods that would minimize the adverse impact on small businesses?
	$\boxtimes$	No. The proposed regulation does not have an adverse impact on small businesses.