

**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, June 27, at 10:00 a.m. relative to the adoption of amendments to the following regulation.

101 CMR 359.00.00: Rates for Home- and Community-Based Services Waivers

The proposed regulation contains rates effective for dates of service on or after November 7, 2025. There is no fiscal impact on cities and towns.

For dates of service on or after November 7, 2025, EOHHS proposes to update the rates for Day Services, currently established in 101 CMR 359.00, by referring to the rates for similar services in 101 CMR 348.00: Rates for Day Habilitation Services. In addition, EOHHS proposes to amend the rates for eight services (Assisted Living, Home Delivered Meals, Independent Living Supports, Adult Companion, Chore Services, Homemaker, Laundry, and Personal Care). Further, the proposed amendments establish a rate for the Assistive Technology-Evaluation and Training services provided by non-agency based individual providers.

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 5:00 p.m. on June 27, 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 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.

June 6, 2025

Small Business Impact Statement

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

CMR No: 101 CMR 359.00: Rates for Home- and Community-Based Services Waivers

Estimate of the Number of Small Businesses Impacted by the Regulation: There are currently about 327 providers of home- and community-based waiver services.

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 regulation.
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 regulation.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to provide additional administrative oversight? No. Small businesses will not have to provide additional administrative oversight as a result of the proposed regulation.
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. Small businesses will not have to hire additional employees to comply with the proposed regulation.
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 to hire other professionals to comply with the regulation.
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. Small businesses are not required to purchase a product or make any other capital investments in order to comply with the regulation.
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. The regulation is required by statute under MGL Chapter 118E, Section 13D, and establishes the rates to be paid by governmental units to providers of non-institutional healthcare services, including certain home- and community-based waiver services.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do any other regulations duplicate or conflict with the proposed regulation? No. No other regulations 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. The regulation requires providers to periodically file cost data to enable the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) to develop rates for certain HCBS waiver services. This cost

		reporting requirement is applied uniformly to all providers and is necessary to enable EOHHS to develop accurate rates that reflect cost data from all providers.
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. This regulation does not require small businesses to provide educational services to keep up to date with the 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 regulation is not likely to deter or encourage the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts, as this regulation governs payments for certain home- and community-based waiver services provided to publicly aided individuals and is applied uniformly among providers.
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 regulation is not likely to deter or encourage the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts, as this regulation governs payments for certain home- and community-based waiver services provided to publicly aided individuals and is applied uniformly among providers.
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 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 providers, as required of EOHHS by statute.
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 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. This regulation does not consolidate or simplify compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses. The cost reporting requirements are applied uniformly to all providers in order for EOHHS to develop rates for services.
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. This regulation is in accordance with EOHHS statutory obligation under MGL Chapter 118E, Section 13D, to establish, by regulation, the rates to be paid by governmental units to providers of certain home- and community-based waiver services.
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 regulation does not have an adverse impact on small businesses. The regulation establishes uniform rates to be paid by governmental units to providers of home- and community-based waiver services, and as required by statute.