Division of Medical Assistance

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Office of Medicaid

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Under the authority of M.G.L. c. 6A, section 16 and in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, the Division of Medical Assistance (the Division) will hold a remote public hearing on Friday, September 18, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. relative to the emergency adoption of amendments to the following regulation.

130 CMR 420.000: Dental Services

130 CMR 420.000 governs the dental policies and requirements by state governmental units for participating MassHealth dental providers. MassHealth is adopting the proposed amendments below on an emergency basis, effective August 1, 2026, to align with the state fiscal year 2027 General Appropriations Act.

The proposed amendments impose a cap on adult coverage of dental services. For MassHealth members 21 years of age and older who are not Department of Development Services clients, coverage of dental services is proposed to be subject to a benefit year maximum of $1,750 per member. The start date of benefit year 2027 is proposed to be identified in MassHealth written issuance. The end date of benefit year 2027 is proposed to be June 30, 2027. Subsequent benefit years are proposed to be July 1–June 30 (e.g., benefit year 2028 would be July 1, 2027–June 30, 2028).

Coverage of the following services is proposed to count toward the benefit year maximum but be payable beyond the benefit year maximum: initial complete denture services after full arch extractions and services identified as payable beyond the benefit year maximum in MassHealth written issuances. The proposed amendments also enable MassHealth to identify, in MassHealth written issuance, services that do not count toward the benefit year maximum and would be payable beyond the benefit year maximum.

The proposed amendments are anticipated to result in a decrease in MassHealth expenditures for dental services for MassHealth members 21 years of age and older. The proposed amendments are anticipated to enable MassHealth to maintain dental benefits for the general adult population without cutting services. 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/masshealth-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 masshealthpublicnotice@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, 1 Enterprise Drive, Quincy, MA 02171, Fourth Floor. Written testimony will be accepted through 5:00 p.m. September 18, 2026. The Division specifically invites comments as to how the amendments may affect beneficiary access to care.

To review the emergency regulation, go to mass.gov/info-details/masshealth-public-hearings or request a copy in writing from MassHealth Publications, 1 Enterprise Drive, Quincy, MA 02171, Fourth Floor.

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.

The Division may adopt a final, revised version of the emergency 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 mass.gov/info-details/masshealth-public-hearings.

August 7, 2026

Small Business Impact Statement

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

CMR No and Title: 130 CMR 420.000: *Dental Services*
Estimate of the Number of Small Businesses Impacted by the Regulation: Approximately 2,100 eligible dental providers.

- **Will small businesses have to create, file, or issue additional reports?**
  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 in order to comply with the proposed emergency amendments.
- **Does compliance with the regulation require small businesses to hire other professionals (e.g. a lawyer, accountant, engineer, etc.)?**
  No. Compliance with the proposed emergency amendments does not require small businesses 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. The proposed emergency amendments will not require small businesses to purchase a product or make any other capital investments in order to comply with the regulation.
- **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 required to accomplish the regulatory objective.
- **Do any other regulations duplicate or conflict with the proposed regulation?**
  No other regulations duplicate or conflict with the proposed regulation.
- **Does the regulation require small businesses to cooperate with audits, inspections or other regulatory enforcement activities?**
  Yes. The regulation continues to require providers to periodically comply with audits, inspections, and other regulatory activities.
- **Does the regulation require small businesses to provide educational services to keep up to date with regulatory requirements?**

No. The regulation does not require small businesses 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 unlikely to deter or encourage the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts.
- **Is the regulation likely to *encourage* the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts?**
  No. The regulation is unlikely to deter or encourage the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts.
- **Does the regulation provide for less stringent compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses?**
  No. The regulation does not distinguish between small and other businesses.
- **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.
- **Did the agency consolidate or simplify compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses?**
  No. The regulation does not distinguish between small and other businesses.
- **Can performance standards for small businesses replace design or operational standards without hindering delivery of the regulatory objective?**
  No. Distinguishing small businesses from other businesses would not be practicable for this regulation.
- **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 and is applied uniformly regardless of whether a provider is a small business.