Who is covered in Massachusetts' Medicaid Program?

**ELIGIBILITY GROUPS**

**MCO**
- Children (0-18 years)
- Current & Former Foster Care Children
- Parents and other Caretaker Relatives
- Pregnant Women
- Aged, Blind, and Disabled Adults
- Dual Eligibles
- Disabled Children
- Incarcerated*
- Newly Eligible Adults
- Qualified Non-Citizens**

**FFS**
- Undocumented Immigrants*

*MassHealth Benefits suspended unless inpatient hospitalization occurs.

**Qualified Non-Citizens are subject to a 5-year waiting requirement, except for children up to 19 years of age and pregnant women.

+ Emergency Medicaid services only.

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Important News

January 2017 - Because of large state expenditures on health care after the ACA expansion, the governor proposes to cut back on state funding. The proposal includes (a) businesses that don't provide their employees' health benefits would have to pay $2,000 per full-time employee to the government, and (b) putting a cap on growth rates for providers' fees so that coverage will be more affordable for employers.

Medicaid Medical Director's Network

The State of Massachusetts has begun the integration of physical health, behavioral health, and LTSS.

The State of Massachusetts implemented new benefits for kids with autism in order to offer applied behavior analysis (ABA) therapy and augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) devices.

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Do Medicaid health plans provide coverage?*

Yes  □  No

*Excludes ACO options

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How has Massachusetts' Medicaid program engaged in Managed Care?

**SECTION 1115 WAIVERS**

**MassHealth** was created to move enrollees that fall under the eligibility groups described in the Affordable Care Act (ACA) from existing state programs to the expanded State Medicaid program. An amendment was submitted on 09/20/2017 to align coverage for non-disabled adults with commercial plans. As of June 2018, the amendment was still pending approval.

| APPROVAL: | 4/24/1995 |
| EFFECTIVE: | 7/1/1997 |
| EXPIRATION: | 6/30/2022 |

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How is Massachusetts meeting the needs of Medicaid enrollees?

Value-Based Healthcare Initiatives
The Massachusetts Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) initiative is designed to provide patient-centered care by working with primary care providers. Services include: Management of chronic conditions, visits to specialists, hospital admissions, and patient reminders for check-ups and tests.

MassHealth launched an Accountable Care Organization (ACO) pilot program in partnership with six health care organizations. The pilot program was used to analyze the effectiveness of ACOs to coordinate and integrate care, the impact on MassHealth, and the cost of care.(citation 9) The pilot program was expanded to a statewide Medicaid ACO program in 2018 that currently includes 18 ACOs.

Massachusetts received a five-year waiver amendment to the MassHealth program approved by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to invest in the state’s Delivery System Reform Incentive Program (DSRIP). The goal is to reform the program to support the transition toward ACO models, including direct funding for community-based providers of behavioral health and long-term services and supports.

Family Planning
MassHealth covers family planning services at approved agencies. Services include:
- Physical examinations
- Cervical cancer screening and follow-up
- Contraception (i.e., pills, condoms, cervical cap, IUDs, and emergency contraception)
- Counseling
- HIV counseling and testing
- HPV vaccinations
- Referrals to other services such as genetic counseling, sterilization services, STD treatment (if beyond the scope of the agency), and pregnancy-related services.
- Community education

Women’s Health
Benefits include:
- Mammograms, preventive health screenings, and treatment for chronic conditions.
- The Healthy Start Program (HSP) helps to provide early, comprehensive, and continuous prenatal care for low-income pregnant women.
- The MassHealth Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Program (MassHealth BCCTP) allows Massachusetts to provide full MassHealth insurance coverage to under/uninsured low-income women diagnosed with breast or cervical cancer.

Mental Health & Substance Use Disorder
MassHealth Primary Care Clinician Plan Members’ behavioral health services are managed by Massachusetts Behavioral Health Partnership. Services include:
- Outpatient mental health services (individual/group therapy, testing, in-home behavioral services)
- Inpatient services
- Outpatient substance use disorder services
- Diversionary services (i.e., support on returning to the community after being in a hospital setting.)
- Emergency services
- Drug therapies covered: methadone, naltrexone, acamprosate, and disulfiram

Oral Health
Dental Service of Massachusetts manages the dental program for MassHealth beneficiaries. Services include:
- Oral exams and cleanings (2 times per calendar year)
- X-rays
- Extractions
- Some oral surgery
- Fillings

In addition, beneficiaries under 21 years of age qualify for:
- Fluoride (every 90 days)
- Sealants (on permanent molars)
- Braces
- Root-canal treatments
- All oral surgery
- Crowns

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**Federal**

- President Johnson signs Social Security Amendments of 1965, creating Medicaid as public health program for the poor.
- Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) services are a requirement for children enrolled in Medicaid.
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program becomes Medicaid eligibility category for the elderly and persons with disabilities.

**Massachusetts**

- 1965: Massachusetts adopts the Medicaid program.  
- 1966: Massachusetts introduces managed care through limited Managed Care Organization (MCO) and Patient-Centered Care Management (PCCM) programs.
- 1970: Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waivers created for Long-Term Care (LTC) and Disproportional Share Hospital (DSH) payments.
- 1972: Children and pregnant women become mandatory Medicaid eligibility groups.
- 1981: Children up to age 6 and pregnant women up to 133 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL) become eligible; EPSDT benefit expanded. Mandatory eligibility extended to children ages 6 to 18 years in families up to 100 percent FPL; eligibility phased in from 1990 through 2002.
- 1984: Balanced Budget Act of 1997 allows Medicaid to be delivered through managed care organizations; State Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) created; states now have option to provide coverage for uninsured children in low-income families above FPL. Olmstead decision allows expanded HCBS coverage for persons with disabilities.
- 1990: Massachusetts expands the MCO programs to cover more enrollees and adds a mental health prepaid health plan.
- 1997: MassHealth is implemented to expand Medicaid to eligible populations including pregnant women, parents or adult caretakers, infants, children, and individuals with disabilities. Eligibility is also expanded to certain non-categorically eligible populations, including unemployed adults and non-disabled persons living with HIV.
- 1999: Massachusetts expands community-based, long-term care through the Senior Care Options (SCO) program for adults over age 65, including those enrolled in Medicare.
- 2004: MassHealth expands coverage directly to the uninsured.
- 2005: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) approves multiple changes to the MassHealth demonstration waiver, including the power to establish the Commonwealth Care program, changes in premium subsidies to offer coverage for uninsured persons at or below 300% of the federal poverty level (FPL), expansion of employee income eligibility to 300% of the FPL, and an increase in enrollment caps for MassHealth Essential and the HIV/Family Assistance Program.
- 2006: Massachusetts launches an integrated care program, for dual eligibles under age 65.
- 2010: MassHealth authorizes Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act.
- 2012: The state of Massachusetts announces that it will expand coverage for Hepatitis C treatment to all enrollees, regardless of how they receive coverage.
- 2013: Massachusetts pilots an Accountable Care Organization (ACO) program with 6 ACOs.
- 2014: Massachusetts launches its statewide ACO program with 18 ACOs. The program is currently running 3 models: 1) An accountable care partnership where MCOs are integrated with an ACO provider; 2) A primary care ACO contracts directly with the state; 3) An ACO provider that contracts directly with a MassHealth MCO.
- 2016: 32 states and the District of Columbia (DC) have expanded Medicaid since passage of the ACA.
- 2017: Last Updated: June 2018
- 2018: For a complete list of sources, please contact the Institute for Medicaid Innovation at info@medicaidinnovation.org