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PI-23-04
REF: PI-22-03

PROGRAM INSTRUCTION

TO: Aging Service Access Points Executive Directors

FROM: Lynn C. Vidler, Director of Home and Community Services, MBA, BSW

DATE: March 27, 2023

RE: Revised Cost Share Table for the Home Care Program 2023

Purpose:

This Program Instruction (PI) transmits the Financial Eligibility Guidelines that take effect on May 1, 2023, for the Home Care Program, and sets out the voluntary co-payment and cost sharing co-payment schedules.

Background:

The U.S. Social Security Administration recently announced an 8.7 percent Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increase from calendar year 2022. Accordingly, monthly Social Security and SSI benefits will increase 8.7 percent in calendar year 2023.

As required under 651 CMR 3.04(4)(b), the Executive Office of Elder Affairs (EOEA) has adjusted the Financial Eligibility Guidelines to incorporate the COLA increase. By increasing these Financial Eligibility Guidelines, EOEA ensures anyone at or below Federal Poverty Level (FPL) will be excluded from cost sharing for services.

Revised Voluntary Co-payment and Cost Share Schedule:

EOEA will continue to request a voluntary donation from consumers whose income does not exceed the amounts set forth in the Voluntary Co-payment section of the Financial Eligibility Guidelines.

MassHealth members with any coverage type whose income is at or below 300% of Supplemental Security Income Federal Benefit Rate (SSI FBR) (\$2,742.00/month or \$32,904.00/year in CY 2023, regardless of marital status) are exempt from all co-payments, including voluntary co-payments. Aging Services Access Points (ASAPS) will continue to have the ability to waive and reduce co-payment amounts based on hardships that impact the consumer's ability to pay. The cost-share schedule below identifies the monthly co-payment amounts in accordance with the income guidelines at both the maximum fixed rate and as a percent of the cost of services received during the month. In addition, the two-person cost-share schedule is based on the joint income of a two-person married household.

Effective Date:

The effective date of this Program Instruction is May 1, 2023.

Contact:

If you have questions about this PI, please contact Shannon Turner, Home Care Program Coordinator at: Shannon.K.Turner@mass.gov

**MASSACHUSETTS HOME CARE PROGRAM
VOLUNTARY CO-PAYMENT AND COST SHARING SCHEDULES**

Issue Date: 3/27/23

Effective Date: 5/01/23

VOLUNTARY CO-PAYMENT:

| Family size | Annual Gross Income | Voluntary Monthly Co-Payment |
|-------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 | \$14,982 or less | \$10.00 |
| 2 | \$20,176 or less | \$14.00 |

COST SHARING – MAXIMUM FIXED MONTHLY AMOUNT BASED ON SERVICES RECEIVED DURING THE MONTH:

| One Person Annual Gross Income | | | Max Fixed Monthly Co-pay | Two Person (Married) Annual Gross Income | | | Max Fixed Monthly Co-pay |
|--------------------------------|---|----------|--------------------------|--|---|----------|--------------------------|
| \$14,983 | - | \$18,058 | \$10 | \$20,177 | - | \$24,888 | \$14 |
| \$18,059 | - | \$21,307 | \$13 | \$24,889 | - | \$29,915 | \$18 |
| \$21,308 | - | \$23,534 | \$27 | \$29,916 | - | \$32,446 | \$40 |
| \$23,535 | - | \$25,218 | \$39 | \$32,447 | - | \$34,970 | \$55 |
| \$25,219 | - | \$26,899 | \$49 | \$34,971 | - | \$37,502 | \$68 |
| \$26,900 | - | \$28,576 | \$69 | \$37,503 | - | \$40,035 | \$96 |
| \$28,577 | - | \$30,260 | \$90 | \$40,036 | - | \$42,558 | \$126 |
| \$30,261 | - | \$31,935 | \$125 | \$42,559 | - | \$45,093 | \$176 |
| \$31,936 | - | \$33,659 | \$141 | \$45,094 | - | \$47,626 | \$199 |

MassHealth Members whose income is below \$32,904 (300% FBR) do not have a co-pay

COST SHARING - PERCENT COPAYMENT BASED ON COST OF SERVICES RECEIVED DURING THE MONTH:

| One Person Annual Gross Income | | | Monthly Co-pay % of Services Received | Two Person (Married) Annual Gross Income | | | Monthly Co-pay % of Services Received |
|--------------------------------|---|----------|---------------------------------------|--|---|----------|---------------------------------------|
| \$33,660 | - | \$36,471 | 50% | \$47,627 | - | \$49,239 | 50% |
| \$36,472 | - | \$39,205 | 55% | \$49,240 | - | \$51,971 | 55% |
| \$39,206 | - | \$41,943 | 60% | \$51,972 | - | \$54,711 | 60% |
| \$41,944 | - | \$44,677 | 65% | \$54,712 | - | \$57,444 | 65% |
| \$44,678 | - | \$47,411 | 70% | \$57,445 | - | \$60,178 | 70% |
| \$47,412 | - | \$50,150 | 75% | \$60,179 | - | \$62,913 | 75% |
| \$50,151 | - | \$52,880 | 80% | \$62,914 | - | \$65,650 | 80% |
| \$52,881 | - | \$55,617 | 85% | \$65,651 | - | \$68,384 | 85% |
| \$55,618 | - | \$58,358 | 90% | \$68,385 | - | \$71,118 | 90% |
| \$58,359 | - | \$61,089 | 95% | \$71,119 | - | \$73,856 | 95% |
| \$61,090 | - | and over | 100% | \$73,857 | - | and over | 100% |