

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop: S2-26-12
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



DEC 30 2013

Kristin Thorn
Medicaid Director
Office of Medicaid
Department of Health and Human Services
1 Ashburn Place, 11th Floor, Room 1109
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Ms. Thorn:

This letter is in response to Massachusetts' correspondence, dated December 17, 2013, requesting additional transition support for beneficiaries who are not able to receive a full eligibility determination for MassHealth or Marketplace coverage. I am pleased to inform you that your request is approved. This approach should help to ensure no delays or gaps in coverage for eligible individuals.

This letter amends the state's current MassHealth demonstration (project number 11-W-00030/1) under section 1115 of the Social Security Act (the Act) by granting 1115(a)(2) expenditure authority effective for costs incurred for the period January 1, 2014 through March 31, 2014, by a state-funded program to ensure temporary coverage for individuals who are not able to receive a full eligibility determination for MassHealth or Marketplace coverage. This expenditure authority will help the Commonwealth to ensure there are no delays or gaps in coverage while processing applications, including Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) eligibility determinations, via a manual process until such time that its electronic eligibility system is fully operational. This short-term coverage will enable such individuals to make an orderly transition to the appropriate coverage option.

The Commonwealth assures that it will take all steps possible to ensure a full and accurate eligibility determination as quickly as possible and will provide monthly enrollment data to CMS. In addition, the Commonwealth assures that no federal funds will be claimed for state transition program expenditures for individuals whose enrollment in other coverage options has become effective or whose income is ultimately found to be higher than 400 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL) and are not eligible for MassHealth coverage during the period the expenditure authority is in effect. Massachusetts also assures that its reconciliation process for the state transition program is auditable. Finally, the Commonwealth will count these state transition expenditures as part of its with waiver expenditures in future budget neutrality worksheet submissions.

The authorities provided in this demonstration award are subject to CMS receiving your written acknowledgement of this approval and acceptance of these new authorities within 30 days of the date of this letter.

The state's existing approved Special Terms and Conditions (STCs), waivers, and expenditure authorities for the demonstration in all other respects remain unchanged, and in effect. We look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff. If you have questions regarding this award, please contact Mr. Eliot Fishman, Director, Children and Adults Health Programs Group, Center for Medicaid & CHIP Services, at (410) 786-5647.

Sincerely,



Cindy Mann
Director

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cc:

Rich McGreal, ARA, Boston Regional Office