



Student Health Insurance Program Update

MARIA JOY DAWLEY

Product Manager, Health and Dental Plans, Massachusetts Health Connector

DAVID GRECO

Director of Third Party Liability and Premium Assistance, MassHealth

COLLEEN MURPHY

MassHealth Premium Assistance Project Lead, UMass Medical School Center for Health Care Financing

Today's Discussion



Today we will present to the Board this year's renewal of public Student Health Insurance Plans (SHIP) and an update on the SHIP MassHealth Premium Assistance program.

- For Academic Year (AY) 2017/2018, the Health Connector facilitated securing modest renewal increases for the Commonwealth's public institutions of higher education: 16 Community Colleges, nine State Universities and four (out of five) University of Massachusetts (UMass) campuses
- In addition, we will provide an update on the SHIP MassHealth Premium Assistance (PA) program, a joint Health Connector and MassHealth effort
 - The PA program established a partnership with institutions of higher education to facilitate access to SHIPs for MassHealth enrollees that provides students with access to broader commercial networks and benefits at a savings to the Commonwealth



**Background and Academic
Year 2017/2018 Renewal
Negotiations**

Background: Student Health Insurance in Massachusetts



- Massachusetts has required students enrolled in higher education programs to be covered by health insurance since 1989 – one of the country’s first individual mandates
- Under this requirement, every school (both public and private, fully insured and self-funded) in Massachusetts must offer a SHIP which is only available to the school’s students and is outside of the Commonwealth’s merged individual and small group market
- Since the implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in 2014, fewer students were enrolling in SHIPs, likely due to the availability of insurance options through MassHealth and the Health Connector
- Colleges and universities are required to allow students to waive SHIP if they are enrolled in MassHealth or in subsidized coverage through the Health Connector
- Since the introduction of the MassHealth SHIP PA program in Fall 2016, the public colleges and universities’ SHIP enrollment has begun to increase

Academic Year 2017/2018 Renewal Summary



Public college and university premium changes for Academic Year 2017/2018 range from zero to ten percent.

- For the 2017/2018 renewal period, the Health Connector’s Chief Actuary forecasted potential renewal ranges expected from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts (BCBSMA) based on each segment’s claims experience and loss ratios
 - This analysis predicted premium increases ranging from approximately 0–18%
- Final renewal negotiations resulted in most schools receiving renewals below the forecasted increases
 - There were no renewals greater than 10%
 - The community colleges made plan modifications to bring their rate increase down from an initial 9.1% increase to an increase of 5.1%

	UMW*	UMD	UML	UMB	MASU	MACC
Current AY 16/17 Annual Premium**	\$3,850	\$2,168	\$1,435	\$2,035	\$2,511	\$1,629
Chief Actuary Predicted % Increase	8.8%	0.0%	13.1%	1.2%	18.7%	10.0%
Actual % Change Compared to Current	9.27%	0.0%	9.27%	1.97%	9.72%	5.10%
Actual \$ Change Compared to Current	\$357	\$0	\$133	\$40	\$244	\$83
Final Annual Premium AY 17/18**	\$4,207	\$2,168	\$1,568	\$2,075	\$2,755	\$1,712

*UMass Worcester (UMW), UMass Dartmouth (UMD), UMass Lowell (UML), UMass Boston (UMB), State Universities (MASU), Community Colleges (MACC)

**Premiums shown are inclusive of all fees (broker, Health Connector, travel assistance, and UMD and UML’s school-specific fees).

A large, stylized white cross is centered on a light green background. The cross is composed of four thick, rounded arms that meet at the center. The background is a solid light green color.

MassHealth Premium Assistance for SHIPs

Tool to Support SHIP Market: Premium Assistance



Premium Assistance is a MassHealth program designed to provide a cost-effective way of delivering benefits to MassHealth members who have access to private insurance by assisting with payments for their private coverage.

- Enrollment in MassHealth Premium Assistance is mandatory for those eligible for the program
- MassHealth's purchasing of private insurance helps ensure that MassHealth is the payor of last resort, as required by federal law, as the private insurance becomes the primary payor of services
- Eligibility for MassHealth PA is determined based on the individual's MassHealth coverage type and the type of private health insurance that the individual is enrolled in or has access to, including whether it is cost effective to purchase
- Under the SHIP PA program led by MassHealth, the Health Connector and EHS, Massachusetts students are able to maintain their Medicaid benefits while enrolling in their schools' SHIP health plans
- Students enrolled in the SHIP PA program maintain their MassHealth premium and benefits/cost sharing for MassHealth covered services, while also being able to access broader networks and services at the SHIP health plan's cost sharing levels

SHIP Premium Assistance: Program Launch



The SHIP PA program launched for Fall 2016 in collaboration with MassHealth, the Health Connector and the public colleges and universities.

- The public institutions of higher education were targeted in the pilot year because of the high number of students accessing MassHealth
- The program began in June 2016 for AY 2016/2017 enrollment, with 5,054 public college and university students enrolled in the first year
- The SHIP PA launch included a number of operational efforts:
 - Business process and system development for colleges and universities and the three third-party administrators (TPAs) (Gallagher Student Health, University Health Plans and Consolidated Health Plans)
 - College and university communication, outreach, and education, and establishment of a toll-free customer service MassHealth SHIP PA line dedicated to helping students in the MassHealth SHIP PA program
- Student and school administrator feedback in the first year of the program was largely positive but highlighted the need for increased communication and education, particularly regarding coordination of benefits

SHIP Premium Assistance: AY 2017/2018



Beginning this academic year, enrollment in the SHIP PA program is mandatory for eligible students, significantly increasing the number of enrollees in the program.

- In the first year, enrollment in the SHIP PA program was optional for eligible students with MassHealth
- Beginning in AY 2017/2018, enrollment in the SHIP PA program is mandatory for MassHealth-eligible students at participating schools
- Systems updates were implemented to address mandatory enrollment and enhanced reporting and matching capabilities
- Marketing and educational materials were developed, with a focus on coordination of benefits to support students in using both their MassHealth coverage and their school's SHIP

SHIP Premium Assistance: AY 2017/2018 (cont'd)



Forty-nine private colleges and universities joined the MassHealth SHIP PA program in AY 2017/2018.

- The three TPAs (Gallagher Student Health, University Health Plans and Consolidated Health Plans) serving the public colleges and universities were key partners in the launch of the MassHealth SHIP PA program
- With the support of these TPAs, the SHIP PA program expanded beyond the 30 public schools to 49 private schools, for a total of 79 participating colleges and universities for Fall 2017
- A fourth TPA, United Student Services, joined the SHIP PA program for AY 2017/2018
- To date for AY 2017/2018, approximately 16,000 eligibility approval letters have been sent for the MassHealth SHIP PA program
- The overall projection for total MassHealth SHIP PA enrollment for AY 2017/2018, including participating public and private schools, is about 21,500

SHIP Premium Assistance: Next Steps

Next steps for the SHIP PA program include expansion to additional private schools and enhanced education and outreach.

- The SHIP PA team is working with additional private schools not currently serviced by one of the existing TPAs to bring them into the program in future years
- Further development of marketing and educational materials, including more informational materials available online
- To manage the increased volume associated with mandatory enrollment, web service functionality is being developed

Changes to the MassHealth SHIP Premium Assistance Program for 2017



We are pleased to announce that MassHealth recently received new federal approval via a Section 1115 Demonstration Waiver relating to the MassHealth SHIP Premium Assistance Program (SHIP PA). Below is an overview of those new approvals with some important new information about the SHIP PA.

What changes are coming to MassHealth SHIP Premium Assistance Program?

- **Mandatory Enrollment.** Under the new federal approval, students who are MassHealth eligible are required to enroll in those SHIP plans as a condition of their MassHealth eligibility. This mandatory enrollment process is being coordinated with enrollment brokers, and is expected to be implemented for all public colleges and universities in the Commonwealth for the fall 2017 enrollment. There also is a smaller roll out for certain private colleges for the spring 2017 enrollment. For questions about your particular school, please contact your enrollment broker or call 1-855-273-5903.
- **Reimbursement for Out of Pocket Expenses for Non-MassHealth Providers.** MassHealth is covering out-of-pocket expenses when a SHIP PA student visits a provider who is in-network with MassHealth and Blue Cross Blue Shield networks for MassHealth covered services. Under the new federal approvals, MassHealth is now able to cover out-of-pocket expenses when a SHIP PA student visits any Blue Cross Blue Shield in-network provider regardless of whether that provider is a MassHealth provider. Depending on the provider's policies, the student may be required to pay out-of-pocket expenses up front before being reimbursed. This new rule will also be implemented at the beginning of the fall 2016 SHIP plan policy start date. This enhanced benefit will allow students to see even more providers at no extra cost to the students. For questions about how to see a provider, please call 1-855-273-5903.

How do students access SHIP PA benefits?

- Students who are MassHealth members should identify themselves as being on MassHealth when they begin the SHIP waiver and enrollment processes. Once they log on and identify themselves as MassHealth, they will need to provide their 12-digit MassHealth ID number from their ID card. Then they just need to follow the online process, which will verify they are eligible for the program. If so, they will be automatically enrolled.
- Once enrolled in SHIP PA, if the student was previously on a MassHealth managed care plan (e.g., Neighborhood Health Plan, BMC HealthNet, Tufts Health Together, CeltiCare or Fallon) and disenrolled from that managed care plan because BCBS will now become their primary health plan, MassHealth becoming the secondary plan. The student should show both their BCBS ID card when seeking services.

Do you have MassHealth coverage?

If so, you will be required* to enroll in your school's Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) at no additional cost to you



If you currently have MassHealth coverage, you may be able to enroll in your school's health insurance plan, without paying any more than you currently do. If you qualify, you will be automatically enrolled into your school's SHIP, and MassHealth will pay for your SHIP premium.

You'll get more benefits, without paying more

- Through this MassHealth Premium Assistance program, you'll pay the same amount that you do now, but you'll be able to:
- Have a greater choice of providers when you need health care services. You can use any of the providers in your school's Blue Cross Blue Shield of MA PPO network, with no referral necessary.
 - Pay the same MassHealth low or no co-pay when you see an in-network Blue Cross Blue Shield.
 - Be covered when you're in other states or anywhere around the world if you are traveling.

How to get started

- Make sure you enter your 12-digit MassHealth ID number when you fill out information on your school's waiver form.
- You can find your MassHealth ID number on your MassHealth ID card.

What's next?

After you submit your information through your school's waiver process, you will be emailed updates about the status of your submission. If you are eligible, MassHealth will mail you a letter to verify that you have been enrolled in the MassHealth Premium Assistance program.


Questions?

If you have questions about your eligibility for the Premium Assistance program, call MassHealth Premium Assistance at 1-855-273-5903.

* some exceptions apply

Information current as of January 2017



The background is a solid light green color. A large, white, stylized letter 'A' is centered on the page. The 'A' is composed of a vertical bar on the left, a vertical bar on the right, and a horizontal bar at the top. The horizontal bar is slightly curved. The overall design is minimalist and modern.

Appendix

AY 2017/2018 Plan Design Summary



In-Network	UMW*	UMD	UML	UMB	MASU	MACC**
Deductible	\$0/\$250 OON	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$0	\$250
Co-insurance	100%	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%
OOPM	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
ER	\$25	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$25	\$150
Inpatient Hospital	100%	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%
Primary Care	\$10	\$30	\$30	\$30	\$15	\$30
Specialist	\$10	\$30	\$30	\$30	\$15	\$30
MH/SA Outpatient	\$10	\$30	\$30	\$30	\$15	\$30
Imaging	100%	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
Rehab ST/OT/PT	\$10	\$30	\$30	\$30	\$15	\$30
Lab Outpatient	100%	80%	80%	80%	80%	\$50
X-Rays	100%	80%	80%	80%	80%	\$50
Outpatient Facility	100%	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%
Outpatient Surgery	100%	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%
Rx-Retail-30 Days	\$10/\$20/\$35	\$15/\$30/\$50	\$15/\$30/\$50	\$15/\$30/\$50	\$10/\$20/\$30	\$20/\$40/\$60

*UMass Worcester (UMW), UMass Dartmouth (UMD), UMass Lowell (UML), UMass Boston (UMB), State Universities (MASU), Community Colleges (MACC)

**Bolded/italicized elements represent changes to the plan from AY 2016/2017.