



Behavioral Health Peer and Paraprofessional Services: MassHealth Benefits

Purpose: This document summarizes behavioral health (BH) benefits that are separately reimbursable through MassHealth when delivered by peer and paraprofessional providers to MassHealth members who are 18 years old and above. It is intended as a quick-reference guide to compare role description, workforce expectations, medical necessity criteria, allowable provider settings, applicable MassHealth program and rate regulations, billing codes and modifiers, and current rate information. The table below focuses only on services with distinct reimbursement for peer or paraprofessional roles; it does not include the broader set of MassHealth behavioral health services that may incorporate peer or paraprofessional staff within a bundled or program-based reimbursement structure (i.e., CBHCs). For information on paraprofessional services for MassHealth members under the age of 21 offered through the Children’s Behavioral Health Initiative (CBHI) see here: [Rate Regulations](#) and [Performance Specifications](#).

Name of Service	Role Description	Workforce Requirements	Medical Necessity	Provider Settings	Regulations	Code & Modifier	Rate
<u>Community Support Program (CSP)</u>	Behavioral health diversionary services provided through community-based, mobile, paraprofessional staff to members.	• Bachelor's degree in related field • OR two years of work experience OR lived experience (i.e., behavioral health (BH), homelessness, Justice Involvement); • OR could be a qualified certified peer specialist	• Have a BH disorder diagnosis (Dx) • A demonstrated need for BH diversionary services and at risk of admission (see <u>here</u> for definition) • Member must not require a more intensive level of care/service • Member voluntary consent	While CSP is a mobile service, a provider must be an organization that provides mental health or substance use disorder services and operates under a valid license issued by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH).	• Program regulations: <u>130 CMR 461</u> • Rate regulations: <u>101 CMR 362</u>	H2015	\$17.54 (per 15 min unit)
<u>Community Support Program for Justice Involved (CSP-JI)</u>	A specialized CSP service to address the health-related social needs of members with justice involvement and have a barrier to accessing or consistently utilizing medical and behavioral	• Bachelor's degree • OR 3 years of relevant work experience or lived experience	• Must meet all medical necessity criteria for CSP, and: • Have justice involvement when the service begins • Have a barrier to accessing or utilizing medical/ BH services (see	While CSP-JI is a mobile service, a provider must be an organization that provides mental health or substance use disorder services and operates under a valid license issued by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH).	• Program regulations: <u>130 CMR 461</u> • Rate regulations: <u>101 CMR 362</u>	H2016-HH	\$23.33 (per diem/case rate)

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	health services, as defined by EOHHS.		more information here) • Demonstrate a need for BH diversionary services with modified time frames from CSP expectations				
<u>Community Support Program for Tenancy Preservation Program (CSP-TPP)</u>	A specialized CSP service to address the health-related social needs of members who are at risk of homelessness and facing eviction as a result of behavior related to a disability. CSP-TPP works with the member, the Housing Court, and the member's landlord to preserve tenancies by connecting the member to community-based services in order to address the underlying issues	• Bachelor's degree in related field • OR two years of work experience OR lived experience (i.e., behavioral health (BH), homelessness, Justice Involvement) • OR could be a qualified certified peer specialist	• Meet the criteria for CSP • Meet one of the health needs based criteria (defined here) • At risk of homelessness; • AND facing eviction when the service begins	Provider must have an active contract with Department of Housing and Community Development or MassHousing to provide tenancy preservation program services.	• Program regulations: 130 CMR 461 • Rate regulations: 101 CMR 362	H2016-HE	\$23.33 (per diem/case rate)

Sources: MassHealth regulations (links are included in "Regulations" column); MBHP performance specifications (links are included in the "Name of Service" column)

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	causing the lease violation.						
<u>Community Support Program for Homeless Individuals (CSP-HI)</u>	A specialized CSP service to address the health-related social needs of members who (1) are experiencing homelessness and are frequent users of acute health MassHealth services, as defined by EOHS; or (2) are experiencing chronic homelessness, as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development	• Bachelor's degree in related field • OR two years of work experience OR lived experience (i.e., behavioral health (BH), homelessness, Justice Involvement) • OR could be a qualified certified peer specialist	• Must meet medical necessity for CSP, either through a diagnosis or member attestation, and: • meet one of the health needs based criteria (defined here) • Must meet specific housing status and imminent housing expectations	Provider must: have experience providing services to persons with mental health disorders or substance use disorders or both; at least two years of history providing pre-tenancy, transition into housing, and tenancy sustaining; specialized professional staff with knowledge of housing	• Program regulations: 130 CMR 461 • Rate regulations: 101 CMR 362	H2016-HK	\$28.35 (per diem/case rate)
<u>Recovery Support Navigator (RSN)</u>	A paraprofessional who receives specialized training in the essentials of substance use disorder or other addictive disorders and evidence-	• Bachelor's degree in related field • OR two years of work experience OR lived experience (i.e., behavioral	• Must demonstrate symptomatology consistent with the most current DSM (that can be treated with therapeutic intervention) and	The RSN is employed by a larger organization that provides mental health or addiction services and is licensed within the commonwealth of Massachusetts.	• Program regulations: 130 CMR 418 • Rate regulations: 101 CMR 444	H2015-HF	\$17.54 (per 15 min unit)

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	based techniques such as motivational interviewing, and who supports members in accessing and navigating the SUD treatment system through activities that can include care coordination, case management, and motivational support.	health (BH)/ substance use disorder conditions)	at least one of the following: • Discharge from a 24 hr. BH inpatient/ diversionary service within 180 days • Multiple MCI or ED encounters within 90 days • Loss of employment, family supports within 90 days • Currently pregnant up to 12 months post-partum • Barrier in accessing BH services • Changing or starting MOUD				
<u>Certified Peer Specialist (CPS)</u>	A person who has been trained by an agency approved by the Department of Mental Health (DMH) who is a	• Individual currently in sustained mental health recovery or have lived	• Must demonstrate symptomatology consistent with the most current DSM (that can be treated with	CBHCs (including CCS, MCI, etc.) and CMHCs	• Program regulations: <u>130 CMR 429</u> • Rate regulations:	H0046-HE	\$22.95 (per diem/case rate)

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	self-identified person with lived experience of a mental health disorder and wellness who can effectively share their experiences and serve as a mentor, advocate, or facilitator for a member experiencing a mental health disorder.	experiences with BH; • AND must be certified/ trained in accordance with EOHHS	therapeutic intervention) and at least one of the following: • Member is attempting to achieve or maintain recovery • Member could benefit from education and support • Member could benefit from a peer • OR the member could be referred by a CBHC. • Find more information here .		101 CMR 306		
Peer Recovery Coach (PRC)	An individual currently in recovery who has lived experience with substance use or other addictive disorders and/or co-occurring mental health disorders	• At least a high school diploma or GED; • AND participated in trainings as directed by EOHHS; • AND must have obtained or	• Must demonstrate symptomatology consistent with the most current DSM (that can be treated with therapeutic intervention) and	The Peer RC is employed by a larger organization that provides BH services and is licensed within MA.	• Program regulations: 130 CMR 418 • Rate regulations: 101 CMR 346	H2016-HM	\$23.15 (per diem/case rate)

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	and has been trained to help their peers with a similar experience to gain hope, explore recovery, and achieve life goals. Peer recovery coaches engage in an equitable, non-clinical relationship with the member focused on removing obstacles to recovery. Peer recovery coaches link members to the recovery community and engage in mentoring.	working to obtain their Certified Addiction Recovery Coach (CARC).	at least one of the following: • Member is attempting to achieve or maintain recovery • Member could benefit from recovery supports and education and peer support/connections • Member could benefit from the structure of a wellness plan • OR Member is referred by a PCP. • Find more information here				

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