



MASSACHUSETTS MEDICAID BASICS 2017

■ **Countable Assets**

- \$ 2,000 Single Individual
- \$ 2,000 Institutionalized Spouse
- \$120,900 Maximum Spousal Resource Allowance (community spouse)

■ **Noncountable Assets**

- \$1,500 Burial Account (both spouses)
- Pre-paid Funeral (both spouses): no limitation on amount
- \$1,500 Face Value of noncountable life insurance
- Investment Real Estate (“business property essential to self-support”): no limitation on value*
- Principal Residence: If Equity value is less than \$840,000.00**

* Is subject to estate recovery

** Is subject to estate recovery, unless qualifying long term care insurance policy is in place, and applicant indicates no intent to return home

■ **Income Criteria**

- \$2,002 Minimum Monthly Maintenance Needs Allowance (income for community spouse)
- \$3,022 Maximum Monthly Maintenance Needs Allowance (income for community spouse)

■ **Five Year Lookback Period**

■ **Disqualification Period**

- For all asset transfers within the five year lookback period
- \$354.00 per day/\$10,768.00 per month
- Commences at time of application, **not** at time of transfer

■ **Long Term Care Insurance:** A MassHealth Qualified Long Term Care Insurance Policy must

- Cover Nursing Home Care for at least 730 days (2 years)
- Pay at least \$125.00 per day for Nursing Home care, and
- Not require an elimination period of more than 365 days (or a deductible of more than \$54,750)

■ **Annuities**

- Life expectancy charts must be adhered to for annuity payments to be considered actuarially sound
- Must be irrevocable, nontransferable and un-assignable
- Must be annuitized prior to application
- For immediate annuity of an applicant, Commonwealth must be the primary beneficiary
- For immediate annuity of a community spouse, Commonwealth need not be primary beneficiary with respect to benefits paid on behalf of the institutionalized spouse

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A qualified estate planning attorney should be consulted before you make any Estate or Medicaid Planning decision.