



State-Funded Elder Home Care (Massachusetts)

The Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs provides home care services to eligible elders. A case manager, in collaboration with the patient, will determine eligibility and approve appropriate services.

Services might include homemaker, personal care assistance, an Adult Day Health program, home delivered meals, transportation, and money management. See the full list at: mass.gov/service-details/home-care-services.

Eligibility

To qualify one must meet age, care needs and financial need requirements.

1. **Age:** one must be 60 years or older, or under 60 with a diagnosis of Alzheimer’s disease and in need of respite services.
2. **Care needs:** one must require assistance for certain tasks **and** must have “critical unmet needs”.
 - **Critical Unmet Needs** include **Activities of Daily Living** (“ADLs”: bathing, dressing, eating, toileting, continence, transferring, and mobility), and **the following Instrumental Activities of Daily Living** (or IADLs): meal preparation, shopping, medical transportation, and need for home health services or respite care.
 - Additional, non-critical, IADLs include laundry, managing money, housework, use of telephone, outdoor mobility, and taking medicine.
 - Depending on funding levels, requests may need to be prioritized. Generally, the greater the number of ADLs and IADLs requiring assistance, the higher the priority. Those who only (or primarily) need help with IADLs may be classified as lower priority or may not qualify.
3. **Financial need:** In 2023 the maximum income to qualify for homecare is \$33,659 for an individual or \$47,626 for a couple. MassHealth members are financially eligible.
 - **Note on respite services** - Those providing daily care for an elder may qualify for help paying for respite services. The amount of help depends on income, but the income limit is much higher than the homecare limit listed above. See: mass.gov/service-details/check-eligibility-guidelines-for-home-care.

To Apply

Call 800AgeInfo (800-243-4636 or TTY 800-872-0166) or see massoptions.org/massoptions/ for your local **Ageing Services Access Point** (ASAP) agency.