

The **Personal Care Attendant Program (PCA)** is a MassHealth funded program that helps people with long-term disabilities live independently at home.

**What does this program offer?**

The PCA program gives each eligible MassHealth member funds to hire a personal care attendant to help with activities of daily living (ADLs) such as bathing, dressing, eating, toileting, range of motion exercises, taking medications, and moving about inside the home. The MassHealth member becomes the employer, and is in charge of hiring, firing, training, and supervising the PCA.

**Participant's Eligibility?**

- Has MassHealth Standard or CommonHealth.
- Their doctor or nurse practitioner must prescribe the personal care services for them.
- Must have a permanent or chronic disability that prevents them from taking care of their personal needs.
- Must need physical assistance with two or more activities of daily living (ADLs).
- Their personal care services must be medically necessary, and they must have a prior authorization from MassHealth.

**Who can be a Personal Care Attendant (PCA)?**

- Must be legally authorized to work in the United States.
- Must be able to understand and carry out the participant's instructions.
- Cannot be a spouse, legal responsible relative, or the participant's surrogate.
- Must be willing to be trained and supervised by the participant or their surrogate.

**The PCA will be paid to:**

- Provide services for the number of daytime and nighttime hours per week approved by MassHealth.
- Perform the services specified in the participant's PCA evaluation.

**The PCA will not be paid to:**

- Help the participant while they are in a hospital or nursing facility, or in community programs funded by MassHealth.
- Provide social services such as babysitting, recreation, or educational activities.
- Provide medical services that are available from other MassHealth providers.



**For more information or to make a referral:  
Call Boston ElderINFO at  
617-292-6211**

