

# 2025-2026 BENEFITS GUIDE

For benefits and rates effective JULY 1, 2025 – JUNE 30, 2026

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS EMPLOYEES, RETIREES & SURVIVORS



View this Benefits Guide on the MyGICLink member benefits portal or <u>mass.gov/GIC</u>



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# REVIEW THIS GUIDE TO IDENTIFY WHICH BENEFITS YOU'RE ELIGIBLE FOR AND WHICH OPTIONS ARE BEST FOR YOU.

You may only enroll in or change your health plan during GIC's spring annual enrollment or within 60 days of a qualifying event. For information about annual enrollment and a complete list of qualifying events, visit <u>mass.gov/gic</u>.

The GIC strongly encourages members to actively shop and evaluate different coverage options. Please carefully review this guide as well as detailed benefits information for each GIC benefit carrier available at <u>mass.gov/lists/contact-gic-benefit-plans</u>, to make informed decisions about your coverage.

Existing members, after reviewing your options, if you wish to keep your current GIC benefits, no action is required and your benefits will remain in place at the new rates effective July 1, 2025.



**Flexible Spending Accounts (Employees only):** You must re-enroll if you wish to participate in a health care or dependent care FSA effective July 1, 2025.

View page 8 for more information.

#### New in FY2026:

**Basic Life Insurance:** The Basic Life Insurance benefit will increase from \$5,000 to \$10,000 on July 1, 2025.

**Dental and Vision Benefits:** Effective July 1, 2025, the GIC's active employee and retiree dental and vision benefits will be administered by Altus. You do not need to re-enroll to continue coverage. More information can be found on page 11 and **altusdental.com/gic**.

**Hinge Health:** Beginning on July 1, 2025, members enrolled in GIC health coverage will have access to Hinge Health, a digital health benefit for musculoskeletal care. More information can be found on page 3.

# **IMPORTANT REMINDERS**



- 1. Contact your health and other insurance plans about tier changes, network coverage, providers, drug tiers, wellness benefits, and more.
- 2. Which tier are your doctors and hospitals in? When checking provider coverage and tiers, be sure to specify the health insurance plan's full name, such as "Harvard Pilgrim Explorer" or "Harvard Pilgrim Quality," not just the health carrier name such as "Harvard Pilgrim Health Care." Your health insurance plan is the best source for this information.
- **3.** Are your doctors and hospitals in the health plan's network? If your provider is no longer available, your health insurance carrier will help you find a new one. Note: Doctors and hospitals within any health plan's network may change during the year.
- **4. TURNING 65?** Visit <u>bit.ly/gicmedicare</u> for a video to guide you through the next steps, whether you're retiring or not.

# When You Can Enroll In or Update GIC Benefits



WITHIN 60 DAYS OF EXPERIENCING A QUALIFYING EVENT ANNUAL ENROLLMENT 2025 Annual Enrollment dates: If you have or will experience any April 2, 2025 - May 1, 2025 of these qualifying events, you must notify the GIC within 60 days of the event. Failure to do so can result in As a GIC member, Annual financial liability to you. Enrollment is your opportunity to review benefit options and Marriage better understand the upcoming plan year changes to make Address change coverage updates for benefits Birth or adoption of a child effective July 1, 2025. Legal guardianship of a child **Reminder: You must submit** all changes no later than Legal separation, divorce or remarriage of you or your former spouse May 1, 2025.

- Death of a covered spouse or dependent
- You have GIC COBRA coverage and become eligible for other coverage

View a complete list of Qualifying Events bit.ly/gicqualifyingevent

**DURING GIC's SPRING** 

Learn more about Annual Enrollment bit.ly/gicannualenrollment

WHEN YOU'RE A NEW COMMONWEALTH OF MA HIRE

New employees have 21 days to enroll in GIC benefits. The 21 day deadline includes the date of hire.

Please visit GIC's website for information regarding the effective date of GIC benefits as a new hire.

Note: this does not apply to employees who transfer agencies.

> Learn more at bit.ly/gicnewhire

# **Benefits Information**

# Introducing Hinge Health: Your new benefit for reducing joint and muscle pain

Starting July 1, 2025, Hinge Health will be available to members enrolled in GIC health coverage **at no** additional cost to you. This virtual exercise therapy program helps reduce joint and muscle pain, aids injury recovery, improves mobility and strength, and relieves pelvic pain and discomfort.

Members partner with dedicated professionals to receive personalized care including:

- A tailored care plan addressing everyday activities and long-term goals across multiple areas of the body
- Quick, 15-minute exercise therapy sessions accessible through the Hinge Health app, anytime and anywhere.
- 1-on-1 support from a physical therapist or health coach for customized guidance
- Instant feedback through precise motion tracking to enhance your form and build confidence

## **Enhancing Prescription Drug Access and** Affordability for Our Members

In alignment with the recently enacted legislation, An Act Relative to Pharmaceutical Access. Costs and Transparency (or PACT Act), the GIC is committed to lowering or eliminating copayments for certain prescription medications for our members.

Effective July 1, 2025, this law mandates that insurers eliminate cost-sharing for one generic drug and cap copayments for specific brand-name medications at \$25 for a 30-day supply, for managing diabetes, asthma, and certain heart conditions. It also ensures that you will not be charged a copay if it would be cheaper for you to purchase a drug without using your insurance and guarantees continuity of coverage for your existing prescriptions when transitioning from a non-GIC plan.

For more information on which drugs are impacted by this enhanced coverage, please access your CVS benefit information online or call CVS. See page 23 for website and contact information.

To learn more and enroll, visit hinge.health/massgov.

# Health Insurance Plan Locator Map (Employees)



#### Where you live determines which health insurance plan you may enroll in.

Please review the map and information below to determine which plan you are eligible to enroll in. Ensure your plan's provider network includes your area of residence prior to enrollment.



#### BARNSTABLE

Total, Explorer, Plus, Complete, Community

#### BERKSHIRE

Total, Explorer, Plus, Complete, Quality, Community, HNE

#### BRISTOL

Total, Explorer, Plus, Complete, Quality, Community

#### **DUKES** Total, Explorer, Plus, Complete

**ESSEX** Total, Explorer, Plus, Complete, Quality, Community

#### FRANKLIN

Total, Explorer, Plus, Complete, Quality, Community, HNE

#### HAMPDEN

Total, Explorer, Plus, Complete, Quality, Community, HNE

#### HAMPSHIRE

Total, Explorer, Plus, Complete, Quality, Community, HNE

#### MIDDLESEX

Total, Explorer, Plus, Complete, Quality, Community

NANTUCKET Total, Explorer, Plus, Complete

**NORFOLK** Total, Explorer, Plus, Complete, Quality, Community

**PLYMOUTH** Total, Explorer, Plus, Complete, Quality, Community

**SUFFOLK** Total, Explorer, Plus, Complete, Quality, Community

### **WORCESTER** Total, Explorer, Plus, Complete, Quality, Community, HNE

The **BOLD** text is a shortened version of the full plan name. These names are used to indicate which plan is available in each county.

ACCESS - Harvard Pilgrim Access America

**TOTAL** - Wellpoint Total Choice

**EXPLORER** – Harvard Pilgrim Explorer

**PLUS** - Wellpoint Plus

**COMPLETE** – Mass General Brigham Health Plan Complete

**QUALITY** – Harvard Pilgrim Quality

**COMMUNITY** – Wellpoint Community Choice

HNE - Health New England

#### OUTSIDE OF MASSACHUSETTS

Wellpoint Total Choice is the only health insurance plan offered by the GIC that is available for members living outside of the US.

Harvard Pilgrim Access America is the only plan offered by the GIC that is available for members living outside of New England (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT).

**CONNECTICUT\*** Total, Explorer, Plus

**MAINE** Total, Explorer, Plus

**NEW HAMPSHIRE** Total, Explorer, Plus

**NEW YORK** Access

**RHODE ISLAND** Total, Explorer, Plus

**VERMONT** Total, Explorer, Plus

\* For residents of CT, members residing near the MA border may enroll in HNE (review HNE's website for provider and network information). Note: If you are a New England resident who covers dependent family member(s) who live in a state outside of New England, you may select the Total, Explorer and Plus health insurance plans – contact the plans for details regarding their national networks/out of area coverage. For all other health insurance plans, your dependents may only have emergency coverage while out of the plan's service area. You should contact the health insurance plans directly for details. Please view page 23 for health insurance plan contact information.

		Monthly GIC Health Plan Rates Effective July 1, 2025				
			EMPLOYEES HIRED BEFORE JULY 1, 2003		5 HIRED ON ULY 1, 2003	
		20	)%	25	i%	
		Employee P	ays Monthly	Employee P	ays Monthly	
BASIC LIFE INSURANCE ONLY - \$10,000	0 Coverage <sup>1</sup>	\$2.	54	\$3	.18	
<b>HEALTH Insurance Plans</b> (Premium includes Basic Life Insurance)	PLAN NETWORK	INDIVIDUAL	FAMILY	INDIVIDUAL	FAMILY	
Harvard Pilgrim Access America PPO	National	\$289.55	\$642.70	\$361.94	\$803.38	
Wellpoint Total Choice INDEMNITY	- Broad	\$352.58	\$780.56	\$440.74	\$975.71	
Wellpoint PLUS PPO-TYPE		\$220.40	\$522.45	\$275.51	\$653.06	
Harvard Pilgrim Explorer POS	biota	\$239.54	\$589.29	\$299.43	\$736.61	
Mass General Brigham Health Plan Complete HMO		\$220.29	\$578.02	\$275.37	\$722.53	
Harvard Pilgrim Quality HMO	Limited	\$179.22	\$451.92	\$224.04	\$564.90	
Wellpoint Community Choice PPO-TYPE		\$169.60	\$417.76	\$212.00	\$522.21	
Health New England HMO	Regional	\$173.98	\$413.74	\$217.49	\$517.19	

<sup>1</sup> If you wish to keep your GIC health insurance coverage, you must be enrolled in basic life insurance.

### **Employee Pre-Tax Premium Deductions**

The Commonwealth deducts your share of basic life and health insurance premiums on a pre-tax basis. During Annual Enrollment, or when you experience a qualifying event as outlined on the pre-tax form, you may change the tax status of your premiums:

- If your deductions are taken on a pre-tax basis, you may elect to have them taxed, effective July 1, 2025.
- If your deductions are taken on an after-tax basis, you may switch to pre-tax effective July 1, 2025.

### Contact your payroll coordinator with questions.

	NATIONAL NETWORK		BROAD NETWORK			
HEALTH INSURANCE PLANS	HARVARD PILGRIM ACCESS AMERICA	WELLPOINT TOTAL CHOICE	WELLPOINT PLUS	HARVARD PILGRIM EXPLORER		
GEOGRAPHIC ELIGIBILITY (See Health Insurance Plan Locator Map, page 4)	U.S. Outside New England	New England	New England	New England		
PLAN TYPE	РРО	INDEMNITY	ΡΡΟ-ΤΥΡΕ	POS		
PCP Designation Required?	No	Νο	No	Yes		
PCP Referral to Specialist Required?	Νο	No	No	Yes		
<b>Out-of-pocket Maximum</b> Individual coverage Family coverage	\$5,000 \$10,000	\$5,000 \$10,000	\$5,000 \$10,000	\$5,000 \$10,000		
Fiscal Year Deductible Individual / Family	\$500 / \$1,000	\$500 / \$1,000	\$500 / \$1,000	\$500 / \$1,000		
<b>Primary Care Provider</b> Office Visit	\$20 / visit	\$20 / visit	Tier 1: \$10 / visit Tier 2: \$20 / visit Tier 3: \$40 / visit	Tier 1: \$10 / visit Tier 2: \$20 / visit Tier 3: \$40 / visit		
Preventive Services	Most covered at 100% - no copay	Most covered at 100% - no copay	Most covered at 100% - no copay	Most covered at 100% - no copay		
<b>Specialist Physician Office Visit</b> Tier 1 / Tier 2 / Tier 3	\$45 / visit (no tiering)	\$45 / visit (no tiering)	\$30 / \$60 / \$75 / visit	\$30 / \$60 / \$75 / visit		
Retail Clinic and Urgent Care Center	\$20 / visit	\$20 / visit	\$20 / visit	\$20 / visit		
Outpatient Behavioral Health/ Substance Use Disorder Care	\$20 / visit	\$20 / visit	\$10 / visit	\$10 / visit		
Emergency Room Care	\$100 / visit (waived if admitted)	\$100 / visit (waived if admitted)	\$100 / visit (waived if admitted)	\$100 / visit (waived if admitted)		
Inpatient Hospital Care – Medical			son per calendar year q days in the same calen			
Tier 1 / Tier 2 / Tier 3	\$275 / admission no tiering	\$275 / admission no tiering	\$275 / \$500 / \$1,500 / admission	\$275 / \$500 / \$1,500 / admission		
Outpatient Surgery						
Eye & GI procedures at freestanding facilities in Massachusetts	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150		
All other in Massachusetts	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250		
High-Tech Imaging	Maximu	m one copay per day.	Contact the carrier for	details.		
(e.g., MRI, CT & PET scans)	\$100 / scan	\$100 / scan	\$100 / scan	\$100 / scan		
Prescription Drugs	Prescrip	tion Drug Deductible:	\$100 Individual / \$200	) Family		
<b>Retail</b> (up to a 30-day supply) Tier 1 / Tier 2 / Tier 3	\$10 / \$30 / \$65	\$10 / \$30 / \$65	\$10 / \$30 / \$65	\$10 / \$30 / \$65		
Mail Order Maintenance Drugs (up to a 90-day supply) Tier 1 / Tier 2 / Tier 3	\$25 / \$75 / \$165	\$25 / \$75 / \$165	\$25 / \$75 / \$165	\$25 / \$75 / \$165		

#### If you participate in a non-Medicare plan, GIC protects you from balance billing under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 32A, §20.

If you receive covered, medically necessary medical care in *Massachusetts*, doctors, hospitals, and other medical providers may only collect the amount covered by your GIC plan. You are still responsible for your share of the plan's copays, deductibles, and any other eligible medical out-of-pocket costs, but not any excess.

Always compare bills to the Explanation of Benefits (EOB) statement provided by your GIC health carrier. If you are not sure your invoice is a balance bill, call your health carrier. If it is a balance bill, advise your provider that as a GIC member, you are not liable for their excess compensation. If your provider persists in efforts to collect, contact the Group Insurance Commission.

# **Benefits-at-a-Glance (Employees)**



BROAD NETWORK		REGIONAL NETWORK		
1ASS GENERAL BRIGHAM IEALTH PLAN COMPLETE	HARVARD PILGRIM QUALITY	WELLPOINT COMMUNITY CHOICE	HEALTH NEW ENGLAND Western Mass	
All of Mass	Most of Mass	Most of Mass		
НМО	НМО	ΡΡΟ-ΤΥΡΕ	НМО	
Yes	Yes	No	Yes	
Yes	Yes	No	No	
\$5,000 \$10,000	\$5,000 \$10,000	\$5,000 \$10,000	\$5,000 \$10,000	
\$500 / \$1,000	\$400 / \$800	\$400 / \$800	\$400 / \$800	
Tier 1: \$10 / visit Tier 2: \$20 / visit Tier 3: \$40 / visit	\$20 / visit	\$20 / visit	\$20 / visit	
Most covered at 100% - no copay	Most covered at 100% - no copay	Most covered at 100% - no copay	Most covered at 100% – no copay	
\$30 / \$60 / \$75 / visit	\$30 / \$60 / visit (no Tier 3)	\$30 / \$60 / \$75 / visit	\$30 / \$60 / visit (no Tier 3)	
\$20 / visit	\$20 / visit	\$20 / visit	\$20 / visit	
\$10 / visit	\$20 / visit	\$20 / visit	\$20 / visit	
\$100 / visit (waived if admitted)	\$100 / visit (waived if admitted)	\$100 / visit (waived if admitted)	\$100 / visit (waived if admitted)	
	Maximum one copay per pers aived if readmitted within 30	on per calendar year quarter. days in the same calendar year	:	
\$275 / \$500 / \$1,500 / admission	\$275 / \$500 / admission (no Tier 3)	\$275 / admission no tiering	\$275 / admission no tiering	
\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150	
\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	
	Maximum one copay per day.	Contact the carrier for details.		
\$100 / scan	\$100 / scan	\$100 / scan \$100 Individual / \$200 Family	\$100 / scan	
	rescription Drug Deductible:	<del>\$100 maividual / \$200 P</del> amily		
\$10 / \$30 / \$65	\$10 / \$30 / \$65	\$10 / \$30 / \$65	\$10 / \$30 / \$65	
\$25 / \$75 / \$165	\$25 / \$75 / \$165	\$25 / \$75 / \$165	\$25 / \$75 / \$165	

You pay both a copay and a deductible for some services. For details, see your plan's schedule of benefits at <u>mass.gov/GIC</u>.

**Out-of-pocket maximums** apply to medical and behavioral health benefits across all health insurance plans. **Prescription drug (Rx) benefits** are included in the out-of-pocket maximums for all health insurance plans.

# Mass4YOU: Employee Assistance Program (EAP)



Mass4YOU is a free Employee Assistance Program, administered by Optum, and available to all state and municipal employees and their families who are eligible for GIC benefits.

GIC health insurance coverage is not required to access the many Mass4YOU work/life and other support services. Through Mass4YOU, eligible employees and their families can find easy access to a comprehensive suite of free, confidential support available 24/7, including:

- Eight free coaching sessions and three in-person virtual, telephone, or in-person therapy visits per issue, per year
- 30-minute telephone or in-person legal or mediation consultation per issue per year
- Guidance from a financial coach to help with debt, foreclosure, financial planning, and more
- Referrals for a variety of Work-Life convenience services: child care, elder care and more
- Access to Mass4YOU's 24/7 confidential substance abuse treatment helpline and a licensed clinician

# No formal enrollment is required. Stay up-to-date on all Mass4YOU benefits by visiting <u>liveandworkwell.com</u> (access code: mass4you).

**QUESTIONS?** CONTACT MASS4YOU liveandworkwell.com; Enter access code mass4you 1.844.263.1982 | TTY Support: 711 +1.844.263.1982 Substance Use Treatment Helpline: 1.855.780.5955

# Flexible Spending Accounts (Employees)





There are two types of FSA plans available to eligible GIC members, a Health Care Spending Account (HCSA), which is used to pay for medical expenses for you and your eligible dependents; and a Dependent Care Assistance Program (DCAP), which can be used to pay for childcare or assistance with disabled adult dependents. Both of these plans lower your income tax liability by the amount of your deductions.

In exchange for the tax savings that these programs offer, the IRS imposes a use-it-or-lose-it rule. This means that you must use all the money in your account by the end of the plan year, or you lose that money, subject to the grace period.

## **Eligibility & Enrollment**

Active state employees who are eligible for GIC benefits may enroll in a Health Care and/or Dependent Care FSA for the upcoming plan year (July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026) during Annual Enrollment. **Even if you are enrolled in one or both FSAs this year, you must re-enroll if you wish to participate in Fiscal Year 2026 (July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026).** 

• New state employees and employees who experience a qualifying event during the year may enroll in an FSA for partial-year benefits. For the Health Care FSA, new hire participation begins at the same time as other GIC benefits. For the Dependent Care FSA, participation begins on the first day of employment.

To enroll in an FSA, learn more about Health Care and Dependent Care FSAs, and view other eligible expenses, go to <u>massfsatasc.com</u>. Additional enrollment instructions can be found on the website; be sure to have your employee ID, agency and department name available.

KEY FSA DATES   Open Enrollment: April 2 – May 1, 2025						
Plan Year: July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025	Plan Year: July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026					
• 2½ month Grace Period: July 1 – Sept. 15, 2025	• 2½ month Grace Period: July 1 – Sept. 15, 2026					
Claim filing deadline: October 15, 2025	Claim filing deadline: October 15, 2026					

# Grace Period

The GIC's FSA plans have a 2.5 month grace period, with an additional month allowed for claim submissions. This means that you will have until September 15 to incur claims (based on date of service) for a plan year that ended on June 30. You will then have until October 15 to submit those claims for reimbursement. During the grace period from a previous year, if there is also an election for the current year, any available funds from the previous year will be used first to pay for qualifying claims on both FSA plans.

Members may still add, change, or stop participation in either or both FSA plans in response to a qualifying life event, such as marriage, divorce, birth of a child, change in employment, or (DCAP only) change in childcare provider. You can enroll in a Health Care FSA for as little as \$250 or as much as \$3,300/year. You can enroll in a Dependent Care FSA for as little as \$250 and as much as \$5,000/year (or \$2,500 if married and filing separate tax returns).

### How can an FSA save you money?

With an FSA, you set aside money every paycheck on an income tax-free basis. You can use this money during the year to pay for eligible expenses — tax free. Please review examples below:

<b>BREAKDOWN OF PAYCHECK &amp; DEDUCTIONS</b>	NOT PARTICIPATING IN HCSA OR DCAP PLAN	PARTICIPATING IN HCSA OR DCAP PLAN
Gross Yearly Pay	\$30,000	\$30,000
Health Care FSA Annual Contribution (Pre-Tax)	\$0	(\$2,000)
Dependent Care FSA Annual Contribution (Pre-Tax)	\$0	(\$4,000)
Taxable Income	\$30,000	\$24,000
Sample Income Tax Withholdings of 25%	(\$7,500)	(\$6,000)
Yearly Health Care Expenses	(\$2,000 post-tax)	\$2,000 (Claims reimbursed)
Yearly Daycare Expenses	(\$4,000 post-tax)	\$4,000 (Claims reimbursed)
Net Available Income	\$16,500	\$18,000

# Long Term Disability (Employees)

LTD insurance, offered by MetLife, is an income replacement program that financially protects you and your family in the event you become disabled and are unable to perform the material and substantial duties of your job. If you are unable to work for 90 consecutive days due to illness or injury, this program provides income replacement. Benefits include:

- A tax-free benefit of 55% of a participant's gross monthly salary, up to a maximum benefit of \$10,000 per month, up to the age of 65. If a participant is disabled on or after age 62, benefits may continue after age 65;
- Access to TELUS, a virtual Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) service available to LTD participants and their dependents age 18+;
- A benefit for partial disabilities;
- A 36-month benefit for behavioral health disabilities;
- A rehabilitation and return-to-work assistance benefit;
- A dependent care expense benefit; and
- Partial benefits, even if you are receiving other income benefits, with a minimum of \$100 or 10% of your gross monthly benefit amount – whichever is higher.

### **Eligibility and Enrollment**

Active state employees who are eligible for GIC benefits are also eligible for LTD.

**Current State Employees:** All eligible employees may apply at any time during the year. After you apply, you will receive instructions for completing an evidence of insurability application for MetLife's review and approval. The GIC will determine the effective date if MetLife approves your application.

**New State Employees:** Eligible employees have 21 days to enroll in LTD. The 21 day deadline includes the date of hire.

MONTHLY LTD RATES EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025					
ACTIVE EMPLOYEE AGE	<b>EMPLOYEE PREMIUM</b> Per \$100 of Monthly Earnings				
Under Age 24	\$0.06				
25 - 29	\$0.07				
30 - 34	\$O.11				
35 - 39	\$0.13				
40 - 44	\$0.30				
45 - 49	\$0.40				
50 - 54	\$0.48				
55 - 59	\$0.60				
60 - 64	\$0.58				
65 - 69	\$0.33				
70 and over	\$0.20				

# Life and Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance (Employees)

Life and Accidental Death & Dismemberment (AD&D) insurance, offered by MetLife, helps provide for your beneficiary's well-being in the event of a serious accident or death. This benefit is paid to your designated beneficiary(ies). This is term insurance, which means it does not have any cash surrender value. Benefits are paid to your beneficiary(ies), so it is important to keep your beneficiary designation up to date.

You may buy additional coverage of up to eight times your annual salary, to a maximum benefit of \$1.5 million. You pay the full cost of this benefit. You must be enrolled in basic life insurance in order to be eligible for optional life insurance.

- Current State Employees: State employees actively at work may apply for the first time or apply to increase their coverage at any time during the year. After you apply, you will receive instructions for completing an evidence of insurability application for MetLife's review and approval. The GIC will determine the effective date if MetLife approves your application.
- New State Employees: Eligible employees have 21 days to enroll in Optional Life insurance. The 21 day deadline includes the date of hire.

#### MONTHLY GIC LIFE INSURANCE Plan Rates (INCLUDING AD&D) Effective July 1, 2025 Per \$1,000 of Coverage

EMPLOYEE AGE	EMPLOYEE NON- SMOKER RATE	EMPLOYEE SMOKER RATE
Under Age 35	\$0.04	\$0.10
35 - 44	\$0.05	\$0.12
45 - 49	\$0.06	\$0.19
50 - 54	\$0.13	\$0.31
55 - 59	\$0.20	\$0.49
60 - 64	\$0.29	\$0.73
65 - 69	\$0.67	\$1.37
70 and over	\$1.13	\$2.49

**Note:** premium rates increase for Optional Life Insurance as you age.

#### Notes:

- If you experience a qualified family status change during the year, you may enroll in or increase your optional life insurance amount without providing evidence of insurability. You must provide the GIC with proof of your status change within 60 days. Total optional life insurance coverage is limited to an amount not to exceed four times your salary.
- Optional Life Insurance Non-Smoker Rate: State employees who have been tobacco-free are eligible for reduced nonsmoker optional life insurance rates effective July 1, 2025. This benefit is only available for enrollment during the GIC's spring Annual Enrollment period. For more information, including when and how to enroll or update this benefit, please visit **bit.ly/giclifeandadd**.

**QUESTIONS?** CONTACT METLIFE

metlife.com/gicbenefits



# GIC Dental/Vision Plan (Employees)

The GIC Dental and Vision carrier will change to Altus, effective July 1, 2025. In alignment with other GIC plans, the benefit period will transition from a calendar year to a fiscal year (July 1 - June 30) for annual maximums and other coverage limitations.

### Eligibility

The GIC Dental/Vision Plan covers state employees who are not covered by collective bargaining or do not have another dental or vision plan through the Commonwealth. The plan primarily cover managers, legislators, legislative staff, and certain Executive Office staff. Employees of authorities, municipalities, and higher education are not eligible for the GIC Dental/Vision Plan.

### Enrollment

During Annual Enrollment or within 60 days of a qualifying event, you may enroll in or update your GIC Dental/ Vision Plan.

**New State Employees:** Eligible employees may enroll in the Dental/Vision Plan within 21 days from date of hire. The 21 day deadline includes the date of hire.



## GIC Dental/Vision Plan Rates

	MONTHLY GIC DENTAL/VISION RATES - Effective July 1, 2025			
PLAN	INDIVIDUAL COVERAGE	FAMILY COVERAGE		
PPO (Value) Plan	\$4.78	\$14.76		
Indemnity (Classic) Plan	\$6.59	\$20.37		

Where you live determines which health insurance plan you may enroll in.

Please review the map and information below to determine which plan you are eligible to enroll in. Ensure your plan's provider network includes your area of residence prior to enrollment.



#### BARNSTABLE

Total, Explorer, Plus, Complete, Community

#### BERKSHIRE

Total, Explorer, Plus, Complete, Quality, Community, HNE

#### BRISTOL

Total, Explorer, Plus, Complete, Quality, Community

#### DUKES

Total, Explorer, Plus, Complete

#### ESSEX

Total, Explorer, Plus, Complete, Quality, Community

#### FRANKLIN

Total, Explorer, Plus, Complete, Quality, Community, HNE

#### HAMPDEN

Total, Explorer, Plus, Complete, Quality, Community, HNE

#### HAMPSHIRE

Total, Explorer, Plus, Complete, Quality, Community, HNE

#### MIDDLESEX

Total, Explorer, Plus, Complete, Quality, Community

NANTUCKET Total, Explorer, Plus, Complete

**NORFOLK** Total, Explorer, Plus, Complete, Quality, Community

**PLYMOUTH** Total, Explorer, Plus, Complete, Quality, Community

#### **SUFFOLK** Total, Explorer, Plus, Complete, Quality, Community

**WORCESTER** Total, Explorer, Plus, Complete, Quality, Community, HNE The **BOLD** text is a shortened version of the full plan name. These names are used to indicate which plan is available in each county.

ACCESS - Harvard Pilgrim Access America

**TOTAL** - Wellpoint Total Choice

**EXPLORER** – Harvard Pilgrim Explorer

**PLUS** - Wellpoint Plus

**COMPLETE** - Mass General Brigham Health Plan Complete

**QUALITY** – Harvard Pilgrim Quality

**COMMUNITY** – Wellpoint Community Choice

HNE - Health New England

#### OUTSIDE OF MASSACHUSETTS

Wellpoint Total Choice is the only health insurance plan offered by the GIC that is available for members living outside of the US.

Harvard Pilgrim Access America is the only plan offered by the GIC that is available for members living outside of New England (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT).

**CONNECTICUT\*** Total, Explorer, Plus

**MAINE** Total, Explorer, Plus

**NEW HAMPSHIRE** Total, Explorer, Plus

**NEW YORK** Access

**RHODE ISLAND** Total, Explorer, Plus

**VERMONT** Total, Explorer, Plus

\* For residents of CT, members residing near the MA border may enroll in HNE (review HNE's website for provider and network information). Note: If you are a New England resident who covers dependent family member(s) who live in a state outside of New England, you may select the Total, Explorer and Plus health insurance plans – contact the plans for details regarding their national networks/out of area coverage. For all other health insurance plans, your dependents may only have emergency coverage while out of the plan's service area. You should contact the health insurance plans directly for details. Please view page 23 for health insurance plan contact information.

		Monthly GIC Health Plan Rates Effective July 1, 2025					5
		NON-MEDICARE RETIREES Retired on or before July 1, 1994 and SURVIVORS <sup>1</sup>		NON-MEDICARE RETIREES Retired after July 1, 1994 and who filed for retirement on or before October 1, 2009		NON-MEDICARE RETIREES who filed for retirement after October 1, 2009	
		10	%	15	%	20	%
		Retiree/ Pays M		Retiree Pays Monthly		Retiree Pays Monthly	
BASIC LIFE INSURANCE ONLY \$10,000 Coverage	-	\$1.	27	\$1.	91	\$2.	54
<b>HEALTH INSURANCE PLANS</b> (Premium includes Basic Life Insurance)	PLAN NETWORK	INDIVIDUAL	FAMILY	INDIVIDUAL	FAMILY	INDIVIDUAL	FAMILY
Harvard Pilgrim Access America PPO	National	\$144.77	\$321.35	\$217.16	\$482.03	\$289.55	\$642.70
Wellpoint Total Choice		\$176.29	\$390.28	\$264.44	\$585.43	\$352.58	\$780.56
Wellpoint PLUS PPO-TYPE	-	\$110.20	\$261.22	\$165.31	\$391.84	\$220.40	\$522.45
Harvard Pilgrim Explorer POS	Broad	\$119.77	\$294.64	\$179.66	\$441.97	\$239.54	\$589.29
Mass General Brigham Health Plan Complete HMO	-	\$110.14	\$289.01	\$165.22	\$433.52	\$220.29	\$578.02
Harvard Pilgrim Quality HMO		\$89.61	\$225.96	\$134.42	\$338.94	\$179.22	\$451.92
Wellpoint Community Choice PPO-TYPE	Limited	\$84.80	\$208.88	\$127.20	\$313.33	\$169.60	\$417.76
<b>Health New England</b> HMO	Regional	\$86.99	\$206.87	\$130.49	\$310.31	\$173.98	\$413.74

<sup>1</sup> Survivors are not eligible for life insurance. For monthly health insurance premium cost, deduct \$1.27 from monthly "Retiree/Survivor Pays Monthly" premium.

	NATIONAL NETWORK		BROAD NETWORK	
HEALTH INSURANCE PLANS	HARVARD PILGRIM ACCESS AMERICA	WELLPOINT TOTAL CHOICE	WELLPOINT PLUS	HARVARD PILGRIM EXPLORER
GEOGRAPHIC ELIGIBILITY (See Health Insurance Plan Locator Map, page 12)	U.S. Outside New England	New England	New England	New England
PLAN TYPE	РРО	INDEMNITY	ΡΡΟ-ΤΥΡΕ	POS
PCP Designation Required?	No	Νο	No	Yes
PCP Referral to Specialist Required?	No	No	No	Yes
Out-of-pocket Maximum Individual coverage	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Family coverage	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Fiscal Year Deductible Individual / Family	\$500 / \$1,000	\$500 / \$1,000	\$500 / \$1,000	\$500 / \$1,000
Primary Care Provider Office Visit	\$20 / visit	\$20 / visit	Tier 1: \$10 / visit Tier 2: \$20 / visit Tier 3: \$40 / visit	Tier 1: \$10 / visit Tier 2: \$20 / visit Tier 3: \$40 / visit
Preventive Services	Most covered at 100% - no copay	Most covered at 100% - no copay	Most covered at 100% - no copay	Most covered at 100% - no copay
<b>Specialist Physician Office Visit</b> Tier 1 / Tier 2 / Tier 3	\$45 / visit (no tiering)	\$45 / visit (no tiering)	\$30 / \$60 / \$75 / visit	\$30 / \$60 / \$75 / visit
Retail Clinic and Urgent Care Center	\$20 / visit	\$20 / visit	\$20 / visit	\$20 / visit
Outpatient Behavioral Health/ Substance Use Disorder Care	\$20 / visit	\$20 / visit	\$10 / visit	\$10 / visit
Emergency Room Care	\$100 / visit (waived if admitted)	\$100 / visit (waived if admitted)	\$100 / visit (waived if admitted)	\$100 / visit (waived if admitted)
Inpatient Hospital Care – Medical			son per calendar year q days in the same caler	
Tier 1 / Tier 2 / Tier 3	\$275 / admission no tiering	\$275 / admission no tiering	\$275 / \$500 / \$1,500 / admission	\$275 / \$500 / \$1,500 / admission
Outpatient Surgery				
Eye & GI procedures at freestanding facilities in Massachusetts	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150
All other in Massachusetts	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250
High-Tech Imaging	Maximu	m one copay per day.	Contact the carrier for	details.
(e.g., MRI, CT & PET scans)	\$100 / scan	\$100 / scan	\$100 / scan	\$100 / scan
Prescription Drugs	Prescrip	tion Drug Deductible:	\$100 Individual / \$200	) Family
<b>Retail</b> (up to a 30-day supply) Tier 1 / Tier 2 / Tier 3	\$10 / \$30 / \$65	\$10 / \$30 / \$65	\$10 / \$30 / \$65	\$10 / \$30 / \$65
Mail Order Maintenance Drugs (up to a 90-day supply) Tier 1 / Tier 2 / Tier 3	\$25 / \$75 / \$165	\$25 / \$75 / \$165	\$25 / \$75 / \$165	\$25 / \$75 / \$165

If you participate in a non-Medicare plan, GIC protects you from balance billing under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 32A, §20.

If you receive covered, medically necessary medical care in Massachusetts, doctors, hospitals, and other medical providers may only collect the amount covered by your GIC plan. You are still responsible for your share of the plan's copays, deductibles, and any other eligible medical out-of-pocket costs, but not any excess.

Always compare bills to the Explanation of Benefits (EOB) statement provided by your GIC health carrier. If you are not sure your invoice is a balance bill, call your health carrier. If it is a balance bill, advise your provider that as a GIC member, you are not liable for their excess compensation. If your provider persists in efforts to collect, contact the Group Insurance Commission.

# **Benefits-at-a-Glance (Non-Medicare Retirees)**

BROAD NETWORK		REGIONAL NETWORK		
IASS GENERAL BRIGHAM IEALTH PLAN COMPLETE	HARVARD PILGRIM QUALITY	WELLPOINT COMMUNITY CHOICE	HEALTH NEW ENGLAND Western Mass	
All of Mass	Most of Mass	Most of Mass		
НМО	НМО	ΡΡΟ-ΤΥΡΕ	НМО	
Yes	Yes	No	Yes	
Yes	Yes	Νο	Νο	
\$5,000 \$10,000	\$5,000 \$10,000	\$5,000 \$10,000	\$5,000 \$10,000	
\$500 / \$1,000	\$400 / \$800	\$400 / \$800	\$400 / \$800	
Tier 1: \$10 / visit Tier 2: \$20 / visit Tier 3: \$40 / visit	\$20 / visit	\$20 / visit	\$20 / visit	
Most covered at 100% - no copay	Most covered at 100% - no copay	Most covered at 100% - no copay	Most covered at 100% - no copay	
\$30 / \$60 / \$75 / visit	\$30 / \$60 / visit (no Tier 3)	\$30 / \$60 / \$75 / visit	\$30 / \$60 / visit (no Tier 3)	
\$20 / visit	\$20 / visit	\$20 / visit	\$20 / visit	
\$10 / visit	\$20 / visit	\$20 / visit	\$20 / visit	
\$100 / visit (waived if admitted)	\$100 / visit (waived if admitted)	\$100 / visit (waived if admitted)	\$100 / visit (waived if admitted)	
		on per calendar year quarter. days in the same calendar year		
\$275 / \$500 / \$1,500 / admission	\$275 / \$500 / admission (no Tier 3)	\$275 / admission no tiering	\$275 / admission no tiering	
\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150	
\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	
١	laximum one copay per day.	Contact the carrier for details.		
\$100 / scan	\$100 / scan	\$100 / scan \$100 Individual / \$200 Family	\$100 / scan	
	resemption Drug Deductible.			
\$10 / \$30 / \$65	\$10 / \$30 / \$65	\$10 / \$30 / \$65	\$10 / \$30 / \$65	

You pay both a copay and a deductible for some services. For details, see your plan's schedule of benefits at <u>mass.gov/GIC</u>.

**Out-of-pocket maximums** apply to medical and behavioral health benefits across all health insurance plans. **Prescription drug (Rx) benefits** are included in the out-of-pocket maximums for all health insurance plans.

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Where you live determines which health insurance plan you may enroll in. Please review the map and information below to determine which plan you are eligible to enroll in. Ensure your plan's provider network includes your area of residence prior to enrollment.



**BARNSTABLE** HPME, HNEMSP, TMP, OME

**BERKSHIRE** HPME, HNEMSP, OME

BRISTOL HPME, HNEMSP, TMP, OME

**DUKES** HPME, HNEMSP, OME

**ESSEX** HPME, HNEMSP, TMP, OME

**FRANKLIN** HPME, HNEMSP, OME

**HAMPDEN** HPME, HNEMSP, TMP, OME HAMPSHIRE HPME, HNEMSP, TMP, OME

MIDDLESEX HPME, HNEMSP, TMP, OME

NANTUCKET HPME, HNEMSP, OME

NORFOLK HPME, HNEMSP, TMP, OME

**PLYMOUTH** HPME, HNEMSP, TMP, OME

**SUFFOLK** HPME, HNEMSP, TMP, OME

WORCESTER HPME, HNEMSP, TMP, OME The **BOLD** text is a shortened version of the full plan name. These names are used to indicate which plan is available in each county.

**HPME** – Harvard Pilgrim Medicare Enhance

**HNEMSP** – Health New England Medicare Supplement Plus

**TMP** – Tufts Health Plan Medicare Preferred

**OME** – Wellpoint Medicare Extension

#### OUTSIDE OF MASSACHUSETTS

Harvard Pilgrim Medicare Enhance, Health New England Medicare Supplement Plus, and Wellpoint Medicare Extension are available throughout the country.

CONNECTICUT HPME, HNEMSP, OME

**MAINE** HPME, HNEMSP, OME

**NEW HAMPSHIRE** HPME, HNEMSP, OME

NEW YORK HPME, HNEMSP, OME

RHODE ISLAND HPME, HNEMSP, OME

VERMONT HPME, HNEMSP, OME

		Mon	thly GIC Health Plan R Effective July 1, 2025	ates
		MEDICARE RETIREESMEDICARE RETIREESRetired on or before 		MEDICARE RETIREES who filed for retirement after October 1, 2009
		10%	15%	20%
		RETIREE/ SURVIVOR PAYS MONTHLY	RETIREE PAYS MONTHLY	RETIREE PAYS MONTHLY
BASIC LIFE INSURANCE ONLY - \$10,000 Coverage		\$1.27	\$1.91	\$2.54
<b>HEALTH INSURANCE PLANS</b> (Premium includes Basic Life Insurance)	PLAN NETWORK	PER PERSON	PER PERSON	PER PERSON
Tufts Medicare Preferred2 MEDICARE ADVANTAGE	Limited	\$40.29	60.44	\$80.58
Harvard Pilgrim Medicare Enhance MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT		\$47.98	\$71.97	\$95.95
Health New England Medicare Supplement Plus MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT	National	\$48.22	\$72.34	\$96.45
Wellpoint Medicare Extension MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT		\$48.78	\$73.18	\$97.57

<sup>1</sup> Survivors are not eligible for life insurance. For monthly health insurance premium cost, deduct \$1.27 from monthly "Retiree/Survivor Pays Monthly" premium.

<sup>2</sup> If you are electing to enroll in Tufts Medicare Preferred, please confirm that your PCP is in the plan's network prior to enrolling.

	MEDICARE ADVANTAGE	MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT		
Health Insurance Plans	TUFTS HEALTH PLAN MEDICARE PREFERRED	HARVARD PILGRIM MEDICARE ENHANCE	HEALTH NEW ENGLAND MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT PLUS	WELLPOINT MEDICARE EXTENSION
Geographic Eligibility (See Health Insurance Plan Locator Map, page 16)	Most of Mass	National	National	National
PLAN TYPE	нмо	INDEMNITY	INDEMNITY	INDEMNITY
PCP Designation Required?	Yes	No	No	No
PCP Referral to Specialist Required?	Yes	No	No	No
Calendar Year Deductible	None	None	None	None
Preventive Care Office visits according to health plan's schedule	No Copay	No Copay	No Сорау	No Сорау
<b>Physician's Office Visit</b> (except behavioral health)	\$15 per visit	\$15 per visit	\$15 per visit	\$10 per visit
Retail Clinic	\$15 per visit	\$15 per visit	\$15 per visit	\$10 per visit
Outpatient Behavioral Health / Substance Abuse Disorder Care	\$15 per visit	\$15 per visit	\$15 per visit	First 4 visits: no copay; visits 5 and over: \$10 / visit
Inpatient Hospital Care	No Copay	No Copay	No Copay	No Сорау
Hospice Care	No Сорау	No Сорау	No Copay	No Сорау
Diagnostic Laboratory Tests and X-Rays	No Сорау	No Сорау	No Сорау	No Сорау
Surgery Inpatient and Outpatient	No Сорау	No Сорау	No Copay	No copay in MA and for out-of-state providers that accept Medicare; call the plan for details if using out-of-state providers that do not accept Medicare
<b>Emergency Room Care</b> (includes out-of-area)	\$50 per visit (waived if admitted)	\$50 per visit (waived if admitted)	\$50 per visit (waived if admitted)	\$50 per visit (waived if admitted)
Hearing Aids	First \$500 covered at 100%, 80% coverage of the next \$1,500 per ear, per two-year period	First \$1,700 per ear, per two-year period		
Prescription Drugs				
<b>Retail</b> (up to a 30-day supply) Tier 1 / Tier 2 / Tier 3	\$10 / \$30 / \$65	\$10 / \$30 / \$65	\$10 / \$30 / \$65	\$10 / \$30 / \$65
Mail Order Maintenance Drugs (up to a 90-day supply) Tier 1 / Tier 2 / Tier 3	\$25 / \$75 / \$165	\$25 / \$75 / \$165	\$25 / \$75 / \$165	\$25 / \$75 / \$165

Here is an overview of health insurance benefits offered through each of the GIC's Medicare plans. Benefits are subject to definitions, conditions, limitations and exclusions as spelled out in the respective health insurance plans' documents. With the exception of emergency care, out-of-network benefits are not covered through the Tufts Medicare Advantage Plan.



The GIC Retiree Dental Plan carrier will change from MetLife to Altus, effective July 1, 2025. In alignment with other GIC plans, the benefit period will transition from a calendar year to a fiscal year (July 1 - June 30) for annual maximums and other coverage limitations. You pay the full cost of this voluntary coverage.

You can get reimbursed up to \$1,500 a year for fillings, crowns and other dental services. When you visit one of the more than 400,000 participating locations in the Altus Dental network, you'll enjoy lower out-of-pocket costs. You may pay more if you receive care from an out-of-network dentist.

With *Altus Preventive Rewards*, most of your preventive and diagnostic dental services don't count toward your annual maximum, allowing you to stretch your benefit dollars.

### Eligibility

All state retirees, Elderly Governmental Retirees (EGRs), survivors and GIC Retired Municipal Teachers (RMTs who do not participate in the municipal health-only program) are eligible for the GIC Retiree Dental Plan.

# Enrollment

You may join during Annual Enrollment, or within 60 days of a qualifying event, such as when COBRA dental coverage ends, when you become a survivor of a GIC member, or at retirement. **If you drop GIC Retiree Dental coverage, you may never re-enroll.** 

	Monthly GIC Retiree Dental Plan Rates Effective July 1, 2025 \$1,500 Maximum Annual Benefit per Member	
COVERAGE TYPE	RETIREE PAYS MONTHLY	
Individual	\$29.66	
Family	\$71.48	

# **GIC Retiree Vision Program**

You are eligible to receive discounted vision care through Altus/VSP® Savings Pass. The VSP Choice Network includes access to more than 117,000 innetwork locations.

#### **VSP Vision Savings Pass**

The VSP® Vision Savings Pass is a discount vision program that offers immediate savings on eligible services, like eye exams, frames and lenses when you visit a VSP network doctor. This is not an insurance plan. There are no enrollment forms, no monthly premiums and no claims forms. To use the VSP Vision Savings Pass, find a VSP network doctor at **altusdental.com/GIC** and let them know you are a VSP member to receive your discounts.

#### **Retiree Voluntary Vision Plan**

The Altus Vision 150 Plus Plan is a traditional voluntary insurance plan administered by Altus Vision for eligible retirees. This program requires an additional premium payment directly to Altus for participation. Visit the Altus website for more information.

#### Eligibility

To be eligible for this program, you must have GIC coverage. Your family members are eligible only if they are covered under your GIC family health plan.





# **Employees & Non-Medicare Retirees**

CVS Caremark is the GIC's prescription drug benefit administrator for non-Medicare health insurance plans. Use your CVS Caremark ID card when filling prescriptions.

# Prescription Drug Deductible

You pay an annual prescription drug deductible of \$100/ individual and \$200/family, separate from your health plan deductible. Once you have paid your prescription drug deductible, your covered prescriptions are subject to a copay.

# Prescription Drug Copays

All GIC health plans feature a three-tier copay structure. Contact CVS Caremark with questions about your specific medications.

- **Tier 1:** You pay the **lowest copay**. Most generic prescription drugs fall into this tier.
- **Tier 2:** You pay the **mid-level copay**. Many brandname prescription drugs fall into this tier.
- **Tier 3:** You pay the **highest copay**. This tier includes brand-name and generic prescription drugs that don't fall into Tiers 1 or 2.

Covered prescription drugs may change when CVS Caremark updates its drug formulary during the plan year.

### Avoid the Prescription Retail Refill Penalty

- If you or a family member is taking a long-term medication—such as high cholesterol or high blood pressure medicine—you will receive a communication from CVS Caremark asking you how you wish to receive your future refills—by mail or at your local CVS pharmacy. For these maintenance medications, you must fill a 90-day supply at either a CVS Retail Pharmacy, or you may utilize CVS Caremark Mail Service Pharmacy, and you will pay one mail order copay.
- All acute 30-day retail medications, or any nonmaintenance medications—such as antibiotics or painkillers—can be filled at any in-network Retail Pharmacy for one 30-day retail copay.

# Make sure you take action before your third refill, otherwise you will pay the full cost of the medication.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT CVS CAREMARK

info.caremark.com/oe/gic

1.877.876.7214

# Medicare Eligible Retirees

CVS SilverScript administers the prescription drug benefit for all GIC Medicare health insurance plans. Your prescription drug benefit is called an Employer Group Waiver Plan (EGWP). It combines a standard Medicare Part D drug plan with additional coverage provided by the GIC.

# Prescription Drug Copays

All GIC health plans feature a three-tier copay structure. Contact CVS SilverScript with questions about your specific medications.

- **Tier 1:** You pay the **lowest copay**. Most generic prescription drugs fall into this tier.
- **Tier 2:** You pay the **mid-level copay**. Many brandname prescription drugs fall into this tier.
- **Tier 3:** You pay the **highest copay**. This tier includes brand-name and generic prescription drugs that don't fall into Tiers 1 or 2.

**QUESTIONS?** CONTACT CVS SILVERSCRIPT

gic.silverscript.com

# IMPORTANTMedicare Part D Prescription<br/>Drug Coverage

- Do not enroll in a non-GIC Medicare Part D plan. All GIC Medicare plans include Medicare Part D coverage. If you enroll in another Part D plan, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services will disenroll you from your GIC coverage. This means that you will lose your GIC health, behavioral health and prescription drug benefits.
- A "Notice of Creditable Coverage" is located in your plan handbook. It provides proof that you have comparable or better coverage than Medicare Part D. If you should later enroll in an individual Medicare drug plan because of changed circumstances, you must show the Notice of Creditable Coverage to the Social Security Administration to avoid paying a penalty.
- If you have extremely limited income and assets, contact the Social Security Administration to find out about subsidized Part D coverage.
- If your adjusted gross income, as reported on your federal tax return, exceeds a certain amount, Social Security will impose a monthly additional fee called IRMAA (Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount). Visit <u>medicare.gov</u> for more information. Social Security will notify you if this applies to you.

1.877.876.7214

Life and Accidental Death & Dismemberment (AD&D) insurance, offered by MetLife, helps provide for your beneficiary's well-being in the event of a serious accident or death. This benefit is paid to your designated beneficiary(ies). Basic and Optional Life insurance is term insurance, which means it does not have any cash surrender value. Benefits are paid to your beneficiary(ies), so it is important to keep your beneficiary designation up to date.

Eligibility: Survivors, Elderly Governmental Retirees (EGRs), COBRA enrollees and retirees in the GIC municipal health-only program are not eligible for GIC basic or optional life insurance.

### **Basic Life Insurance**

Effective July 1, 2025, the Commonwealth offers \$10,000 of Basic Life Insurance. Current members, if you wish to keep your GIC health insurance coverage, you must be enrolled in basic life insurance.

## **Optional Life Insurance**

You must be enrolled in basic life insurance in order to be eligible for optional life insurance. If you make no change to your optional life coverage at retirement, you will be responsible for the retiree optional life insurance premium, which can be substantial. Optional life insurance rates significantly increase when you retire, and continue to increase based on your age. You may decrease, but cannot increase, your amount of life insurance after you retire. If you decrease your coverage and then later wish to increase it, your application for the increased amount will be subject to evidence of insurability.

MONTHLY GIC LIFE INSURANCE Plan Rates (INCLUDING AD&D) Effective July 1, 2025 Per \$1,000 of Coverage				
RETIREE AGE	RETIREE NON-SMOKER RATE	RETIREE SMOKER RATE		
Under Age 70	\$1.29	\$1.62		
70-74	\$2.17	\$2.83		
75-79	\$5.90	\$7.72		
80-84	\$11.16	\$14.63		
85-89	\$17.69	\$23.17		
90-94	\$26.89	\$32.22		
95-99	\$58.72	\$72.57		
100 and over	\$112.59	\$139.14		

#### Note:

• Premium rates increase for Optional Life Insurance as you age.

 Optional Life Insurance Non-Smoker Rate: State retirees who have been tobacco-free are eligible for reduced non-smoker optional life insurance rates effective July 1, 2025. This benefit is only available for enrollment during the GIC's Annual Enrollment period. For more information, including when and how to enroll or update this benefit, please visit <u>bit.ly/giclifeandadd</u>.



# Ending Your GIC Coverage

To be eligible for the Health Insurance Buy-Out, you must have other non-GIC health insurance coverage through another employer-sponsored plan that meets Internal Revenue Service "minimum value" criteria and must maintain GIC basic life insurance.

## What is the Buy-Out Program?

Under the Buy-Out plan, eligible state employees and retirees receive 25% of the full-cost monthly premium in lieu of health insurance benefits for one 12-month period of time.

**Employees** in HR/CMS and UMASS agencies will receive the remittance monthly in their paychecks; employees of housing and other authorities will receive a monthly check. The amount of payment depends on your health plan and coverage.

Retirees will receive a monthly check. The amount of payment depends on your health plan and coverage.

State Employee Example:	State Retiree Example:		
State employee with Harvard Pilgrim Explorer Family coverage:	State retiree with Wellpoint Medicare Extension Individual coverage:		
Full-Cost premium on July 1, 2025 (Monthly): \$2,933.73	Full-Cost premium on July 1, 2025 (Monthly): \$475.14		
12-month benefit = 25% of this premium	12-month benefit = 25% of this premium		
Employee receives 12 payroll deposits ormonthly checks of:\$733.43	State retiree receives 12 payroll deposits or monthly checks of:\$118.79		
Yearly Earnings (12 monthly payments):* \$8,801.16	Yearly Earnings (12 monthly payments):* \$1,425.48		

\* Subject to federal, Medicare, and state taxes

### Submit Your Buy-Out Application

There are two buy-out periods, and your reimbursement will be determined based on the GIC plan you are enrolled in at the end of the covered period.

- **During Annual Enrollment:** If you were insured with the GIC on January 1, 2025 or before, and continue your coverage through June 30, 2025, you may apply to buy out your health plan coverage effective July 1, 2025. The deadline for submission is May 1, 2025 for the July 1, 2025 buy-out.
- October 6 October 31, 2025: If you are insured with the GIC on July 1, 2025 or before, and continue your coverage through December 31, 2025, you may apply to buy out your health plan coverage effective January 1, 2026. The deadline for submission is October 31, 2025 for the January 1, 2026 buy-out.

Note: Applications received after the enrollment deadline will not be accepted. Visit the GIC website for more information and enrollment details.

**bit.ly/gichealthbuyout** 



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# CONTACT YOUR HEALTH INSURANCE CARRIERS FOR:

- Requesting Member ID card(s) Finding a provider
- Tiered doctor & hospital lists
- Tele-health options that are offered
- Fitness and wellness programs offered
- HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN CARRIERS PHONE WEBSITE massgeneralbrighamhealthplan.org/ **Mass General Brigham Health Plan** 1.866.567.9175 gic-members harvardpilgrim.org/gic **Harvard Pilgrim Health Care** 1.844.442.7324 **Health New England** 1.800.842.4464 healthnewengland.org/gic Tufts Health Plan (Medicare Only) 1.855.852.1016 tuftshealthplan.com/gic Wellpoint Non-Medicare Plans 1.833.663.4176 wellpointmass.com Medicare Plan 1.800.442.9300 PHARMACY BENEFITS **CVS Caremark** 1.877.876.7214 info.caremark.com/oe/gic **CVS SilverScript** 1.877.876.7214 gic.silverscript.com **OTHER BENEFITS** 1.800.745.9202 **Flexible Spending Accounts** massfsatasc.com Metlife Life/AD&D and LTD Insurance 1.877.355.6277 metlife.com/gicbenefits **Altus Dental and Vision Plans** 1.833.442.0411 altusdental.com/gic Mass4YOU Employee Assistance Program 1.844.263.1982 liveandworkwell.com (access code: mass4you) ADDITIONAL RESOURCES (NOT ADMINISTERED BY THE GIC) mass.gov/orgs/massachusetts-state-Massachusetts State Retirement Board 1.617.367.7770 retirement-board **Social Security Administration** 1.800.772.1213 ssa.gov Medicare 1.800.633.4227 medicare.gov



1 Ashburton Place, Suite 1413 Boston, MA 02108



# **GIC's Member Benefits Portal**

Save time and paper by managing your benefits on MyGICLink, GIC's secure member benefits portal.

- Enroll in or update your benefits during Annual Enrollment or within 60 days of a qualifying event
- Securely update your personal information, chat with us, and more!

Register & Log in mygiclink.my.site.com

# COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS GROUP INSURANCE COMMISSION

Maura Healey, Governor Kim Driscoll, Lieutenant Governor

Matthew Veno, Executive Director Group Insurance Commission

**Telephone:** 1.617.727.2310 TDD/TTY: 711

Mailing Address:
Group Insurance Commission
P.O. Box 556
Randolph, MA 02368

See the GIC's website for answers to Frequently Asked Questions: <u>mass.gov/GIC</u>

### Commissioners

\*Current as of March 2025. Valerie Sullivan (Public Member), Chair Bobbi Kaplan (NAGE), Vice Chair Matthew Gorzkowicz, Secretary for Administration and Finance, ex officio Michael Caljouw, Commissioner of Insurance Elizabeth Chabot (NAGE) Edward Tobey Choate (Public Member) Tamara P. Davis (Public Member) Jane Edmonds (Retiree Member) Joseph Gentile (AFL-CIO, Public Safety Member) Gerzino Guirand (Council 93, AFSCME, AFL-CIO) Patricia Jennings (Public Member) Eileen P. McAnneny (Public Member) Melissa Murphy-Rodrigues (Massachusetts Municipal Association) Jason Silva (Massachusetts Municipal Association) Anna Sinaiko (Health Economist) Timothy D. Sullivan, Ed. D. (Massachusetts Teachers Association) Catherine West (Public Member)