



Independent Assessment Entity: Information Sheet

What is an Independent Assessment Entity (IAE)?

An IAE is a single company or organization that would be take on performing all clinical eligibility assessments for 8 long-term services and supports (LTSS), as proposed by MassHealth in a Request for Response (RFR) posted on February 16, 2024.

Which LTSS programs are covered by the IAE?

- Personal Care Attendant (PCA)
- Adult Family Care/Adult Foster Care (AFC)
- Adult Day Health
- Day Habilitation
- Group Adult Foster Care (GAFC)
- Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)
- Senior Care Options (SCO)
- One Care

How does the IAE change the current way MassHealth members access these LTSS programs?

Right now, when a person needs an LTSS program, they work with a community-based provider or agency in their local area. That local organization will assess and evaluate the individual and work with them to get the service authorization from MassHealth, and also provide referrals to other support programs, work with caregivers, or support people who need to appeal MassHealth decisions.

According to the most recent information available, the IAE would take the clinical eligibility assessments away from over 400 community-based providers across the state and put them with a single, state-wide entity.

Why is MassHealth making this change?

The current system needs improvement. MassHealth members would benefit from easier ways to know what LTSS programs they are eligible for, greater consistency across the state and different providers, timelier access to services, and increased accountability and transparency. But community members and providers agree that **the IAE is not the way to improve the LTSS system.**

What are the major concerns?

The IAE tries to pull one part of the LTSS process away from community-based organizations without affecting the overall LTSS system. Some of the changes planned for the IAE would actually help community-based service providers and agencies improve MassHealth member experience right now. Other changes would strip providers of important resources and experienced staff.

What can you do?

Find more information at [DignityMA IAE](#)