

The Medical Marijuana Assistance Program (MMAP) Phase 3 and Phase 3 pilot: Monthly Financial Benefit for Patients

1. What is MMAP Phase 3?

- a. Phase 3 of the MMAP currently distributes a \$50 monthly financial benefit to patients registered in the following Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (Commonwealth) financial hardship programs:
 - Pharmaceutical Assistance Contract for the Elderly (PACE)
 - PACE Needs Enhancement Tier (PACENET)

2. Is participation in MMAP Phase 3 mandatory for dispensaries?

- a. Yes, all PA permitted dispensaries are expected to be able to serve and dispense to any registered patient, including those eligible for MMAP Phase 3.
- b. Section 902 of the Act requires the Department to implement a program to assist financial hardship patients, including the development of guidelines and procedures. See 35 P.S. Section 10231.602(c)(i). MMAP Phase 3 is the implementation of this program.

3. What is the MMAP Phase 3 pilot?

- a. Because the Office of Medical Marijuana (Office)'s budget only allows for a subset of financial hardship patients to receive a monthly financial benefit, the Office has launched a pilot program to implement MMAP's Phase 3.
- b. The Phase 3 pilot of the MMAP distributes a \$50 monthly financial benefit to patients who are registered in and selected PACE/PACENET as their financial hardship program to reduce the fee of their medical marijuana identification (ID card).
- c. Notably, the Department's use of "pilot" is to signal to the medical marijuana community that this is the first implementation of the MMAP Phase 3 program, not the Department's ultimate vision for what the MMAP Phase 3 program will be.
- d. Additionally, this pilot will familiarize dispensaries with MMAP's new system and procedures.

4. How many patients do you anticipate being awarded financial benefits through the pilot?

- a. The expected number of patients to be awarded benefits for the remainder of this fiscal year (through June 2023) is between 1,000 and 3,000.

5. When will the pilot be implemented?

- a. The pilot launched in the Fall of 2022.

6. How will MMAP Phase 3 patients be identified?

- a. Patients will not need to provide any additional information at the dispensary to be identified as an MMAP Phase 3 participant. If a patient is eligible to receive MMAP Phase 3 benefits, the patient's medical marijuana identification (ID) card will automatically indicate the patient's eligibility when it is scanned at the point of sale.

7. How will I apply their benefit in the point-of-sale system?

- a. When a patient's medical marijuana ID card is scanned at the point of sale, the system will identify whether the patient is an MMAP participant and display a separate MMAP discount field.
- b. The dispensary should complete the order as usual.
- c. If the patient wishes to use their available MMAP funds, the dispensary will need to use Magellan Health's web-based tool (tool) to determine how much funding the patient has available to them.
- d. After entering some key information about the patient and the total sales amount of the applicable products, the tool will return with the amount of financial benefit to apply to the order.
- e. After the benefit is applied and entered in the 'Sales Order' screen, the net amount to collect is provided (the balance due for the patient).

**Please note: These steps are not a substitute for the available training. If questions arise during business hours, a dedicated helpdesk will be available.*

8. Can we apply the MMAP benefit in lieu of other discounts and savings?

- a. No. The MMAP benefit should not preclude patients from receiving other discounts and savings.

9. How and when will I be trained?

- a. Live, virtual trainings were provided to dispensaries that demonstrated the proper use of the dispensary portal, user activity control functions, and the point-of-sale web claims submission tool.
- b. A recorded session of the training will be made available to dispensaries.

10. How will I get reimbursed for offering this benefit on patient purchases?

- a. There will be a weekly reimbursement process to each dispensary for all MMAP funds used by patients at that facility.
- b. Reimbursements for transactions occur between 21 and 28 days from the transaction date.

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11. Will patients receive a financial benefit every month?

- a. Yes. If the patient continues to participate in the medical marijuana program and is eligible for MMAP Phase 3, they will continue to receive a monthly financial benefit from the Office.

12. Can patients save their financial benefit or allow it to rollover month-to-month?

- a. A patient's balance will rollover up to 12 months from when they paid their annual fee. After the 12-month period, any unused benefits that remain will be forfeited.

13. How much of a financial benefit will patients receive each month?

- a. For the remainder of this fiscal year (through June 2023), the budget will allow MMAP Phase 3 pilot patients to receive \$50 per month as a financial benefit.

14. What can patients use their monthly financial benefit for at the dispensary?

- a. Patients can use their monthly financial benefit on all forms of medication permitted under their patient certification.
- b. Patients cannot use their financial benefits for devices or accessories.

15. Can patients check their own balance?

- a. For balance inquiries, a patient can either call the dedicated helpdesk or at the time of sale, request that the dispensary provide the balance.

16. Where can I go for support if something doesn't seem right or if I have other questions?

- a. If you have MMAP related questions, please call the dedicated helpdesk for assistance.