

Enhanced Community Options Program

The Enhanced Community Options Program (ECOP) is designed to serve frail elders living in the community who are at risk of nursing home placement due to functional or cognitive impairment.

Eligibility

ECOP is for frail elders who meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Age 60 or older, and those under age 60 may be eligible with a documentation of Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia.
- Meet clinical eligibility requirements for nursing facility placement; and
- Require home care services greater than two times those available through the general state Home Care Program.

Clinical Criteria

The goal of ECOP is to help elders who are at risk of nursing home placement remain in the community. As a result, the elder must have done one of the following:

- Applied for nursing home placement within the past 6 months
- Experienced a medical crisis, which could put them at risk of nursing home placement
- Had a recent decline in functional or cognitive status
- Lost the services of an essential formal or informal caregiver, placing the elder at risk of placement
- Recently been discharged from a nursing home

Elder Enrollment

A Care Manager and Nurse from Elder Services will conduct a needs assessment to determine eligibility. They will then work with the elder and his/her family members to determine a plan of care, coordinate all services received by this individual, conduct reassessment visits and offer ongoing care management.

Services

ECOP funding allows for an enhanced plan of services beyond what is normally delivered to elders with basic home care services, which typically includes daily personal care assistance.

Cost

Consumers who meet income and need guidelines pay for service based on a sliding fee scale. The State of Massachusetts provides the additional funding.

More Information

For more information about our Enhanced Community Options Program, call our Information & Referral Department at 800-892-0890.

