



For additional information on the grading methodology, please visit the State of the States Report: rareaction.org/stateofthestates

Medicaid Eligibility

Overall Grade: A

Eligibility for childless adults	A
Eligibility for parent of a dependent child	A
Eligibility for pregnant women	B
Medicaid and/or Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) eligibility for children	A

Medicaid Section 1115 Waivers

Overall Grade: Pass

In 2019, Massachusetts has not sought to use section 1115 waivers to enact provisions in its Medicaid program that would be harmful to the rare disease community. Previous efforts to enact harmful provisions were not approved by the federal government and, therefore, have not been implemented.

Out-of-Pocket Costs

Overall Grade: F

Prescription drug cost sharing protections	F
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Step Therapy

Overall Grade: F

Based on clinical practice	F
Timeline	F
Exception process	F
Categories of exceptions	F
Subsequent guidance from state	F

Medical Nutrition

Overall Grade: B

Coverage requirements for commercial health plans	B
Covered disorders requirements for commercial health plans	C
Coverage requirements for state-run programs	A
Covered disorders requirements for state-run programs	C

Newborn Screening

Overall Grade: B

Screening for RUSP core conditions	B
Adding RUSP core conditions to the state panel	B
Funding for program	A
Use of dried blood spots (DBS)	A
Follow-up	A
Quality of program	A
Advisory committee	C

Rare Disease Advisory Councils

Massachusetts has not enacted legislation to create a rare disease advisory council.

Individual Insurance Market Protections

Pre-existing conditions protections: Massachusetts has a guaranteed issue law, requires the use of adjusted community rating, prohibits pre-existing conditions exclusions and has an individual mandate in place.

Short-term, limited-duration and association health plans: Underwritten short-term, limited-duration health plans are prohibited in Massachusetts. Massachusetts requires that an association form for a purpose other than offering insurance and be in existence for a minimum of five years before offering coverage. Self-funded association health plans must satisfy the same licensure and financial standards as commercial insurers.

Reinsurance: Massachusetts has not yet sought a section 1332 waiver to establish a reinsurance program.