



Commonwealth of Massachusetts Health Safety Net Surcharge As It Relates to HRA Clients Utilizing the Provider Pay Option

The Health Safety Net Surcharge, aka Massachusetts Uncompensated Care Pool, is a fund created by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to finance health care for the low income and uninsured within that state. The tax is levied upon acute health care services rendered at acute care hospitals or ambulatory surgical centers in Massachusetts. Certain individuals or entities that make payments for the purchase of these services at these facilities must pay the Surcharge.

The regulation states that payments made to providers by Third Party Administrators (TPAs), such as Benefit Strategies, regardless of amount, are subject to the Surcharge. The Surcharge is a percentage of the payment, and the percentage is set by the Commonwealth and periodically updated.

Currently the Surcharge for claims incurred at an applicable facility is 1.87% for claims incurred on or after October 1, 2015.

Benefit Strategies tracks Provider Pay claims subject to the Surcharge and invoices clients on a quarterly basis for the applicable amount. Once funds are remitted to Benefit Strategies we will issue payments to the Massachusetts Division of Health Care.

For more information on the Health Safety Net Surcharge, please [CLICK HERE](#). If you have questions on how Benefit Strategies invoices clients for the Surcharge, please contact Benefit Strategies at 888-401-3539.

Please note that the Surcharge does not apply to patients making direct payments to providers, or when Benefit Strategies is making payments directly to participants.