# **NOTICE OF STATE AGENCY RULEMAKING**

**PUBLIC INPUT FOR RULES** A list of state agency rule proposals is published here each Wednesday. You can get a copy of a proposed rule by contacting the person listed in the notice. You can comment on a proposed rule by submitting a written comment to the agency or by attending the public hearing, if one is scheduled. If no hearing is scheduled, you can request one.  The agency must hold a hearing if it receives 5 or more requests.  If you have a disability and need assistance to participate in a hearing, you should tell the agency at least 7 days before the hearing. **ONLINE INFORMATION** Weekly notices, full text of adopted rules, and a list of agency rulemaking contacts are available at this website: [https://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/rules/index.html](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.maine.gov%2Fsos%2Fcec%2Frules%2Findex.html&data=05%7C02%7CJ.Chris.Parr%40maine.gov%7C645b27059f0346864d7008dc94834bf0%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638548538834447354%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=K93i9Iukz%2F4M1hnG1XnmVSNiEpRD2zB99vb6RheIZ8A%3D&reserved=0)

**PROPOSALS**

**None.**

**ADOPTIONS**

**AGENCY: 02-031 Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Insurance**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 850, Health Plan Accountability**

**ADOPTION FILING NUMBER: 2025-141**

**CONCISE SUMMARY:**

The rule amendment updates the rule to account for the changes in law made by Public Law 2021, Chapter 603 and by Public Law 2023, Chapter 680, and to comply with new federal requirements established by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Notice of Benefit and Payment Parameters for 2025. The major substantive rulemaking was approved by Public Law 2025, Resolve Chapter 31 and the change required by that resolve has been made.

**EFFECTIVE DATE: Friday, August 8, 2025 (Final Adoption of Major Substantive Rule)**

**AGENCY CONTACT PERSON:** Stacy Bergendahl

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**AGENCY: 16-227 Department of Public Safety, Maine Criminal Justice Academy Board of Trustees**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 3, Entrance Standards**

**ADOPTION FILING NUMBER: 2025-142**

**CONCISE SUMMARY:**

The amendments to Chapter 3 update the Maine Criminal Justice Academy entrance standards for the Basic Corrections Training Course (including both the Basic Corrections Training Program and Juvenile Basic Corrections Training Program), Law Enforcement Preservice Training Program, and Basic Law Enforcement Training Program to include a High School Equivalency Test (HiSET) passing test score as an optional educational requirement, which is now the test used in Maine and other states in lieu of the General Education Development Test previously authorized. Additionally, the proposed amendments establish the same entrance criteria for both the Law Enforcement Preservice and Basic Law Enforcement Training Programs; this adds the entrance requirement of a successful polygraph and psychological exam for Law Enforcement Preservice Course candidates, effective July 1, 2026. Amendments also update disqualifying conduct for applicants enumerated in 25 M.R.S. § 2806-A including offenses in 17 M.R.S. chapters 29, 31, 35, and 41 which were previously omitted from the rule. Amendments also eliminate the requirement of the use of a reading and writing test for entrance to the Law Enforcement Preservice Course and Basic Law Enforcement Training Program, instead establishing a requirement that the candidate be able to read and write at a level necessary to complete the course as determined by the hiring or sponsoring agency.

**EFFECTIVE DATE: Monday, July 14, 2025**

**AGENCY CONTACT PERSON:** Assistant Director Lincoln Ryder

AGENCY NAME: Maine Criminal Justice Academy

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TELEPHONE: Office phone: 207-877-8008, Fax: 207-877-8027

**AGENCY: 10-144 Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Family Independence**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 301, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Rules (Section 111-7; SNAP Rule #238 – ABAWD Update)**

**ADOPTION FILING NUMBER: 2025-143**

**CONCISE SUMMARY:**

The adopted rule effectuates routine technical changes to 10-144 C.M.R. Chapter 301; Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Program Rules, Section 111-7, ensuring consistency with 7 C.F.R. § 273.24(c).

Based on recent guidance from the U.S.D.A. - Food and Nutrition Services (F.N.S.), the Department determined it necessary to update Section 111-7, 1(B)(3) clarifying that an individual is no longer an Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD) “As of October 1, 2024, beginning the month they turn fifty-five (55) years of age.”

Retroactive rulemaking is permissible under 22 M.R.S. § 42(8)(A) as this update is necessary to comply with federal requirements, provides a benefit to SNAP recipients and does not adversely impact applicants, participants, beneficiaries, or providers.

In addition, the adopted rule made non-substantive changes to—

* Identify ages as numbers and remove written ages for consistency with other sections within this rule;
* Correct typographical errors in 2(A)(2) and 5(B) where TAA replaces TRA;
* Remove Code of Federal Register (C.F.R.) citations from the header of Section 111-7, as the citations are unnecessary, are identified within the sections as applicable, and for consistency with other Sections within the SNAP Rules; and
* Replace Food Supplement Program in the Section 111-7 header with SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP) RULES as the former is no longer applicable.

Based on additional guidance from U.S.D.A. – F.N.S., The Department determined it necessary to make non-substantive changes to the final rule to provide clarity for individuals no longer ABAWDs as of September 1, 2023 and October 1, 2023.The adopted rule makes the following changes:

* Section 111-7(B)(1) as “As of September 1, 2023, beginning the month they turn 51 years of age.”
* Section 111-7(B)(2) as “As of October 1, 2023, beginning the month they turn 53 years of age.”

Retroactive rulemaking is permissible under 22 M.R.S. § 42(8)(A) as this update is necessary to comply with federal requirements, provides a benefit to SNAP recipients and does not adversely impact applicants, participants, beneficiaries, or providers.

**See** [**https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/about/rulemaking**](https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/about/rulemaking) **for rules and related rulemaking documents.**

**EFFECTIVE DATE: Tuesday, July 15, 2025**

**AGENCY CONTACT PERSON:**

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**AGENCY: 10-144 Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Family Independence**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 330, Higher Opportunity for Pathways to Employment (HOPE) Program Rules (HOPE Rule #104 – Section 4: Dental Services Update)**

**ADOPTION FILING NUMBER: 2025-144**

**CONCISE SUMMARY:**

The adopted rule effectuates the removal of dental care from the HOPE Program’s financial supports available to the participant due to changes in Maine’s definition of medical services. The Department’s inability to cover a dental expense is tied directly to our federal funding source, the TANF block grant. The adopted rule change updates Section 4(B)(10) – Dental Care to align with Maine’s definition of dental services as a medical service (22 M.R.S. § 3174-F). The adopted rule removes the HOPE Program lifetime limit of two thousand dollars ($2,000) per HOPE participant for dental care because of the prohibition on using TANF funds for medical care in 42 U.S.C. 608(a)(6).

**See** [**https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/about/rulemaking**](https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/about/rulemaking) **for rules and related rulemaking documents.**

**EFFECTIVE DATE: Sunday, July 20, 2025**

**AGENCY CONTACT PERSON:**

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