

CENTER FOR HEALTH INFORMATION AND ANALYSIS

COST REPORT INSTRUCTIONS:

FY 2024 GROUP ADULT FOSTER CARE (GAFC) COST REPORT

March 2025





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SUBMISSION DEADLINE

FY 2024 GAFC Cost Report filings are due on May 27, 2025

The purpose of this cost report is to gather information about the program costs, revenues, and profitability of your agency's GAFC program. **For this reason, only report revenues generated by providing GAFC services and costs incurred from providing GAFC services.**

Also, please report this information regardless of how those GAFC services are paid for. **If your agency provides other social or medical services in addition to GAFC services, you must separate the revenue and costs of GAFC services from your agency-wide costs and record only GAFC revenues and costs on the GAFC cost report.**

Who Must File

Providers of Group Adult Foster Care (GAFC) that participated in the MassHealth program during their fiscal year 2024 must file, unless the provider is exempt from filing for one or more of the following reasons:

1. The agency was in business for less than 6 months during its FY 2024.
2. The agency was owned by its current owner for less than 6 months during its FY 2024.
3. The agency did not have any MassHealth participation in its FY 2024.
4. The agency received less than \$50,000 in MassHealth revenue in its FY 2024.

If you believe your agency is exempt from filing for any of the above reasons, you must claim exemption using the FY 2024 GAFC Cost Report Exemption Request Form, available as a Word document at <https://www.chiamass.gov/gafc>. Email this completed form to data@chiamass.gov.

Please refer to 957 CMR 6.00: Cost Reporting Requirements for information on penalties for non-compliance.

What to File

a) **Cost Reports**

Providers should file a group adult foster care cost report for their fiscal year 2024. A blank cost report is available in Microsoft Excel format from CHIA at <https://www.chiamass.gov/gafc>.

b) **Statement of Certification**

Providers must file a Statement of Certification attesting that the cost report submission is accurate, complete, and prepared in accordance with the instructions. The Statement of Certification is found in the cost report template. Please **print only the "Statement of Certification" page**, sign it, scan it, and save it as a PDF file. Email the PDF file along with the completed Excel workbook cost report to data@chiamass.gov. Please name the Statement of Certification PDF in the following format: AgencyName_GAFCSC2024.pdf.

c) **Financial Statements**

Providers must also file financial statements for the reporting period. The financial statements must be completed in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) using the accrual basis of accounting. If the numbers on the cost report cannot be traced directly to the financial statements, please describe the reasons for the variance between the two documents in the Reconciliation section on the Summary tab of the cost report template.

To satisfy the financial statement requirement, providers must file **one** of the following forms of acceptable documentation. They are listed in descending order of preference:

- a) Audited, reviewed, or compiled financial statements prepared by a Certified Public Accountant (CPA).
- b) Certification from a CPA attesting to the accuracy and validity of the data reported on the cost report. The CPA must not be a related party to the principal owners or partners of the agency.
- c) Copies of tax returns filed with the Internal Revenue Service for the reporting year.
- d) Unaudited financial statements for the reporting year.

Providers only need to submit **one** of the above types of financial statements.

d) Additional Information (if requested)

Upon review of the cost report, CHIA may require additional information. This information will be considered a component of the cost report subject to the same certification and filing obligation as the initial filing.

When to File

GAFC providers must send a properly completed GAFC Cost Report via email by **May 27, 2025**. Cost reports containing any errors listed in the “Unacceptable Filings” section of these instructions will not be considered submitted until any errors are fixed.

A two week filing extension may be granted for good cause. A written request is necessary via email to the following address: data@chiamass.gov.

Unacceptable Filings

Filings with the following errors will not be considered complete. Any of the below errors must be resolved before CHIA will consider your report submitted and complete.

- Cost reports that are missing any of the following information:
 - The provider’s name (General Information tab);
 - The provider’s 9-digit MassHealth ID number and letter suffix (General Information tab);
 - Dates of the provider’s fiscal year beginning and end (General Information tab);
 - Units of GAFC service provided during the fiscal year (tab C-Direct Care Expenses).
- Use of a prior year’s template for FY 2024 reporting.
 - Solution: Download the **FY 2024** GAFC cost report. Do not download or use a previous year’s template.
 - The FY 2024 template is available here: <https://www.chiamass.gov/gafc>.

- Use of “Secure E-Mail” transmission methods that require the CHIA recipient to log onto or register with a “Secure E-Mail” service.
 - Solution: Use the standard email attachment function to submit the report.
- Encrypted Excel files.
 - Solution: Do not encrypt your cost report.
- Cost reports whose formatting, line item descriptions, or other locked content has been altered.
 - Solution: Only enter data into the yellow shaded cells and do not attempt to alter the formatting of the cost report. Do not attempt to unlock protected cells or to delete tabs from the spreadsheet. **If you believe the cost report blank has errors or should be changed, contact CHIA at CostReports.Pricing@chiamass.gov.**
- Cost report submissions saved in anything other than the .xlsx format. Do not save cost reports as .xls or .pdf.
 - Solution: Save your cost report Excel file in .xlsx format only.

Additionally, CHIA may ask for correction or verification of GAFC cost reports with unusually high or unusually low operating results, margins, or unit costs (total GAFC expenses over total GAFC units), or with other indicators of data quality issues.

How to Submit the Cost Report

First, save your cost reports and certification statements electronically, using the file naming convention specified in these instructions.

Send an email to CHIA at the following email address: data@chiamass.gov. Attach to the email:

1. Your completed Excel workbook cost report named in the format: **AgencyName_GAFCCR24.xlsx** where AgencyName is the name of your agency;
2. The PDF version of your signed Statement of Certification named in the format: **AgencyName_GAFCCR24.pdf** where AgencyName is the name of your agency;
3. Copies of your PDF financial statements named in the format: **AgencyName_GAFCFS24.pdf** where AgencyName is the name of your agency.

In the subject line of the email, enter: “GAFC FY 2024 Cost Report from [your agency name]”.

How to Get Help

If you still need assistance with completing or submitting this report, claiming an exemption, or requesting an extension, please e-mail the Pricing Cost Reports Helpdesk Email at CostReports.Pricing@chiamass.gov.

Multiple Site Agencies

If your agency has multiple MassHealth ID suffixes under which it bills MassHealth, you must file a separate cost report for each site/MassHealth Suffix.

General Instructions

1. Please read all instructions carefully before preparing the report.
2. Cells that the preparer should fill in (if applicable) are marked in yellow. Green cells will be filled automatically and should not be edited directly.
3. The preparer should complete only those schedules, columns, and line items that are applicable. It is not necessary to enter “0”—simply leave inapplicable cells blank.
4. All dollar amounts should be entered as WHOLE numbers rounded to the nearest dollar.
5. All subtotals and totals will be calculated automatically in the spreadsheet. Please double-check the entered numbers and verify that the subtotals and totals are correct.
6. All attachments should be clearly marked to indicate the schedule, column, and line item to which they refer.
7. Whenever the term “OTHER” is used, the preparer should list separately, in the space provided in a separate tab, the amount and a brief description of all items that are relevant to the financial statement.
8. Retain a copy of the completed form for your files.

General Information Tab

Line G1 Agency Name: Select the agency’s MassHealth provider name from the drop-down list. If your agency’s name does not appear in the list, then please follow all of the following steps:

1. **Register your organization**: Download, print, and fill out a CHIA INET User Agreement – Other Provider form (chiamass.gov/assets/docs/p/inetuseragreementtootherprovider.pdf). Scan and email the form to data@chiamass.gov.
2. **Register a person as authorized to file this report on behalf of your agency**: Fill out a Business Partner Security Agreement (chiamass.gov/assets/docs/p/inet/confidential-business-partner-agreement-2013.pdf) and email to data@chiamass.gov.
3. In the General Information tab, click the link at the top of the data-entry column that reads “Click here if your Agency Name does not appear in this list.” It will take you to another sheet in the cost report where you should type in your organization’s name. Then return to the General Information tab and continue to complete the cost report.

Lines G2-G3 MassHealth ID Number and Suffix: All providers that participate in MassHealth are assigned an ID number consisting of nine digits and a character suffix, such as 123456789A. Enter the digits and the character suffix separately, in the appropriate fields.

Line G4 Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN): Enter the agency’s nine-digit FEIN.

Lines G5-G8 Business Address, City, State, and Zip Code: The main address for the agency.

Lines G9-G10 Agency Phone and Agency Phone Extension: The main phone number for the agency, and extension if applicable.

Line G11 Contact Person: The name of the person whom CHIA should contact with any questions about the cost report.

Line G12 Contact Title: The job title of the contact person.

Line G13 Contact Email: The email address for the contact person.

Line G14 Contact Phone: The telephone number of the contact person.

Line G15 Contact Phone Extension: The direct phone extension to reach the contact person, if applicable.

Lines G16-G27 Service Sites and Type of Care: If your agency operates multiple sites, use this space to list all of the sites and their respective addresses. Designate the type of care as “GAFC,” or, if the site is a dual provider, “AFC and GAFC.” **Even if you have additional sites to list here, you should only include data in the rest of the cost report as it relates to GAFC services provided by the site whose MassHealth ID suffix is in line G3 and whose address is in lines G5-G8.**

Line G28 Annual Report From: The starting date of your agency’s fiscal year 2024.

Line G29 Annual Report To: The ending date of your agency’s fiscal year 2024.

Schedule A: Revenue

List only revenue generated by providing GAFC or allocated to the GAFC program.

Line 1A Contributions, Gifts, Bequests: Cash contributions, gifts, and bequests to the agency by its benefactors.

Line 2A Private/In-Kind: Contributions, gifts, and bequests other than cash recorded at the market value of the item on the date of receipt by the agency.

Line 3A Total Gifts and In-Kind Contributions: Sum of lines 1A and 2A.

Line 4A Massachusetts Government Grants: Award of funds from a Commonwealth governmental agency to support or subsidize a particular project, program, or the general charitable purposes and activities of the agency.

Line 5A Other Grant (Excluding Federal Direct): Award of funds from all other entities except grants received directly from the federal government.

Line 6A Total Grants: Sum of lines 4A and 5A.

Line 7A Commercial/Private Third Parties: Third-party payments made for services to clients not sponsored by a governmental entity.

Line 8A Government Programs – PACE, SCO, OneCare: Revenue from government programs PACE, SCO, or OneCare.

Line 9A Private Client Payments: All revenue received from self-pay clients.

Line 10A GAFC MassHealth Payments: Revenue received from MassHealth GAFC clients for per diem services only. This line item includes payments under MassHealth fee-for-service and the MassHealth Primary Care Clinician (PCC) plan, if applicable.¹

Enter revenue from the following payers on the appropriate line:

Line 11A MassHealth MCO

Line 12A Medicare

Line 13A Department of Mental Health

Line 14A Department of Developmental Services

Line 15A Department of Public Health

Line 16A Department of Social Services

Line 17A Department of Transitional Assistance

Line 18A Department of Youth Services

Line 19A Total Assistance and Fees: Sum of lines 7A-18A.

Line 20A Interest Income

Line 21A Other Revenue Details: Revenue not falling under any other revenue accounts definition. Space is provided for written explanation on Schedule A1: Other Revenue Details.

Line 22A Total Revenue from Providing GAFC: Sum of lines 3A+6A+19A+20A+21A.

Schedule B: Administrative Expenses

List only FTEs and expenses as they relate to providing GAFC or allocated to the GAFC program.

Assigning full time equivalents (FTEs):

FTEs are a measurement of the amount of time employees are paid for during the reporting period. 1.00 FTE refers to an employee working full-time for the entire year. The measure is the same (1.00 FTE) whether referring to one person working full-time, or several people working part-time hours that add up to a full work week.

A full work week is often defined as 40 hours, but this varies by agency and your agency may have a slightly different work week. If 40 hours is a full work week, then 40 hours of work per week is 1.00 FTE; 20 hours is 0.5 FTE.

FTEs should be reported to reflect how many hours per week an employee works, as well as whether the employee has been with your agency for the whole year or only for part of the year. If your agency employs staff members who have some direct (clinical) and some indirect job functions, splitting FTEs between these roles is an important part of cost reporting.

¹ The Primary Care Clinician (PCC) Plan is a managed care option administered by the MassHealth agency through which enrolled members receive primary care and certain other medical services.

Please note that each job category that shows an FTE number should also have a corresponding total salary number and vice versa. The cost report will automatically calculate the yearly salary based on these two numbers.

Example 1: A part-time care manager (non-master's) who works 20 hours/week in a standard 40-hour work week and has been with the agency for the entire fiscal year

Report in Line	Staff	Yearly Salary	FTE	Total Salary
6C	Care Manager (non-master's)	\$35,000	0.50	\$17,500

Example 2: A full-time care manager (non-master's) who works 40 hours/week in a standard 40-hour work week and was hired halfway through the year

Report in Line	Staff	Yearly Salary	FTE	Total Salary
6C	Care Manager (non-master's)	\$35,000	0.50	\$17,500

Example 3: A nurse who also works 10 hours per week as a program director

Report in Line	Staff	Yearly Salary	FTE	Total Salary
4B	Program Director	\$70,000	0.25	\$17,500
2C	Registered Nurse	\$60,000	0.75	\$45,000

FTE:

Line 1B Number of Hours per Week Representing an FTE: Report the number of hours of work per week considered full-time for GAFC employees. For example, if an FTE is expected to work 40 hours per week, enter 40.

Indirect Staff:

A note about assigning direct and indirect staff: function vs. title

A staff position is considered "indirect" if its primary function is not to provide direct clinical services to the member. The classification of staff as direct or indirect is determined by the program function performed. For example, if the program director also functions as a registered nurse, include only the indirect, program director salary expense allocations in line 4B. The salary expense of that person's direct nursing role should be reported later on, in Schedule C, Direct Care Expenses.

This portion of the schedule asks you to report FTEs, Total Salary, Payroll Taxes, Fringe Benefits, and Accrual Adjustments for various types of indirect staff members. Here is a brief explanation of what should be reported in each column:

- FTE: The total number of FTEs serving in the specified job function. This number can be expressed as a decimal.
- Total Salary: The total salary amount (wages) paid to all staff members in the specified job function. Report the dollar amount as a whole number.
- Payroll Taxes: The employer's share of FICA, MUICA, FUTA, workers compensation insurance, and any other payroll taxes paid on behalf of staff in the specified job function. Report the dollar amount as a whole number.

- Fringe Benefits: The expense of providing non-salary benefits to staff in the specified job function. This may include life, health, and medical insurance; pension and annuity plan contributions; day care; tuition benefits; etc. Report the dollar amount as a whole number.
- Accrual Adjustments: Adjustment account to record adjusting entries for accruals such as Accrued Vacation Pay and Partial Payroll expenses when not reported elsewhere in the cost report. Report the dollar amount as a whole number.

Line 2B Chief Executive Officer: The person responsible for the overall operation of the agency in which the GAFC operates. If the GAFC is not part of a larger agency this may also be the person charged with overall direction of the GAFC program.

Line 3B Chief Financial Officer/Business Manager: The person charged with maintaining the agency's financial records.

Line 4B Program Director: An individual who has overall responsibility for the daily operation of the GAFC program. In some cases, the Program Director may also act as a Registered Nurse or Care Manager. In these instances, please do not include any direct care costs in this line item.

Line 5B Assistant Program Director: An individual who reports directly to the Program Director. The Assistant Program Director acts for the Program Director in his/her absence and functions as an advisor/assistant to the Program Director.

Line 6B Supervising Professional/Program Manager: The person charged with supervising the Direct Care Staff.

Line 7B Administrative Staff: Personnel who tend to the clerical functions of the program.

Line 8B Office Maintenance and Janitorial Staff: Office maintenance and groundskeepers. Please note that this line item, like the rest of this cost report, should be limited to expenses related only to the GAFC program.

Line 9B Other Indirect Staffing Expense Details: Click on the link to Schedule B1 to enter details of other indirect (non-clinical) staff positions not listed above.

Line 10B Indirect Staff Totals: Sum of lines 2B-9B. Instead of an average yearly salary, this line reports "Total Expenses," which is the sum of the total salary, payroll taxes, fringe benefits, and accrual adjustments.

Additional Administrative Expenses:

Line 11B Indirect Staff Training: Formal training for indirect staff.

Line 12B Indirect Staff Travel: Staff travel within the normal scope of indirect staff members' assigned duties. This category includes use of a staff member's own vehicle, as well as public transportation.

Line 13B Program Supplies and Materials: Expenses related to supplies, materials, and expendable items of equipment and furnishings that are not depreciable and are routinely needed for ongoing direct client care or program service delivery.

Line 14B Information Technology Systems and Investments: Expenses related to information technology systems and services, including compensation for IT professionals and expenses related to the construction and maintenance of the program's systems and services.

Line 15B Quality Assurance and Program Integrity: Expenses related to activities that are designed to improve health care quality and the integrity of the program.

Line 16B Legal Fees: All fees incurred by the organization for the legal services of an attorney from outside of the organization (does not include lobbying or collection fees). If your agency employs its own staff serving in this capacity, do not report their salaries here. Instead, report the salary in Schedule B, Administrative Expenses under “Other Indirect Staffing Expense Details” (Line 9B, redirects to Schedule B1). Include the description “Legal Staff” for the line item.

Line 17B Accounting Fees: Fees incurred for accounting services from outside of the organization. If your agency employs staff serving in this capacity, do not report their salaries here. Instead, report the salary in Schedule B, Administrative Expenses under “Other Indirect Staffing Expense Details” (Line 9B, redirects to Schedule B1). Include the description “Accounting Staff” for the line item.

Line 18B Marketing, PR, and Outreach: Expenses incurred for marketing, public relations, and outreach of program products and services.

Line 19B Dues and Subscriptions: Expenses incurred for memberships in professional organizations or for periodicals related to the agency’s function.

Line 20B Office and Equipment Expenses: Office supplies, materials, and expendable items of equipment and furnishings.

Line 21B Movable Equipment Depreciation: Depreciation expenses associated with program equipment and furnishings. Movable equipment may include furniture, office equipment, etc.

Line 22B Fixed Equipment Depreciation: Depreciation expenses associated with program fixed equipment. Fixed equipment may include central air conditioning systems, elevators, wiring for telephone systems, etc.

Line 23B Other Taxes: Taxes other than those associated with payroll and occupancy of the agency’s space. Other taxes may include excise tax, sales tax, etc.

Line 24B Equipment Repair and Maintenance: Expenses related to preventing equipment from failing unexpectedly, or for returning failed equipment to a functional state.

Line 25B Malpractice Insurance: Insurance premiums to insure the agency from claims resulting from allegations of errors in the care of clients.

Line 26B Affiliate Allocations: Indirect non-patient care cost allocated to a parent company or affiliate for providing administrative oversight.

Line 27B Occupancy Expenses: Click on the link to Schedule B2 to enter details of occupancy expenses.

1. Real Estate Taxes: Tax expense for the agency’s real property.
2. Facility Repair and Maintenance: Expenses related to preventing facilities from falling into disrepair, or for returning facilities to a functional state.
3. Property Insurance: Premiums paid to insure the agency from damages to its property.
4. Building Depreciation: Depreciation associated with buildings owned by the agency.
5. Facility Rent: The expense for leasing or renting the facility in which the agency operates.
6. Utilities: Expenses for heat, power, water, telephone, etc.
7. Facility Mortgage Interest: Interest paid on mortgages for the facility owned by the agency.

8. Other Occupancy Expense: Expenses related to the premises in which the agency operates that are not enumerated above.
9. Total Occupancy Expenses: Sum of 1-8.

Line 28B Other Administrative Expense Details: Click on the link to Schedule B3 to enter details of other administrative expenses not listed above.

Line 29B Total Administrative Expenses: Sum of lines 10B-28B.

Line 30B Non-Reimbursable Expense Details: Click on the link to Schedule B4 to enter the details of expenses that are not reimbursable. These items include tax penalties and other late fees, provision for bad debts, collection fees, etc. Please note that line items for client transportation and meals have been removed from the cost report because they are not considered GAFC program expenses. Client transportation and meal expenses should not be reported in the GAFC cost report.

Schedule C: Direct Care Expenses

List only FTEs and expenses as they relate the delivery of direct care in the GAFC program.

Direct Staff:

Direct staff are the clinical staff that provide medical assistance and clinical oversight to the program. **In the instructions for Schedule B above, please read “A note about assigning direct and indirect staff: function vs. title” as well as the description of the information that should be reported in each column.**

Line 1C Registered Nurse ONLY: The nurse responsible for the initial clinical assessment and ongoing evaluation of a member’s progress in the GAFC program. Must be a registered nurse licensed by the MA Board of Registration in Nursing. Report staff here if their sole job is as an RN and they do not perform non-clinical job functions.

Line 2C Indirect program staff (e.g., Director) performing the RN role: If a staff member is a registered nurse and performs the duties of a registered nurse **in addition to their non-clinical role**, report the FTEs and expenses allocated to the RN portion of their job here.

Line 3C Direct Care Aide: Those responsible for providing direct care on a regular basis for members who meet clinical eligibility requirements described in the GAFC Guidelines. This expense is used for Direct Care Aides who are qualified individuals who provide direct care to Members as outlined in the GAFC Guidelines.

Line 4C Care Manager (master’s) ONLY: The care manager is responsible for psychosocial and counseling assistance within the GAFC program. The care manager must have a master’s degree and social worker license from the MA Board of Registration in Social Work. Report staff here if their sole job is as a care manager and they do not perform non-clinical job functions.

Line 5C Indirect program staff (e.g., Director) performing the Care Manager (master’s) role: If a staff member is a masters-level care manager and performs the duties of a care manager **in addition to their non-clinical role**, report the FTEs and expenses allocated to the care manager portion of their job here.

Line 6C Care Manager (non-master’s): The care manager is responsible for psychosocial and counseling assistance within the GAFC. The care manager must have a bachelor’s degree and social worker license from the MA Board of Registration in Social Work, or a bachelor’s degree and at least two years clinical experience in the care of elderly or disabled persons.

Line 7C Subcontracted Direct Care Staff: Subcontracted employees who provide direct clinical care and were not reported in any of the lines above.

Line 8C Other Direct Staffing Expense Details: Click on the link to Schedule C1 to enter details of other direct staff positions.

Line 9C Direct Staff Totals: Sum of lines 1C-8C. Instead of an average yearly salary, this line reports "Total Expenses," which is the sum of the total salary, payroll taxes, fringe benefits, and accrual adjustments.

Line 10C Direct Staff Training: Formal instruction in the form of professional continuing education to satisfy program licensure requirements or to enable direct care staff to acquire and maintain acceptable levels of knowledge, skill, and proficiency for the routine performance of their assigned clinical functions.

Line 11C Direct Staff Travel: Travel within the normal scope of the clinical staff members' assigned duties when providing direct care services in the members' home. This category includes use of a direct clinical staff member's own vehicle, as well as public transportation.

Line 12C Total Direct Care Expenses: Sum of Lines 9C-11C.

Units:

Line 13C Number of Per Diem Units Delivered: Enter the total days of GAFC service provided to GAFC clients during the fiscal year. This information must be entered for the report to be considered complete and acceptable.

This is calculated by the number of clients served during the fiscal year, multiplied by the number of days each client was served during the year. Please see the below example.

NOTE: The number of days could be 365 (or 366 during a leap year), or less.

For example, if you served 3 clients during FY 2024, and 2 were served for the full year, and one was served for 3 months (91 days) during the year:

$$(2 \text{ clients} \times 365 \text{ days}) + (1 \text{ client} \times 91 \text{ days}) = 821 \text{ units}$$

Client Data:

Line 14C Total Unduplicated Clients in FY 2024: Enter the total number of unduplicated clients to whom GAFC services were provided during the fiscal year.

Direct Care Data:

Line 15C Average Number of Hours of Direct Care Provided to Each Client Each Day: Enter the average number of hours of direct individual care provided to each GAFC client each day. Please enter this information rounded to the nearest 15-minute increment. For example, to record 1 hour and 15 minutes, enter 1.25. To record 1 hour and 45 minutes, enter 1.75.

GAFC Notes:

Line 16C GAFC Notes: If you have any comments or additional information that you would like to state, you may leave a note here.

Summary of Revenues, Expenses, Net Income, Profit Margin and Reconciliation

The summary data on this sheet will automatically draw data from other sheets in the workbook. The purpose of this sheet is to clearly show the overall GAFC revenue and expense structure of your agency, as well as the net income (total revenues minus total expenses) and profit margin (net income divided by total revenue) expressed as a percent.

If you notice that your GAFC total revenues, expenses, net income, or profit margin are not consistent with your understanding of your agency's revenue and expense structure and profitability, **you should double-check your work on the other sheets of this report and correct any errors.** If necessary, you should double-check the accuracy of the underlying data that you are recording on this report. Please remember that CHIA relies on your accurate GAFC reporting in order to develop reimbursement rates.

At the bottom of the tab, please enter information for reconciliation between your financial statements and the cost report.

In the Reconciliation section, in the boxes titled "Financial Statement Revenue" and "Financial Statement Expense", enter the amount of total revenue and total expenses recorded on your financial statements. In the variance section, the cost report will automatically calculate the difference between these amounts and what was entered on the cost report. This is calculated by the cost report amount minus the financial statement amount. A positive variance means the cost report amount is higher, a negative variance means the financial statement amount is higher.

If there is a variance for either revenue or expenses, please describe the reasons for the variance between the two documents in the explanation box.

Statement of Certification

The owner, partner, or officer of the GAFC agency should read the paragraph that attests to the accuracy of the report, list the owner, partner, or officer's name and title on the designated lines, and date it. If a person other than the owner, partner, or officer completes this report, the box with the preparer's required information must be completed in the same manner.

The owner, partner, or officer accepts the dating of the report and the submission of this data to CHIA as certification under the pains and penalties of perjury.

The Certification sheet contains a basic summary about the data entered into the cost report. If you notice that your GAFC total revenues, expenses, units of service, net income, or profit margin are not consistent with your understanding of your agency's revenue and expense structure and profitability, you should double-check your work on the other sheets of this report and correct any errors.

Please **print only the "Statement of Certification" page**, sign it, and email it as a PDF file saved in the format *AgencyName_GAFCCR24.pdf* to data@chiamass.gov along with your completed Excel workbook cost report (saved as *AgencyName_GAFCCR24.xlsx*), and your agency's financial statements.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Is there a line in the cost report that accounts for staff vacancies?

No, there is not a specific line in the cost report to report staff vacancies. The cost report should reflect staffing costs that were incurred and its corresponding FTEs during the fiscal year. Please note that staff vacancies are not actual costs that are incurred. You can feel free to provide additional information on schedule C, 'GAFC Notes'.

2. How do I calculate units of service?

Number of per diem units delivered (units of service) is required for the report to be considered complete and acceptable. Units of service are reported on Schedule C, Line 13C. These are the total days of GAFC service provided to GAFC clients during the fiscal year. It is calculated by the number of clients served during the fiscal year, multiplied by the number of days each client was served during the year. Please see the below example.

NOTE: The number of days could be 365 (or 366 during a leap year), or less.

For example, if you served 3 clients during FY 2024, and 2 were served for the full year, and one was served for 3 months (91 days) during the year:

$$(2 \text{ clients} \times 365 \text{ days}) + (1 \text{ client} \times 91 \text{ days}) = 821 \text{ units}$$

3. How do I separate administrative costs when an agency has multiple lines of business that share administrative costs?

Please only report administrative costs incurred in providing GAFC services. Administrative expenses should be reported in Schedule B (including schedules B1, B2, B3, and B4, if applicable). Whenever a portion of a general administrative expense can be identified and documented as applying to the GAFC program, it should be reported on the cost report as a GAFC administrative expense.

If your agency has other lines of business, allocations of any shared administrative expenses could be reported based upon the proportion of direct expenses that are incurred for GAFC services out of the total direct expenses your agency incurs, or the percentage of time spent in each line of business, or some other generally acceptable method.

4. What revenue should be reported in the cost report?

Report revenue from all payers solely generated by providing GAFC services. Revenue is reported by payer on Schedule A. However, if your agency provides other social or medical services in addition to GAFC services, you must separate out the revenue and record only GAFC revenues on the cost report.

5. How should one submit the cost report for agencies with multiple site locations?

If your agency has multiple sites that have the same 9-digit MassHealth Provider ID but different one-letter service location MassHealth ID suffixes, you must file a separate cost report for each site/MassHealth suffix.

6. Do I need to submit a reconciliation?

Providers need to submit their financial statements in addition to the cost report. If there is a variance for either revenue or expenses between your financial statements and cost report, please describe the reasons for the variance between the two documents in the explanation box on the summary tab.

7. What are the cost report exemption criteria?

Agencies are exempt and do not need to complete the FY 2024 cost report if they meet any of the following criteria:

1. The agency was in business for less than 6 months during its FY 2024.
2. The agency was owned by its current owner for less than 6 months during its FY 2024.
3. The agency did not have any MassHealth participation in its FY 2024.
4. The agency received less than \$50,000 in MassHealth revenue in its FY 2024.

If you believe your agency is exempt from filing for any of the above reasons, you must claim an exemption using the FY 2024 GAFC Cost Report Exemption Request Form, available as a Word document at <http://www.chiamass.gov/gafc>. Email this completed form to data@chiamass.gov.

8. Who can I contact if I have questions?



If you have any questions, please e-mail the Pricing Cost Reports Helpdesk Email at CostReports.Pricing@chiamass.gov.