#### **HDAP & the MA Health Connector:**

Understanding Premium Tax Credits & Client Responsibilities

January 22, 2025

#### **Gerald Martinez**

BRIDGE Health Insurance Enrollment Specialist

#### **David Huckle**

BRIDGE Health Insurance Enrollment Specialist & SHINE Counselor

#### **Erin Ford**

BRIDGE Health Insurance Enrollment Specialist & SHINE Counselor



**BRIDGE** = **B**enefits, **R**esources, & Infectious **D**isease **G**uidance & **E**ngagement



### HDAP\*'s BRIDGE Team

(Benefits Resources Infectious Disease Guidance & Engagement)

#### **Training and Technical Assistance:**

- Trains case managers, financial benefits staff, other providers, peer advocates, and consumers
- Provides individualized insurance navigation assistance to clients and case managers
- Webinars and Q&A sessions
- Communicates changes in health insurance landscape and benefits programs to provider and consumer populations
- "Did you know..." information and tips email communications series



# What we will cover in this webinar:

#### 1. Premium Tax Credits:

- What are Premium Tax Credits (PTCs)?
- How and Why CHII clients are receiving PTCs?
- What clients need to know about how PTCs affect their taxes.

#### 2. PTC Related Tax Forms and Reconciliation:

Action steps that HDAP/CHII requires clients to complete when filing their taxes.

### 3. HDAP/CHII & Client Responsibilities for PTCs reconciliation

- HDAP/CHII role in paying PTCs-related taxes owed to IRS and collecting PTCs-related refunds that clients may receive.
- 4. Example Client Scenarios
- 5. Additional Guidance and Resources

# Premium Tax Credits (PTCs)



# What are Premium Tax Credits (PTCs)?

- Premium Tax Credits are federal subsidies that lower the cost of health insurance premiums for individuals and families who purchase a ConnectorCare or Health Connector plan through the MA Health Connector.
- The amount of PTCs a household receives in advance is based on the projected annual household income they estimate for the upcoming plan year and report on their Health Connector application.



# Who is Eligible for PTCs?

To be eligible for PTCs, clients must:

- 1) Be covered by a Health Connector Plan or a ConnectorCare plan.
  - Note: clients covered by MassHealth or Medicare are not eligible for PTCs.
- 2) Agree to file federal taxes (<u>if married, must file jointly except in specific circumstances</u>) and reconcile any PTCs they receive in advance.
- 3) Not be claimed as a dependent by someone else on their taxes.

For tax year 2024, there is no income limit to be eligible for PTCs.



# Overview - APTC Outreach

- BRIDGE is emailing case managers a list with HDAP clients who we have verified received PTCs during 2024, along with an info packet including definitions, example cases, and document checklist.
- We are sending these emails out in late January and beginning of February.
- We ask CMs to proactively reach out to these clients, encourage them to file their taxes, and do the steps laid out in this webinar.
  - This helps clients continue to participate in plans with low medical copays and other out of pocket costs.



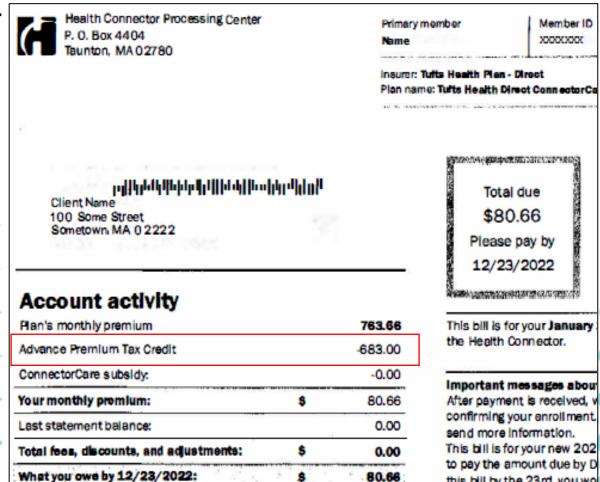
### How Are CHII Clients Connected to PTCs?

CHII clients who receive insurance through the Health Connector must apply for and accept all subsidies

available to them, including PTCs or ConnectorCare.

PTCs can be received in advance, on a monthly basis throughout the year, or as a lump sum when clients file their taxes for a given year. CHII clients are required to receive PTCs in advance throughout the year. PTCs received in advance are referred to as **Advance PTCs (APTCs)**.

APTCs are paid by the IRS to the Health Connector insurance companies each month, reducing the cost of insurance premiums due each month.



this bill by the 23rd, you wo



# What is PTCs Reconciliation?

PTCs are federal tax credits issued by the IRS and they must be reconciled at tax time if they were received in advance

<u>Reconciliation of PTCs</u> is a part of the federal tax filing process. It is required of everyone who receives PTCs in advance. PTCs reconciliation ensures that people receive the amount of PTCs they are eligible for based on their income for the tax year.

Reconciliation is done using Tax Form 8962. It compares two figures:

- 1) The amount of PTCs a household received in advance. This amount is determined from the projected household income they estimated they would receive for the tax year, which they reported to the MA Health Connector when they applied for insurance.
- 2) The amount of PTCs that a household is determined eligible for. This amount is determined from the actual income the household received for the tax year.

Form 8962 will inform clients if they received too many or too few PTCs in advance during the tax year. If clients received too many PTCs, they would likely owe the IRS that amount in taxes. If clients received too few PTCs throughout the year, they would likely receive the additional PTCs they are eligible for as credits. This process of PTCs reconciliation will affect the individual's or household's federal tax return.

# How Does PTCs Reconciliation Affect Taxes? Important Terminology & Process

• If your actual income for the tax year was **more than what you estimated your income would be**, then the government has given you more money in advance PTCs than you are eligible for. You will have to pay the IRS back the amount of money given to you in excess of what you were eligible for. This money owed to IRS is referred to as **Excess APTCs** by the IRS.

**TOO MANY Premium Tax Credits = Excess APTCs** 

• If your actual income for the tax year was **less than what you estimated your income would be**, the government gave you less money in APTCs than you are eligible for. The IRS will give you the PTCs you were eligible for, but have not yet received, in the form of a refundable tax credit when you file your taxes for that year. This money credited to you is referred to as **Net PTCs** by the IRS.

**TOO FEW Premium Tax Credits = Net PTCs** 

# Why does Reconciliation of PTCs matter?

- If clients who received PTCs in advance do not reconcile their PTCs, they will lose
   access to subsidized insurance through the Health Connector in the future, including
   ConnectorCare and PTCs, and the IRS may contact client to pay back the PTCs.
- HDAP/CHII can pay the IRS on a client's behalf for Excess APTCs owed to IRS.
- Net PTCs issued to clients are owed to HDAP/CHII. HDAP/CHII is required by funders (HRSA/HAB) to "vigorously pursue" Net PTCs issued to clients.

Neither the MA Health Connector nor the IRS are aware that the HDAP/CHII program is paying the cost of client's insurance premiums. In the eyes of the Health Connector and the IRS, our clients are purchasing this insurance themselves, are benefiting from the PTCs, and are responsible for any repayments due for Excess APTCs.



Consider Plan
Options with
Case Manager +
BRIDGE

#### **November – January**

Open Enrollment Plan Selection + initial APTC calculated

**April – October** 

Late filing period; federal refunds processed The
Premium
Tax Credit
Cycle

**January - February** 

Health Connector sends out 1095-A for prior year

Send copy of your APTCs-related tax documents to BRIDGE

April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Federal Income Tax Returns Due (Including Form 8962)

File your taxes by the deadline and pay any taxes due

Work with Case Manager or Tax Preparer



# Reconciliation Process: Important Considerations



If clients received APTCs in prior years and have not filed their taxes or reconciled the APTCs for those years:

• They may not be eligible for APTCs or ConnectorCare in future years -AND-

The IRS may contact them to pay back some or all of the APTCs they
received during those years.



People can file or amend their taxes from previous years!

**Public Service Announcement** – We are talking about reconciling for tax year 2024, but we want to give a PSA for tax year 2025.

Because Health Connector continues to offered the expanded ConnectorCare eligibility up to 500% FPL for 2025, more clients will be eligible for APTCs and receiving larger amounts of APTCs.

- Anticipate that you will have more clients who will need to reconcile their APTCs for tax year 2025 (note you will probably see this more in March/April/May of 2026).
- We anticipate the number of clients who will need to reconcile PTCs in 2025 will be similar to that of 2024.



# PTCs-related Tax Forms and Reconciliation



# Forms Needed for PTCs Reconciliation

	Forms Purpose		Origin		
#1	Form 1095-A — Health Coverage through the MA Health Connector	<ul> <li>Verifies insurance enrollment, cost of premium, &amp; amount of Advance PTCs client received for each month of 2024.</li> <li>Form 1095-A is needed to complete Form 8962.</li> </ul>	MA Health Connector mails Form 1095-A to clients in January 2025.		
#2	Form 8962 – Premium Tax Credit	<ul> <li>Calculates total amount (\$) of PTCs a client is eligible to receive for 2024 based on their actual 2024 income.</li> <li>Compares it to the amount PTCs they received in advance which is reported on Form 1095-A</li> </ul>	IRS – Form 8962 has instructions <a href="https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/i8962.pdf">https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/i8962.pdf</a>		
#3	Schedule 2 or Schedule 3	<ul> <li>Schedule 2 (additional taxes) if Excess Advance PTCs</li> <li>Schedule 3 (additional credits) if Net PTCs</li> </ul>	IRS		
#4	Form 1040 – US Individual Income Tax Return	The main form used for filing federal income tax returns	IRS		
#5	CRI's Client Agreement Form for PTCs Reconciliation	Details client obligations regarding filing taxes & reconciling APTCs. All clients receiving Advance PTCs are required to submit this client agreement form with the above tax forms to CRI.	CRI – copies are available on www.crihealth.org & in handbook		
4					

# PTCs Reconciliation: Form 1095-A

- Form 1095-A is necessary to complete IRS Form 8962 and Reconcile APTCs. Clients will be mailed a 1095-A from the Health Connector in <u>January 2025</u>.
- The form arrives pre-filled with info; clients don't fill it out.

#### Clients can access 1095-A from Health Connector by:

- 1. Opening mail from the Health Connector in January 2025.
- 2. Call Health Connector customer service at 877-623-6765 to request additional copy be mailed (confirm mailing address).
- 3. View and print 1095-A through individual's online <a href="www.mahix.org">www.mahix.org</a> account. Go to the Billing and Notices Center.
- 4. Financial Assisters, Case Managers who are also Navigators with the Health Connector, can also view and print 1095-A forms for clients.

Note: HDAP/CHII requires a copy of Form 1095-A for CHII clients who enrolled in a plan through the Health Connector.



#### **Example Form 1095-A:**

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				d the latest information		HECTED	2024	
Part I Recipient Information								
1 Marketplace identifier	2 Marketp	lace-assigned po	sicy number	9 Policy iss	ead of I	House	hold Info -	
4 Recipient's name				5 Recipient's SSN		6 Recipie	ent's date of birth	
7 Recipient's spouse's name				8 Recipient's spous	e's SSN	9 Recipie	ent's spouse's date of birth	
10 Policy start date 11 Policy termination date				12 Street address (including apartment no.)				
12 City or town	14 State or	province		15 Country and ZIP of	15 Country and ZIP or foreign postal code			
Part II Covered Individuals								
Part II Covered Individuals  A. Covered individual name		B. Covered indi	Vidual SSN	C. Covered individual date of birth	B. Coverage	start date	E. Coverage termination date	
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27 July					$\perp$			
26 August								
29 September								
30 October								
31 November					$\perp$			
32 December								
33 Annual Totals								
For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduc	tion Act Not	ce, see separ	ate instru	ctions. C	st. No. 60703Q		Farm 1095-A (2024)	

### PTC Reconciliation: Tax Form 8962

Tax Form 8962 is a 2-page US tax form used to reconcile Advance PTCs. See example of TY2024 tax form  $\rightarrow$ 

- To complete Form 8962, clients will enter their annual income for 2024 and the information found in their Form 1095-A.
- The form will compare the amount of PTCs clients received in Advance during 2024 to the amount of PTCs they are eligible for.

Tax Form 8962 will indicate if clients need to fill out Schedule 2 or Schedule 3.

If a client does not have their Form 1095-A, they cannot complete Form 8962 and cannot proceed with filing their taxes correctly. See prior slide for how to get Form 1095-A



**8962** 

#### Premium Tax Credit (PTC)

2024

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Attach to Form 1040, 1040-SR, or 1040-NR.

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		ze. Enter your tax to	mily size. See instruct	ons				1	
e e	Modified AGI. Enter your modified AGI. See instructions								
b	Enter the total of your dependents' modified AGI. See instructions								
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	and con	tinue to line 24.					your monthly PT	Can	d continue to line 24.
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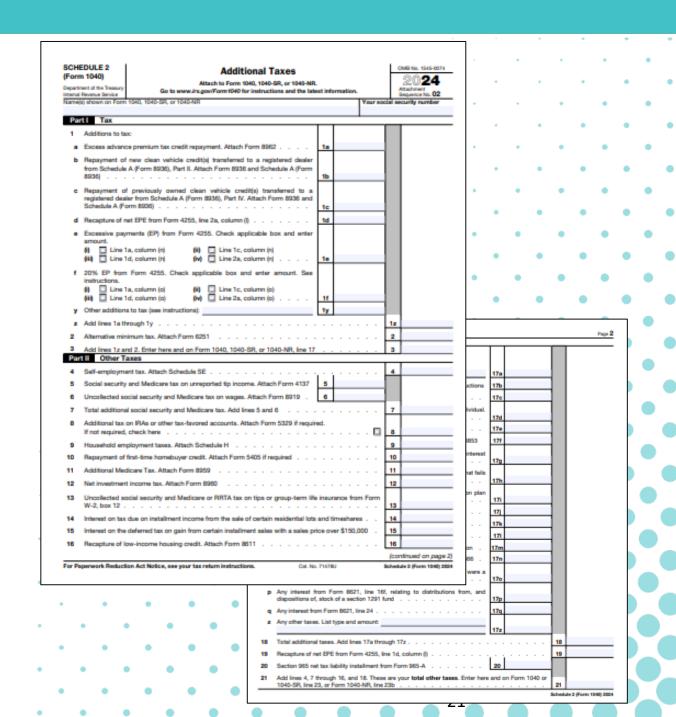
# PTC Reconciliation: Tax Form Schedule 2

Schedule 2 (Form 1040) is a 2-page tax document that is used when clients receive Excess APTCs.

- Clients received too many PTCs throughout 2024 and have to pay the excess amount back.
- Page 1 is used for Excess APTCs

Tax Form 8962 will direct clients to fill out a Schedule 2 or Schedule 3.





# PTC Reconciliation: Tax Form Schedule 3

**Schedule 3 (Form 1040)** is a 2-page tax document that is used when clients receive **Net** Premium Tax Credits.

- Clients received too few PTCs throughout 2024 and are receiving the additional credit.
- Net PTCs are documented on page 2



#### SCHEDULE 3 (Form 1040)

Department of the Treasury

#### Additional Credits and Payments

Attach to Form 1040, 1040-SR, or 1040-NR.

2024
Attachment
Sequence No. 03

Schedule 3 (Form 1040) 2024

Name(s) shown on Form 1040, 1040-SR, or 1040-NR

Go to www.irs.gov/Form1040 for instructions and the latest information.

Attachment
Sequence No. 00

Your social security number

Add lines 9 through 12 and 14. Enter here and on Form 1040, 1040-SR, or 1040-NR, line 31

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see your tax return instructions.

Part | Nonrefundable Credits Credit for child and dependent care expenses from Form 2441, line 11. Attach Form 2441 Retirement savings contributions credit. Attach Form 8880 Residential clean energy credit from Form 5695, line 15 Energy efficient home improvement credit from Form 5695, line 32 Other nonrefundable credits: Credit for prior year minimum tax. Attach Form 8801 Credit for the elderly or disabled. Attach Schedule R Reserved for future use h District of Columbia first-time homebuyer credit. Attach Form 8859 . . . . Alternative fuel vehicle refueling property credit. Attach Form 8911 . . . . Credit to holders of tax credit bonds. Attach Form 8912 . . . Amount on Form 8978, line 14. See instructions m Credit for previously owned clean vehicles. Attach Form 8936 Other nonrefundable credits. List type and amount: Total other nonrefundable credits, Add lines 6a through 6z Add lines 1 through 4, 5a, 5b, and 7. Enter here and on Form 1040, 1040-SR, or 1040-NR, line 20 Part | Other Payments and Refundable Credits Net premium tax credit. Attach Form 8962 Amount paid with request for extension to file (see instructions) Excess social security and tier 1 RRTA tax withheld Credit for federal tax on fuels, Attach Form 4136 . Other payments or refundable credits: b Section 1341 credit for repayment of amounts included in income from earlier Net elective payment election amount from Form 3800, Part III, line 6, column (i) d Deferred amount of net 965 tax liability (see instructions) z Other refundable credits (see instructions): Total other payments or refundable credits. Add lines 13a through 13z

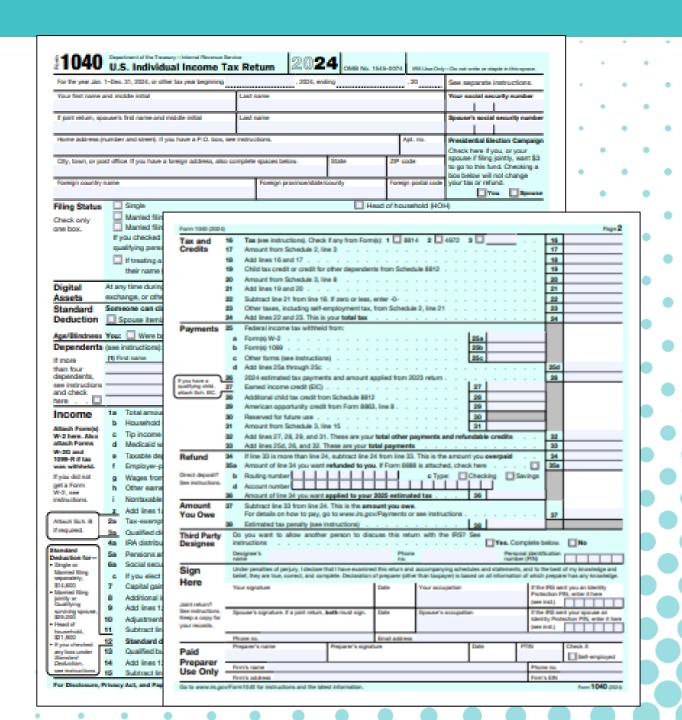
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# PTC Reconciliation: Tax Form 1040

- Form 1040 is the US Individual Income Tax Return.
- It is a 2-page form that summarizes client's income and taxes owed and compares that to any tax credits or payments already made.
- Ultimately, Form 1040 determines if clients owe additional taxes to the IRS or if they receive a tax refund.

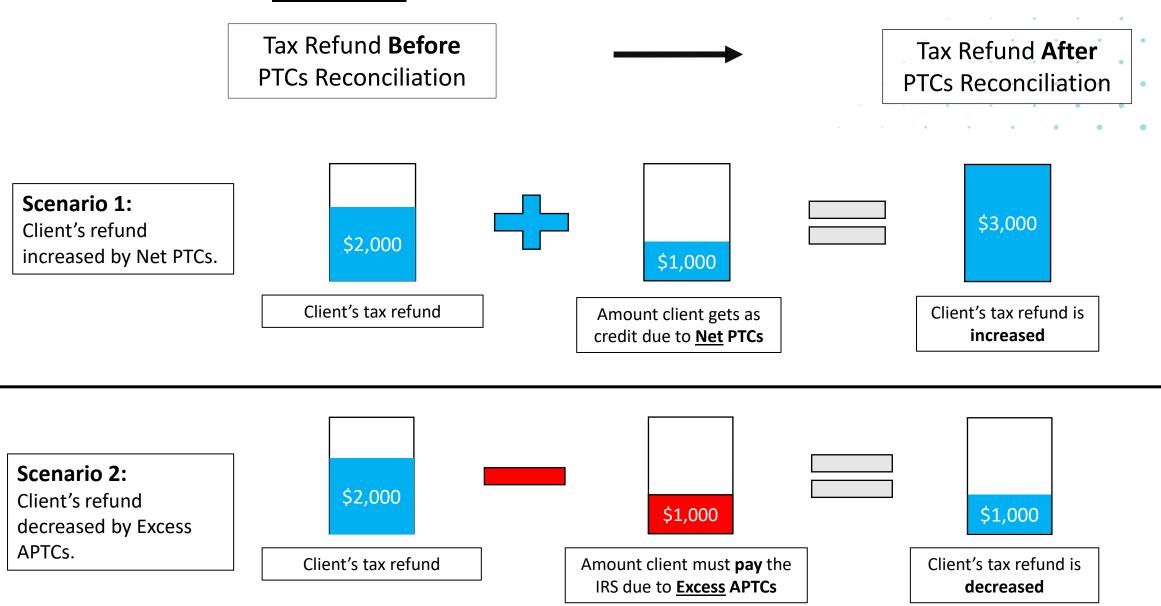
Whether a client has Excess or Net PTCs can affect whether a client receives a tax refund or if they owe additional money to the IRS.





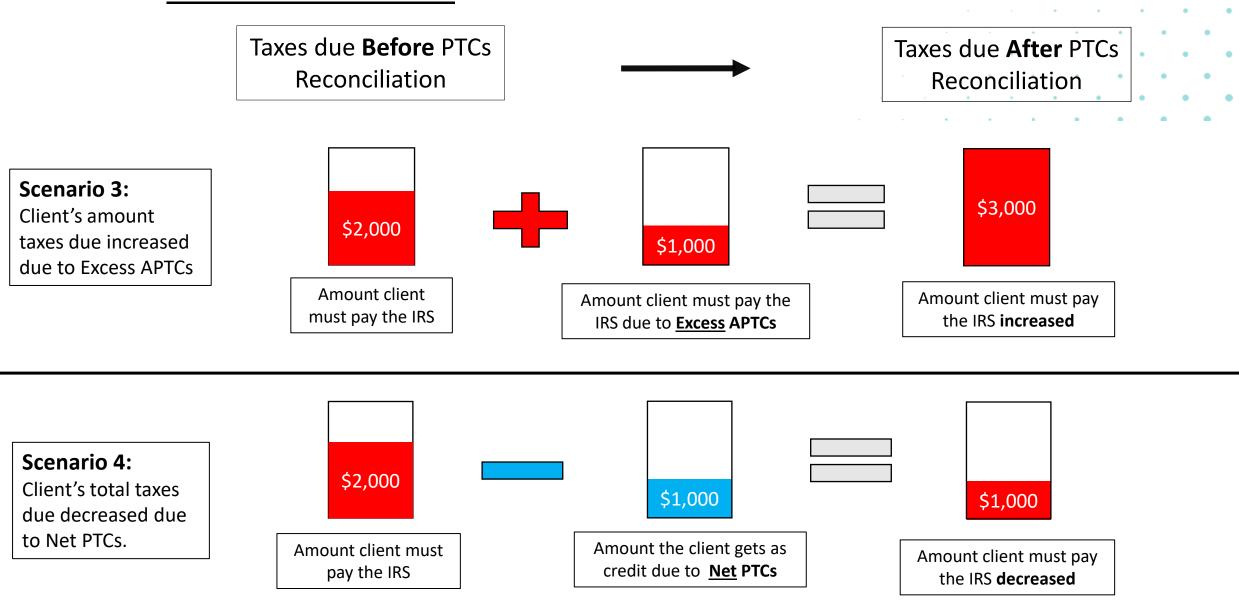
# **PTC Reconciliation Scenarios**

A client's tax refund can be altered due to Excess or Net Premium Tax Credits.



# **PTC Reconciliation Scenarios**

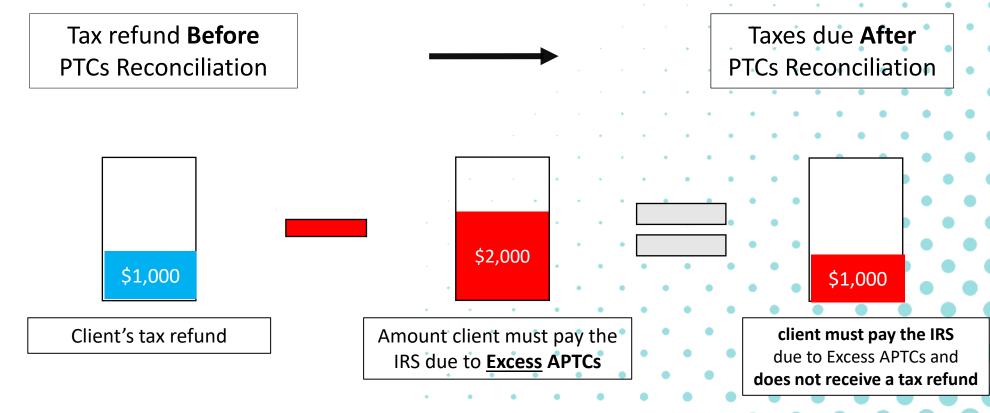
A client's total tax amount due can be altered due to Excess or Net Premium Tax Credits.



# **PTC Reconciliation Scenarios**

A client's tax refund can disappear due to having to pay the IRS for Excess APTCs

**Scenario 5:** Client's tax refund gets applied to amount they must pay the IRS due to Excess APTCs, resulting in client having to pay taxes instead of getting a refund.





### What Are Clients Supposed to Do About Paying Their Taxes?

Clients must file and pay all taxes they owe the IRS, including those due to Excess APTCs, by the tax deadline to avoid paying any late penalties or interest. Any taxes owed to IRS are due by April 17th.

If client cannot pay full amount, they can set up a payment plan for whatever they can't pay. Late penalties and interest will
still apply, which HDAP/CHII cannot pay. Advise clients to pay as much as they can to minimize penalty.

#### **RECAP:**

- 1) CHII clients on ConnectorCare or other Health Connector plans must apply for PTCs and take them in advance.
- 2) The IRS does not know that CHII pays monthly insurance premiums for our clients. IRS thinks the client is paying premiums and the client is receiving PTCs in advance each month.
- 3) Clients must reconcile the PTCs they received in 2024 when they file taxes. Reconciliation may alter the amount they have to pay the IRS or the amount they receive as tax refund.



#### For Clients who have Excess APTCs:

- HDAP/CHII can pay IRS on a client's behalf for Excess APTCs
   <u>after</u> the client has filed their taxes. Client will be
   reimbursed by IRS later that year.
- HDAP/CHII cannot pay for any late penalties/interest.

#### How can clients minimize late penalties/interest?

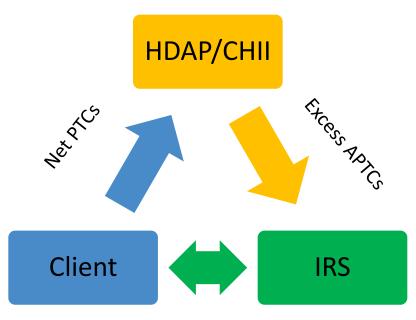
- 1. Pay in full by April 15th: No late penalties/interest
- 2. Pay as much as possible by April 15th. Set up a *payment* plan for remaining balance and make payments on time according to payment plan to minimize penalties & interest on remaining balance.

# HDAP/CHII & Client Responsibilities For PTCs reconciliation



### PTCs Reconciliation: How can HDAP/CHII assist clients?

### **Potential Payments**



- Money owed in taxes
- Tax refunds
- Reimbursement for payment made by HDAP/CHII on client's behalf for Excess APTCs after they filed their taxes

If client has Excess APTCs: client owes extra \$ to the IRS

- The client must pay the IRS all taxes owed by the tax deadline to avoid having to pay late payment penalty and interest.
- HDAP/CHII can pay the IRS on a client's behalf the amount owed due to Excess APTCs after client has filed their taxes and after BRIDGE has reviewed the client's tax forms.
- When the IRS receives a payment from HDAP/CHII sent on client's behalf, the IRS then sends payment to the client as a reimbursement for the amount client already paid when they filed. It may take several months for a client to receive this.
- HDAP/CHII cannot send payments directly to clients under any circumstances (due to funding restrictions)
- Client is required to send payment to HDAP/CHII for the extra tax credits they receive from the IRS due to Net PTCs



# What does HDAP/CHII require clients to do regarding PTCs?

- 1. Obtain a copy of Form 1095-A from the Health Connector.
- 2. File their taxes. Include Form 8962 (requires Form 1095-A).
  - Free tax prep services are available across Massachusetts. See Resources slide.
- 3. After filing, if client owes money to IRS, advise client to pay what is owed by tax deadline or request payment plan with IRS to minimize any late penalty (HDAP/CHII cannot pay late penalties). If client receives a tax refund, do not spend until after BRIDGE reviews client's forms, because some or all of the refund may be due to HDAP/CHII if client has Net PTCs.
- 4. Submit their PTCs-related tax forms and signed client agreement re: PTCs form to BRIDGE after filing taxes.
  - ☐ IRS Form 1040 (both sides of 1-pager)
    - IRS Schedule 2 (Form 1040) if they have Excess APTCs OR
    - IRS Schedule 3 (Form 1040) if they have Net PTCs.
  - ☐ IRS Form 8962: Premium Tax Credit
  - ☐ Form 1095-A mailed to client from MA Health Connector
  - ☐ HDAP/CHII Client Agreement Regarding Reconciliation of PTCs Form signed and dated by client



Links to these forms for TY2024 can be found at the end of these slides.

### HDAP/CHII Requirements for PTCs: Agreement Regarding Reconciliation of Premium Tax Credits

 CHII clients who received APTCs and premium assistance for any month of 2024 must sign and date this form and then send a copy to the BRIDGE Team via upload to HDAP portal (preferred), or via secure email, fax, or mail.





#### Massachusetts HIV Drug Assistance Program (HDAP)

#### Agreement Regarding Reconciliation of Premium Tax Credits – Tax Year 2024



#### Please sign, date, and return this form immediately.

PROVIDE PORTAL UPLOAD: Please use "other document" category and write "APTCs" in comments box Provider Portal: <a href="https://mahdapprovider.providecm.net/Account/LogOn">https://mahdapprovider.providecm.net/Account/LogOn</a> Client Portal: <a href="https://mahdap.providecm.net/">https://mahdap.providecm.net/</a>

**EMAIL** it securely to: <a href="mailto:BRIDGEteam@crihealth.org">BRIDGEteam@crihealth.org</a> using our <a href="mailto:Secure">Secure Email</a>. Find instructions and link to access the secure email here: <a href="https://crihealth.org/contact/#Secure">https://crihealth.org/contact/#Secure</a>. **FAX** this form to (617) 502-1703, **MAIL** it to: Community Resource Initiative, ATTN: BRIDGE Team, Schrafft's City Center, 529 Main Street, Suite 301, Boston, MA 02129

	REQUIRED								
<b>&gt;</b>	I, (Name), agree to make payment to Community Resource								
,	Initiative for any refundable federal tax credits I receive from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for Net								
	Premium Tax Credits (PTCs), resulting from health insurance premium payments made on my behalf by								
	the Massachusetts HDAP/CHII program during tax year 2024.								
	I understand that this credit due to Net PTCs, which I may receive as an additional credit in my tax								
	refund or as a reduction in the amount I must pay in taxes, is the sole property of the HDAP/CHII								
	program, which expects to receive payment within $10\mathrm{days}$ of my having received a refund from the IRS								
	or my paying the IRS a reduced amount in taxes.								
	I also authorize HDAP/CHII to make a payment to the IRS on my behalf if I owe money to the IRS due to								
	Excess Advance PTCs, because of overpayment of Advance PTCs due to my 2024 income being greater								
	than my estimated income for 2024 that I reported to the Massachusetts Health Connector in my								
	application. I understand HDAP/CHII cannot pay the IRS on my behalf until I have provided them with								
	the required documentation.								
	By signing below, I agree to these terms and conditions.								
<b>&gt;</b>	Signature: Date:								

Please contact the BRIDGE Team with questions: <u>BRIDGEteam@crihealth.org</u>, or (617) 502-1700, press "1", then press "5".

This program is supported by funds from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, and is administered by Community Resource Initiative

# Submitting Tax Documents to BRIDGE: Use the HDAP portal

- Upload as "Other Document"
- Write "APTCs" in comments box.



Please submit any documents missing from an existing application, or to update information already provided or extend temporary coverage. If you send insurance payment statements to CHII, you can use this screen to do so.

Submit Documentation					
Н	DAP ID (if known):				í
	Full First Name: *				
	Full Last Name: *				
	Date of Birth: *				
	Comments:	APTCs	•		
Other Document  Click to select	d H C	Upload a file  Tyou are unable to upload ocumentation, you may securely fax it to IDAP at 617–502–1703 or mail to Schrafft city Center, 529 Main St Suite 301, loston, MA 02129			
				Submit	Cance



# Examples

# Reconciliation of PTCs and HDAP/CHII: Action Steps From Start to Finish



# Examples: A Tax Refund Amount <u>Increases</u> Due to Reconciling PTCs

In Jan 2024, Sophie estimates she will earn \$30,000 for the year. Throughout 2024, Sophie gets \$900 in APTCs monthly on her premium bill, reducing her monthly Health Connector premium bill.

Sophie initially completes her Tax Year 2024 taxes, and finds she is getting a **\$1,000 refund**.

When Sophie submits her taxes, the IRS sends her a \$2,200 tax refund. Sophie's case manager warns her not to spend this money until the BRIDGE team reviewed her tax documents.

Sophie writes a check to Community Resource Initiative for \$1,200 for Net PTCs in TY2024. She keeps her \$1,000 net tax refund.

In February 2025, when Sophie gets her W2s, she realizes that she only made \$25,000 in 2024. Sophie's accountant checks her work and realizes she forgot to reconcile her PTCs.

Sophie and her accountant complete Form 8962, and realize **Sophie gets \$1,200 in Net PTCs**; Sophie should have received an additional \$100 in APTCs every month in 2024.

Sophie sends her IRS tax forms, Form 1095-A, and signed client agreement form Re: PTCs to the BRIDGE team.
BRIDGE reviews the tax forms and emails a letter requesting **Sophie pay CRI \$1,200 due to Net PTCs**.

\$1000 refund + \$1,200 = \$2,200 refund with Net PTCs

Sophia pays CRI
\$1,200 due to Net PTCs

Sophia pays CRI
\$1,200 due to Net PTCs

Sophia pays CRI
\$1,200 due to Net PTCs

\$1,200 = \$1000 refund
Sophia's payment as if no PTCs
to HDAP/CHII

# Examples: A Tax Refund Amount <u>Decreases</u> Due to Reconciling PTCs

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In Jan 2024, Amari estimates he will earn \$30,000 for the year. Throughout 2024, Amari gets \$1,000 in APTCs monthly on his premium bill, reducing his monthly Health Connector premium bill.

Amari initially completes his Tax Year 2024 taxes, and finds he is getting a \$1,000 refund.

When Amari submits his taxes, the IRS sends him a \$200 tax refund. Amari's case manager lets him know that HDAP/CHII might be able to pay the Excess PTCs amount.

Months later, Amari receives a check from the IRS for \$800. In total, Amari ends up with a \$1,000 net tax refund.

In February 2025, when Amari gets his W2s, he realizes that he made \$35,000 in 2024. Amari's accountant checks his work and realizes he forgot to reconcile his PTCs. Amari and his accountant complete Form 8962, and realize **Amari owes \$800 in Excess PTCs**; Amari should have received \$66.67 less in APTCs every month in 2024.

Amari sends his IRS tax forms, Form 1095-A, and signed client agreement form Re: PTCs to the BRIDGE team.
BRIDGE reviews the tax forms and emails a letter stating that HDAP/CHII is paying the IRS \$800 due to Excess PTCs.

\$1000 refund - if no PTCs

\$800 Excess PTCs

\$200 refund with Excess PTCs

HDAP/CHII pay IRS \$800 on Amari's behalf. *Months later*, the IRS pays Amari \$800 as reimbursement.

\$200 refund \$800 = Reimbursement from IRS due to HDAP/CHII payment

\$1000 refund as if no PTCs

# Complex Examples: Client Gets a Tax Refund Instead of Owing the IRS 🙎

In Jan 2024, Sam estimates he will earn \$30,000 for the year. Throughout 2024, Sam gets \$900 in APTCs monthly on his premium bill, reducing his monthly Health Connector premium bill.

Sam initially completes his Tax Year 2024 taxes, and finds he owes the IRS **\$500** in taxes.

When Sam submits his taxes, the IRS sends him a \$500 tax refund. Sam's case manager warns him not to spend this money until the BRIDGE team reviewed his tax documents.

Sam writes a check to
Community Resource
Initiative for \$1,000 for Net
PTCs in TY2024. He
ultimately pays the \$500 in
net taxes due.

In February 2025, when Sam gets his W2s, he realizes that he only made \$25,000 in 2024. Sam's accountant checks his work and realizes he forgot to reconcile his PTCs. Sam and his accountant complete Form 8962, and realize **Sam gets \$1000 in Net PTCs**; Sam should have received an additional \$83.33 in APTCs every month in 2024.

Sam sends his IRS tax forms, Form 1095-A, and signed client agreement form Re: PTCs to the BRIDGE team. BRIDGE reviews the tax forms and emails a letter requesting <a href="Sam pay CRI \$1,000 due to Net">Sam pay CRI \$1,000 due to Net</a> PTCs.

\$1,000 Net PTCs

\$500 refund with Net PTCs

Sam pays CRI \$1,000 due to Net PTCs \$500 Refund with Net PTCs \$1,000 Sam's payment to HDAP/CHII for Net PTCs = -\$500 taxes owed as if no PTCs

# Complex example: Client Owes the IRS Instead of Getting a Tax Refund

In Jan 2024, Martin estimates they will earn \$30,000 for the year. Throughout 2024, Martin gets \$1,000 in APTCs monthly on their premium bill, reducing their monthly Health Connector premium bill.

Martin initially completes their Tax Year 2024 taxes, and finds they get a **\$500** refund.

When Martin submits their taxes, they pay the IRS \$700 for taxes due. Martin's case manager lets them know that HDAP/CHII might be able to pay the IRS for their Excess PTCs amount.

Months later, Martin receives a check from the IRS for \$1,200. In total, Martin ends up with a \$500 net tax refund.

In February 2025, when Martin gets their W2s, they realizes that they made \$35,000 in 2024.

Martin's accountant checks their work and realizes they forgot to reconcile their PTCs.

Martin and their accountant complete Form 8962, and realize Martin owes \$1,200 in

Excess PTCs; Martin should have received \$100 less in APTCs every month in 2024.

Martin sends their IRS tax forms, Form 1095-A, and signed client agreement form Re: PTCs to the BRIDGE team.
BRIDGE reviews the tax forms and emails a letter stating that HDAP/CHII is paying the IRS \$1,200 due to Excess PTCs.

\$500 refund - \$1,200 Excess PTCs

-\$700 taxes due to IRS with Excess PTCs

HDAP/CHII pay IRS \$1,200 on Martin's behalf. *Months later*, the IRS pays Martin \$1,200 as reimbursement.

-\$700 Taxes due \$1,200 = Reimbursement from IRS due to HDAP/CHII payment

\$500 refund as if no PTCs

# How to Minimize Excess APTCs Owed to IRS or Net PTCs Owed to HDAP/CHII in Future Years

Report life changes to the MA Health Connector as they occur. Life changes may change the amount of APTCs a client receives and reporting them promptly may prevent large tax credit adjustments at the end of the year. Changes in income will change the amount of APTCs a client receives.

- "Life changes" include, but are not limited to:
  - Changes in income and employment
  - Changes in health coverage eligibility, such as becoming newly eligible for Medicare
  - Changes to one's household, like birth or adoption, becoming pregnant, and marriage or divorce



# Summary Reference Slides Free Tax Prep Services



# Summary of Action Steps: What do clients who received PTCs last year need to do?

- 1. Obtain a copy of Form 1095-A from the Health Connector.
- 2. File taxes, even if not done before. Include Form 8962 (requires information from Form 1095-A).
  - Free tax prep services are available across Massachusetts. See Resources slide.
- 3. <u>If client owes money to IRS when they file</u>, client should pay what they owe by deadline or request payment plan with IRS to avoid a late penalty. <u>If client receives a tax refund</u>, do not spend refund until after BRIDGE reviews client's tax forms; some of the refund might be due to HDAP/CHII if client has Net PTCs.
- 4. Submit client's PTCs-related tax forms and signed client agreement re: PTCs form to BRIDGE after filing taxes.
  - Required forms are listed on prior slide and at <a href="https://crihealth.org/insurance-support/premium-tax-credits/">https://crihealth.org/insurance-support/premium-tax-credits/</a>.
- 5. Look out for correspondence from BRIDGE Team regarding determination if HDAP/CHII can pay IRS on client's behalf due to Excess APTCs, or if client must send payment to HDAP/CHII due to Net PTCs.



# How to set up a payment plan with IRS:

- Most clients will qualify for a Short-term Payment Plan with the IRS as individual taxpayer.
  - Gives clients up to 180 days/ 6 months to pay off taxes due.
  - \$0 set up fee; can pay from direct deposit, debit/credit card, money order or check.
  - Penalties and interest still add up until balance owed is \$0.
  - HDAP/CHII cannot pay for the penalties and interest fees.
- Apply for a payment plan online, in person, over the phone.
  - IRS now offers secure online login through tech partner: ID.me.
  - Requires government ID or call with ID.me staff.
- Reference IRS website to setup up IRS account and learn how to set up payment plan: <a href="https://www.irs.gov/payments/online-payment-agreement-application">https://www.irs.gov/payments/online-payment-agreement-application</a>.



# Free Tax Prep Resources in Massachusetts

### Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program – Multiple Locations in Mass

- Free tax assistance for those earning less than \$64,000, the elderly, persons with disabilities, and limited-English speaking taxpayers.
- Find Locations here: <a href="https://irs.treasury.gov/freetaxprep/">https://irs.treasury.gov/freetaxprep/</a>
- Additional locations here: <a href="https://www.masscap.org/freetaxprep/">https://www.masscap.org/freetaxprep/</a>

### Greater Boston Legal Services Low Income Tax Clinic

- Main office: 197 Friend Street, Boston, MA 02114
- Phone: 800-323-3205; 617-371-1234; <a href="https://www.gbls.org/what-we-do/taxes">https://www.gbls.org/what-we-do/taxes</a>

### Springfield Partners Low Income Tax Clinic

- Address: 721 State Street, Springfield, MA 01109
- Phone: 413-263-6500, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Springfield Partners for Community Action



For clients who want to file their taxes online, we recommend they take advantage of the IRS free file program (if eligible), starting with the IRS website: <a href="https://apps.irs.gov/app/freeFile">https://apps.irs.gov/app/freeFile</a> rather than starting from a tax service's homepage. Income eligibility for free file is \$79,000 AGI or less.

### PTCs-related Tax Forms due to BRIDGE:

### Clients must send completed forms to BRIDGE after filing

□IRS Form 8962: www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f8962.pdf

□Instructions for IRS Form 8962: <a href="https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/i8962.pdf">https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/i8962.pdf</a>

□IRS Form 1040: <a href="https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f1040.pdf">www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f1040.pdf</a>

□IRS Schedule 2 (Form 1040): <a href="https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f1040s2.pdf">www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f1040s2.pdf</a> if they have Excess Advance PTCs OR

□IRS Schedule 3 (Form 1040): <u>www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f1040s3.pdf</u> if they have Net premium tax credit

□ Form 1095-A — mailed to client from MA Health Connector and available to download online from Health Connector

• 1-877-623-6765 (call to request another copy be mailed)

• <u>www.mahealthconnector.org/taxes/tax-form-copies-and-corrections</u> sign in and follow download instructions

☐ HDAP/CHII Client Agreement Regarding Reconciliation of PTCs Form – signed and dated by client

□ Available on our website in English: TY2024-HDAP-ENGLISH APTCs-Client-Agreement 1.15.25.pdf

□ And in Spanish: TY2024-HDAP-SPANISH APTCs-Client-Agreement-Form-1.15.25.pdf





### **How to Contact Us**

#### **Individuals:**

#### **Gerald Martinez**

BRIDGE Health Insurance Enrollment Specialist

gmartinez@crihealth.org

P: 617.502.1717

#### **Erin Ford**

BRIDGE Health Insurance Enrollment Specialist and Certified Medicare SHINE Counselor

eford@crihealth.org

P: 617.502.1764

#### **David Huckle**

BRIDGE Health Insurance Enrollment Specialist and Certified Medicare SHINE Counselor

dhuckle@crihealth.org

P: 617.502.1744



#### **BRIDGE Team Contact:**

#### **BRIDGE Team**

P. 617.502.1700 (select option 1 followed by option 5)

bridgeteam@crihealth.org

Email Us Securely:

https://crihealth.org/contact/#Secure

#### Mail:

**Community Resource Initiative** 

ATTN: BRIDGE Team
529 Main Street, Suite 301
Boston, MA 02129

#### **Community Resource Initiative:**

https://crihealth.org/insurance-support/bridge/

617.502.1700 (Phone)

617.502.1703 (HDAP/BRIDGE/CHII fax)

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