



PACE / MANAGED LONG TERM CARE

SENIOR HOUSING | ASSISTED LIVING | ADULT CARE FACILITIES | HOME CARE | RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES
ADULT DAY HEALTH CARE | PACE/MLTC | NURSING HOMES | CCRC

Support Access to High-Quality Managed Long-Term Care and PACE

Managed long-term care (MLTC) plans and Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE programs) arrange and pay for the long-term care (LTC) services provided to approximately 374,000 older adults and people with disabilities eligible for Medicaid in New York. These plans and programs assist some of the most vulnerable New Yorkers to live in the community by providing robust nurse-led care management, arranging a customized set of LTC services, and supporting transitions from hospitals and nursing homes to the community. **At least 89 percent of each MLTC's premium must be spent on services** for members. Plans that spend less than the required amount must remit the difference to the State.

MLTC plans and PACE programs sponsored by not-for-profit LTC providers play a special role that combines mission-driven orientation with experience in serving of older adults and people with disabilities. Partnerships between not-for-profit plans and LTC providers benefit consumers by facilitating access to services on a local level. Despite a statewide staffing crisis that has made delivering care in the community challenging, the most recent Department of Health satisfaction survey found that 82 percent of MLTC members rated their plan as good or excellent.

The role of MLTC plans and PACE programs in promoting access to care in the community cannot be understated. Prior to the widespread adoption of MLTC and PACE, Medicaid-funded home care was practically unavailable in much of upstate New York, and local social services districts struggled with the tasks of developing care plans, approving hours of home care, and working to promote adequate provider capacity. MLTC plans and PACE programs have developed provider networks and assumed care management responsibilities consistent with federal regulations and state contracts.

As the State has rolled out the transition of the Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program (CDPAP) to a single fiscal intermediary (PPL), MLTC plans and PACE programs have been called upon to serve as key liaisons between consumers and their personal assistants and PPL. They have conducted intensive outreach, made home visits, provided hands-on assistance with registration and on-boarding, and facilitated the resolution of problems in the system. In September, MLTC plans will be called upon to work with the State and prospective enrollees to implement a change in the clinical eligibility criteria for MLTC enrollment – known as the minimum need requirements—helping to ensure that consumers who have already qualified for MLTC or personal care services are able to maintain their eligibility.

While plans and PACE programs manage heightened demands on their care management and administrative services, they are also experiencing greater premium pressure and reduced state funding. The SFY 2025-26 State budget eliminated quality pool funding previously allocated to MLTC plans and PACE programs. And, MLTC plans and PACE programs are observing higher costs in home care services.

As New York begins the process of developing the SFY 2026-27 budget, LeadingAge New York urges policymakers to support appropriate levels of funding for community-based long-term care through MLTC and PACE.

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