Educational materials prepared by Attorney John L. Roberts for the Massachusetts Chapter of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys
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Pooled Trusts for elder clients who need nursing home care in Massachusetts and Connecticut

Reasons to consider a self-settled pooled trust account for an elder client who needs Medicaid eligibility for nursing home care:
Affordable, comprehensive services, with administrative fees that may be comparable or lower than commercial trust departments
Small or large accounts benefit from having pooled investment management
Administrative staff is responsible to distribute trust funds to supplement care for the beneficiary, in compliance with Medicaid rules
Staff provides objective oversight, to ensure your family's funds are properly managed and distributed
Staff has experience working with individuals with disabilities, and their representatives

When comparing Pooled Trust providers, consider:
How long has the pooled trust been in existence?
What is the size and composition of the Board of Directors? What are the Board committees? Who is on the Board?
How many Beneficiaries have been served? What is total value of assets in the trust?
Who holds the funds?
What is the investment policy? What is the investment history? What oversight is provided by the pooled trust administrator?
What are the enrollment and ongoing administrative/investment fees?
Is the pooled trust administrator knowledgeable about rules and regulations governing the disbursements of funds from a Special Needs Trust, to protect SSI or Medicaid eligibility?
What is the decision-making process for disbursements?
What is the process of requesting disbursements? What is the timeframe for disbursements?
Is a credit card option available for disbursements?
How accessible is the information about the pooled trust account?
What happens to remaining funds upon the death of the Beneficiary? What would the account close out costs be?

For best results, print the comparison chart on the next page using 8½ x 11 inch paper.

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Self Settled (d)(4)(C) Pooled Trusts - Law Office of John L. Roberts, 1200 Converse Street, Longmeadow, MA 413) 567-5600 MassHealthHELP.com

Name Of Pooled Trust Address	# of Beneficiaries / $ Total Assets in millions Funds Held by:	Min Accnt Size	Intake Fee to enroll applicant	Annual Fees	Other Fees?	Disburse checks issued by Trust staff?	Turn around to pay invoices	Social Work Services?	% Kept by Trust before Medicaid Estate Recovery
Berkshire County ARC Special Needs Pooled Trust (BCARC) PO Box 2, Pittsfield, MA 01202 (413) 499-4241 ext. 266	**142 /$5.2** Berkshire Bank	**$7,500** negotiable	**$500** non-refundable $600 if POA or guardian involved	**2.2% $250 minimum.**	Income Tax Prep $200 / yr. $200 acnt closing	Berkshire Bank pays the check as directed by ARC.	7–10 days. Shorter for emer-gency requests	Yes, availabl e	**5%** if closed in yr 1-2; **20%** after 2 years
Bristol County ARC Pooled Trust 141 Park Street Attleboro, MA 02703 (508) 226-1445	Bristol County Savings Bank	**$5,000** Waived in hardship cases	**$475 $575 if POA or Guardian**	**$250 minimum or 2% of account**	$225 Income Tax prep	Yes.	5 business days		**5%** if closed in yrs 1 and 2 **25%** yr 3
CJP Disabilities Trust II Jewish Family & Children's Services, 1430 Main St. Waltham, MA (781) 647- 5327	State Street Bank	**$25,000** (you can spend down to zero)	**$400** non refundable	**2%** up to $150,000 1.5% if over $150,000. $500 minimum	$300 if 50 checks/yr: $500 If 75 checks/yr.	In house. Special requests reviewed by board	1 week	Fee for service avail.	**25%**
Guardian Community Tr One Elm Square, Suite 2D Andover, MA 01810 (978) 775-3500	**650/$48** Wilming-ton Trust	**No Minimum**	**No Intake or App. Fee**	**3%** <$80 K **2.5%**<$120 K **1.75%**<$200K **1.25%**>$200K	Closing fee $1,000; Tax Prep: $150/yr.	delivered to Trust from bank, then mailed from Trust office	4-8 days; 24-hrs. in emergcy	Social Work phone calls avail.	**5**% Year 1 **10%** Yr. 2 **15%** after year 3.
PLAN of Mass & RI MARC Special Needs Tr Pamela C. Tames,Esq.,Exec Dir 1340 Centre Street - Suite 102 Newton, MA 02459 (617) 244-5552	**770/$48** Cam-bridge Appleton Trust	**No Minimum**	**$600** $750 if enrollment involve POA or Guardian	**3%** $500 minimum	Tax prep: $200/year; $500 closing costs fee	Checks issued by trust.	5 – 10 bus. days; 24 hours if emergenc y request	Yes.	**10%** if closed yrs 1 and 2; **20%** after 2 years
PLAN of CT Pooled Trust Planned Lifetime Assistance Network of Connecticut, Inc. P.O. Box 4280, Hartford, CT 06147 (860) 523-4951	**$15 mil** Bank of America/ US Trust	**$75/ month**	**$1,050** for 1 client/trust; **$1,350** for 2 clients/trusts	**$75 / qtr** 35 basis points to broker, for securities transactions	Tax prep & probate accounts.. **$300** for closing	Checks issued by PLAN of CT	3 – 5 days	$60/ hour.	**None**.

Click to download: **Compare Third Party Supplemental Needs Trust administrators, for disabled beneficiaries under age 65.**