



Date: February 28, 2023

To: Home and Community-based Services (HCS) Program Providers  
Texas Home Living (TxHmL) Program Providers  
Local Intellectual and Developmental Disability Authorities  
(LIDDA)  
Financial Management Services Agencies (FMSA)

Subject: Information Letter No. 2023-10 (Replaces IL 2023-06)  
In-Home Individualized Skills and Socialization Information for  
Program Providers for COVID-19

This information letter (IL) replaces IL 2023-06 In-Home Day Habilitation Information for Program Providers for COVID-19, previously released on January 30, 2023, to serve as formal notice to end the temporary guidance related to in-home day habilitation effective February 28, 2023. . It also serves as notice that the temporary guidance previously applied to day habilitation will apply to in-home individualized skills and socialization beginning March 1, 2023, and will continue through the end of the public health emergency (PHE) on May 11, 2023.<sup>1</sup>

In response to COVID-19 and to provide access to day habilitation services, the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) temporarily waived certain requirements in Sections 3710, 4381.3, 4381.7(6) and 4381.7(7) of the HCS Billing Requirements and the TxHmL Billing Requirements. Until the end of the COVID-19 PHE, this flexibility will continue as part of in-home individualized skills and socialization. Day habilitation will only be available through February 28, 2023.

**Effective May 12, 2023, the following flexibilities will no longer be in effect:**

- The flexibility that allows HCS and TxHmL program providers to provide in-home individualized skills and socialization to an individual in the individual's residence, including those residing in their own homes or family homes, without having the required justification outlined below. Program providers and LIDDAs need to have transition plans ready for individuals who receive in-home individualized skills and socialization prior to this end date.

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<sup>1</sup> Day habilitation will no longer be a Medicaid-billable service in the HCS or TxHmL Programs for dates of service beginning March 1, 2023.

- The flexibility that allows the individual's service provider of residential support, supervised living, or host home/companion care to provide in-home individualized skills and socialization to the individual at the same time the service provider provides residential support, supervised living, or host home/companion care to the individual.

**After May 11, 2023, in order to receive in-home individualized skills and socialization, individuals must meet all requirements outlined in the HCS and TxHmL Program Rules, the HCS Billing Requirements, and the TxHmL Billing Requirements, which include:**

- A physician has documented that the individual's medical condition justifies the provision of in-home individualized skills and socialization; or
- A licensed professional or behavioral support service provider has documented that the individual's behavioral issues justify the provision of in-home individualized skills and socialization; or
- The individual is 55 years of age or older and requests to receive in-home individualized skills and socialization.

In addition, after May 11, 2023, a service provider of host home/companion care will not be permitted to provide in-home individualized skills and socialization to the individual to whom they provide host home/companion care services.

If you have any questions about this letter, please send them to [HCSPolicy@hhs.texas.gov](mailto:HCSPolicy@hhs.texas.gov).

Sincerely,

[signature on file]

Michelle Erwin  
Deputy Associate Commissioner, Office of Policy  
Medicaid and CHIP Services