



Date: March 9, 2023

To: Community Living Assistance and Support Services (CLASS)
Program Providers
Deaf Blind with Multiple Disabilities (DBMD) Program Providers
Home and Community-based Services (HCS) Program Providers
Texas Home Living (TxHmL) Program Providers

Subject: Information Letter No. 2023-11
COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) Ending May 11, 2023

The federal public health emergency (PHE) will end May 11, 2023. The notices summarized below provided guidance that certain COVID-19 flexibilities will end when the COVID-19 PHE ends. This letter serves both as notice of the end of the COVID-19 PHE and as a reminder of the earlier guidance.

COVID-19 Flexibilities Ending with PHE

HHSC provided advance notice to program providers that certain COVID-19 flexibilities will end when the COVID-19 PHE ends. These notices included:

- [Letter No. 2022-25](#) – This notice provided advance notice to program providers that pre-enrollment and enrollment activities must be conducted in person with the applicant after the COVID-19 PHE ends. Initial assessments of the individual used to complete the initial ID/RC assessment must be completed in person starting May 12, 2023. Additionally, renewal, revision, and transfer IPCs must include the individual's or LAR's signature on the IPC document starting May 12, 2023.
- [Revised Guidance for COVID-19 Flexibility for Registered Nursing Services Provided by Telehealth for CLASS, DBMD, HCS, TxHmL](#) – This notice alerted providers that comprehensive nursing assessments would have to be completed in person after the COVID-19 PHE ends. Comprehensive nursing assessments must be completed in person starting May 12, 2023.
- [Advance Notice: COVID-19 Flexibility for CLASS and DBMD Case Managers will End when PHE Ends](#) – This notice alerted providers that the flexibility to conduct quarterly case management visits using audio only or synchronous audio-visual technology would end after the COVID-19 PHE ends. Starting May 12, 2023, quarterly case management visits must be conducted in

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person in accordance with waiver requirements. Case management visits other than quarterly visits may still be conducted using audio only or synchronous audio-visual technology.

For COVID-19 teleservices flexibilities made permanent by the implementation of House Bill 4, 87th Legislative Session, 2021, please refer to program handbooks and rules.

Contact Information

If you have any additional questions about this information letter, please contact LTSS_Policy@hhs.texas.gov.

Sincerely,

[signature on file]

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