Individualized Skills & Socialization Provider Webinar

July 19, 2022
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Rebecca Lopez
Rebecca “Susie” Weirether
Richard Moore
Objectives

- Service Description
- Ratio Requirements Per Program
- Licensing
- Contact Information
Important Note from HHSC

• HHSC is in the process of promulgating rules for the new Individualized Skills and Socialization Service.

• The information in this presentation is based on HHSC’s draft rules which will be posted for formal comment on July 29, 2022 and may change based on public comment.
Service Description
Types of Individualized Skills & Socialization

In the DBMD, HCS, and TxHmL programs:

• On-site
• Off-site
• In-home *(HCS and TxHmL only)*
On-site & Off-site
Individualized Skills & Socialization

- Provides person-centered activities
- Supports the pursuit and achievement of employment
- Provides personal assistance for an individual who cannot manage personal care needs
- Provides assistance with medications and the performance of tasks delegated by a Registered Nurse (RN)

Does not include activities in which an individual:
- Produces marketable goods
- Paid below minimum wage for producing the goods
On-site Individualized Skills & Socialization

• Provided in a building or a portion of a building owned or leased by an Individualized Skills and Socialization provider

• Includes transportation from one on-site location to another on-site location

• Promotes an individual's development of skills and behavior that support independence and personal choice
On-site Prohibited Residential Settings

On-site Individualized Skills and Socialization is not provided in:

- Prohibited residential settings set forth in the rules
- Residence of an individual or another person
- Prohibited settings per program -

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HCS &amp; TxHmL</th>
<th>DBMD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intermediate Care Facility for individuals with an Intellectual Disability (ICF/IID)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing facility</td>
<td>Nursing facility licensed or subject to being licensed in accordance with Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assisted Living Facility (ALF)</td>
<td>Assisted Living Facility (ALF), unless it provides licensed assisted living in the DBMD program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential child-care operation licensed by HHSC unless it is an agency foster home</td>
<td>Residential child-care operation licensed or subject to being licensed by DFPS unless it is a foster family home/foster group home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An inpatient chemical dependency treatment facility</td>
<td>Facility licensed or subject to being licensed by the Department of State Health Services (DHS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A mental health facility</td>
<td>Residential facility operated by the Texas Youth Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facility operated by Texas Workforce Commission</td>
<td>Jail or prison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential facility operated by the Texas Juvenile Justice Dept., a jail, or a prison</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hospital</td>
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Off-site Individualized Skills & Socialization

- Provides activities that:
  - Integrate an individual into the community
  - Promote the development of skills and behaviors that support independence and personal choice
- Provided in a community setting chosen by the individual
- Includes transportation between an on-site location and an off-site location and between off-site locations
Off-site Prohibited Residential Settings

Off-site Individualized Skills and Socialization is not provided in:
- Building in which on-site Individualized Skills and Socialization is provided
- Prohibited residential settings set forth in the rules
- Residence of an individual or another person
- Prohibited settings per program -

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In-home
Individualized Skills & Socialization

- Assistance with acquiring, retaining, and improving self-help, socialization, and adaptive skills
- Provision of age-appropriate activities that enhance self-esteem and maximize function level
- Reinforcement of skills and lessons taught
In-home Individualized Skills & Socialization (cont.)

• Provision of personal assistance for an individual who cannot manage personal care needs

• Assistance with medication and the performance of tasks delegated by a RN
Criteria for In-home Individualized Skills & Socialization

One of the following criteria must be met:

• Physician documents that the individual's medical condition(s) justifies the need for in-home

• Licensed professional or behavioral supports service provider documents that the individuals' behavioral issue(s) justifies the need for in-home

• Individual is 55 years or older and requests to receive in-home
Provision of **On-site & Off-site** Individualized Skills & Socialization

- On-site and off-site must be provided by a licensed Individualized Skills and Socialization provider
- Provider must be the program provider or a contractor of the program provider
- Make both on-site and off-site available
- Provide on-site and off-site in accordance with an individual's PDP, IPC, and implementation plan
- Provider cannot require a skills test or other requirements to received off-site
Provision of On-site & Off-site Individualized Skills & Socialization (cont.)

• If an individual does not want to participate in a scheduled activity, or the LAR does not want the individual to participate in such activity, the provider must document the decision not to participate in the individual’s record.
Provision of In-home Individualized Skills & Socialization

- Program provider must ensure that in-home is provided in the residence of the individual
- In-home is **not** required to be provided by an Individualized Skills and Socialization provider
Provision of In-home Individualized Skills & Socialization (cont.)

- Program providers must obtain documentation:
  - From a physician that the individual’s medical condition justifies the provision of in-home
  - From a licensed professional or behavioral support service provider that the individual's behavioral issues justify the need for in-home
  - Individual is 55 years of age or older and requests to receive in-home
Ratio Requirements Per Program

(HCS, TxHmL, and DBMD)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LON Status</th>
<th>Staffing Ratio</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LON 1 without an enhanced staffing rate</td>
<td>no higher than 1 service provider of off-site Individualized Skills and Socialization to 6 individuals and other persons receiving off-site Individualized Skills and Socialization or a similar service (1:6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LON 5 without an enhanced staffing rate</td>
<td>no higher than 1 service provider of off-site Individualized Skills and Socialization to 4 individuals and other persons receiving off-site Individualized Skills and Socialization or a similar service (1:4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LON 8 or an LON 6</td>
<td>no higher than 1 service provider of off-site Individualized Skills and Socialization to 2 individuals with an LON 8 or an LON 6 and other persons receiving off-site Individualized Skills and Socialization or a similar service (1:2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LON 1 or LON 5 with an enhanced staffing rate</td>
<td>no higher than 1 service provider of Individualized Skills and Socialization to 2 individuals and other persons receiving off-site Individualized Skills and Socialization or a similar service (1:2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LON 9</td>
<td>no higher than 1 service provider of off-site Individualized Skills and Socialization and other persons receiving off-site Individualized Skills and Socialization or a similar service (1:1)</td>
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HCS Staffing Ratios (cont.)

• If the ratio includes individuals with different LONs, the ratio must be one of the following (whichever is the lowest):
  • Staffing ratio for the individual with highest level of need
  • Staffing ratio required, if a person in the TxHmL program is one of the person represented in the ratio
  • Staffing ratio required, if a person in the DBMD program is one of the person represented in the ratio
HCS Staffing Ratios (cont.)

Service provider of off-site assigned to an individual in a staffing ratio must provide service only to the individual and other persons in the same ratio.
## TxHmL Staffing Ratios for Off-site

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<td>No higher than 1 service provider of off-site Individualized Skills and Socialization to 4 individuals without an enhanced staffing rate and other persons receiving off-site Individualized Skills and Socialization or a similar service (1:4)</td>
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<td>No higher than 1 service provider of off-site Individualized Skills and Socialization to 2 individuals with the enhanced staffing rate and other persons receiving off-site Individualized Skills and Socialization or a similar service (1:2)</td>
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</table>
If the ratio includes individuals with different LONs, the ratio must be one of the following (whichever is the lowest):

• Staffing ratio 1:4 or 1:2
• Staffing ratio required, if a person in the HCS program is one of the person represented in the ratio
• Staffing ratio required, if a person in the DBMD program is one of the person represented in the ratio
Service provider of off-site assigned to an individual in a staffing ratio must provide service only to the individual and other persons in the same ratio.
**DBMD Staffing Ratios On-site & Off-site**

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<tr>
<td><strong>On-site</strong> must be no higher than 1 service provider of Individualized Skills and Socialization to 3 individuals and other persons receiving Individualized Skills and Socialization or a similar service (1:3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Off-site</strong> must be no higher than 1 service provider of Individualized Skills and Socialization to 2 individuals and other persons receiving Individualized Skills and Socialization or a similar service (1:2)</td>
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DBMD Staffing Ratios (cont.)

- Ratio may include persons enrolled in other waiver programs receiving Individualized Skills and Socialization or persons receiving similar service.

- A service provider of off-site assigned to an individual in a staffing ratio must provide services only to the individual and other persons in that same ratio.
Staffing Ratio Examples

No Enhancements:
2 LON 8, 5 LON 5, 1 TxHmL=3 staff

5 LON 1 and 1 TxHmL=2 staff

3 DBMD and 4 TxHmL= 2 staff

6 LON 5 and 4 LON 1= 3 staff

4 TxHmL and 6 LON 1= 2 staff
Staffing Ratio Examples

Enhancements:

2 LON 8, 5 LON 5 (3E), 4 TxHmL=4 staff

6 LON 1 (2E) and 1E TxHmL=3 staff

3 DBMD and 6 (2E) TxHmL= 3 staff

6 LON 5 (4E) and 4 LON 1= 3 staff

4 TxHmL and 6 (3E) LON 1= 4 staff
Provider Licensing

- Providers will need a Day Activity Health Services (DAHS) – Individualized Skills and Socialization service category license

- Application process:
  - Apply via online licensure portal (TULIP)
  - License application process will be available late November/December
  - Each physical location will require a separate license
Provider Licensing (cont.)

• Temporary license will be issued prior to survey
• Initial inspection is required before issuance of standard license
• $75 for a 3-year license
• Inspected every 2 years

HHSC Complaint and incident Intake (CII): 800-458-9858
Provider Licensing (cont.)

• Not all DAHS rules are applicable to Individual Skills and Socialization – exempted from requirements outside the scope of services

• Check the Individualized Skills and Socialization Long-term Care Regulatory (LTCR) website for future training opportunities - https://www.hhs.texas.gov/providers/long-term-care-providers/long-term-care-provider-resources/individualized-skills-socialization
Community Engagement Plan
Community Engagement Plan

To obtain license, providers must attest their Community Engagement Plan includes:

• Description of how the organization will meet the requirement to make off-site available to individuals
Community Engagement Plan (cont.)

• Description of how the organization will work with contracted Program providers to obtain information from individuals PDP and use that information to inform on-site and off-site activities that align with their PDP

• Description of how staff will respond to an emergency or unexpected event that may occur during an on-site and off-site activity
10-minute break

Questions will be addressed after break
Questions?

Please submit all questions in the chat box in the right-hand corner of the presentation screen.
Thank you!

Send questions to:
HCSPolicy@hhs.texas.gov
TxHmLPolicy@hhs.texas.gov
DBMDPolicy@hhs.texas.gov
LTCRPolicy@hhs.texas.gov