



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Healthy Texas Women 1115 Waiver

July 16, 2020

Healthy Texas Women 1115 Waiver

- Overview
- About the waiver
- Waiver application and approval
- Implementation plan
- Future amendments
- Public comment



About the Waiver (1 of 2)

The goals and objectives of the Healthy Texas Women (HTW) demonstration are to:

- Increase access to women's health and family planning services to avert unintended pregnancies, positively affect the outcome of future pregnancies, and positively impact the health and well-being of women and their families.
- Increase access to preventive health care, including screening and treatment for hypertension, diabetes and high cholesterol; to positively impact maternal health; and reduce maternal mortality.
- Increase access to women's breast and cervical cancer services to promote early cancer detection.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

About the Waiver (2 of 2)

The goals and objectives of the Healthy Texas Women (HTW) demonstration are to:

- Implement the state policy to favor childbirth and family planning services that do not include elective abortions or the promotion of elective abortions within the continuum of care or services and to avoid the direct or indirect use of state funds to promote or support elective abortions.
- Reduce the overall cost of publicly funded health care (including federally funded health care) by providing low-income Texans access to safe, effective services consistent with these goals.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Waiver Application (1 of 2)

- **May 12, 2017:** HHSC published a public notice of its intent to submit a waiver application in the *Texas Register*
- **May and June 2017:** HHSC hosted a series of meetings to provide information about the waiver application as well as to allow an opportunity for the public to provide comments



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Waiver Application (2 of 2)

- **May 12 – June 12, 2017:** The public was invited to submit comments on the Healthy Texas Women Section 1115 Demonstration Waiver application for a period of 30 days
- **June 30, 2017:** Texas submitted the Healthy Texas Women Section 1115 Demonstration Waiver application to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)



Waiver Approval (1 of 3)

- **January 22, 2020:** CMS approved the Healthy Texas Women 1115 waiver for a five-year period ending December 31, 2024.
- **February 18, 2020:**
 - HHSC began drawing down federal funds for HTW.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Waiver Approval (2 of 3)

- **February 18, 2020:**
 - The waiver requires HHS to comply with federal Medicaid eligibility, application, verification, and demonstration regulations.
 - If an HTW applicant attests to being a U.S. citizen or having a qualifying immigration status, but does not have the appropriate verification documentation, they are provided 95 days (referred to as Reasonable Opportunity) to submit the verification.
 - If all other eligibility requirements are met besides citizenship or immigration status, an individual is eligible for HTW during the reasonable opportunity period.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Waiver Approval (3 of 3)

- **February 18, 2020:**
 - HTW waiver covers women ages 18-44.
 - However 15- to 17-year olds are still covered for the same benefit package with state general revenue, with parental consent.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Waiver Authority

CMS waived the following provisions of the Title XIX of Social Security Act in the Healthy Texas Women waiver:

- Amount, Duration, and Scope of Services – Section 1902(a)(10)(B)
- Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment – Section 1902(a)(43)(A) (EPSDT)
- Methods of Administration: Transportation – Section 1902(a)(4)
- Retroactive Coverage – Section 1902(a)(34)
- Freedom of Provider Choice – Section 1902(a)(23)



Implementation Plan

- CMS requires a waiver implementation plan addressing a variety of topics, including how HHSC will monitor access to care, the adequacy of the provider network, inquiries, and complaints.
- HHSC is currently in discussions with CMS to finalize the implementation plan.
- When the implementation plan is approved, it will become an attachment to the waiver, and HHSC will post it online.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Eligibility Changes

- Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) methodologies will be used to determine household composition and countable income.
- The HTW Federal Poverty Level (FPL) threshold will be converted to a MAGI equivalent.
- Women eligible for WIC, SNAP, or who have a child eligible for Medicaid will no longer be automatically financially eligible (adjunctively eligible) for HTW.
- Women will be determined ineligible for full Medicaid and CHIP before being determined eligible for HTW.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Future Amendment

- In accordance with Senate Bill 750, 85th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019, HHSC will submit an amendment to the Healthy Texas Women 1115 Waiver to add an enhanced, cost-effective, and limited postpartum care services package.
- The enhanced postpartum care services package, called Healthy Texas Women Plus (HTW+) will first be implemented using state funds.
- Texas will publish a public notice of intent and accept public comments on the waiver amendment.



Additional Information

- Waiver application and approval documents are posted on the HHSC Healthy Texas Women 1115 Waiver webpage: bit.ly/HTW1115
- HHSC will update this webpage with information about future waiver amendments and public forums.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Public comment

HHSC will now read public comments

- If you are unable to submit a comment through the webinar, you may email comments to [TX Medicaid Waivers@hhsc.state.tx.us](mailto:TX_Medicaid_Waivers@hhsc.state.tx.us)
- Comments must be submitted by July 16, 2020
- HHSC will consider public comment in finalizing the implementation plan with CMS
- HHSC will summarize public comment in the annual monitoring report, which will be posted on the waiver webpage at bit.ly/HTW1115



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Thank you

TX_Medicaid_Waivers@hhsc.state.tx.us