

TEXAS HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

Public Notice – Texas State Plan for Medical Assistance Amendment

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) announces its intent to submit an amendment to the Texas State Plan for Medical Assistance under Title XIX of the Social Security Act. The amendment is proposed to be effective October 1, 2020.

The proposed amendment is in response to the Substance Use Disorder Prevention that Promotes Opioid Recovery and Treatment [SUPPORT] for Patients and Communities Act, section 1006(b), which requires states to provide Medicaid coverage of medication assisted treatment (MAT) for opioid use disorder and related counseling services.

HHSC currently covers all U.S. Food and Drug Administration-approved medications for opioid use disorder, including methadone, buprenorphine, and naltrexone. In addition, HHSC covers related substance use disorder (SUD) assessments and counseling. MAT and related SUD treatment services are covered as optional services in the Texas Medicaid State Plan. This proposed amendment will clarify existing MAT-related benefits and shift these services and payment from optional to mandatory benefits in the Medicaid State Plan, as directed in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) State Health Official letter #20-005, issued December 30, 2020.

The proposed amendment is cost neutral because the state already covers these benefits.

Copy of Proposed Amendment. To obtain copies of the proposed amendment, interested parties may contact Jennifer Blundell, State Plan Coordinator, by mail at the Health and Human Services Commission, P.O. Box 13247, Mail Code H-600, Austin, Texas 78711; by telephone at (512) 487-3349 or by email at Medicaid_Chip_SPA_Inquiries@hhs.texas.gov. At this time, HHSC is encouraging communications be sent via e-mail.

Written Comments. Written comments and/or requests to review comments may be sent by U.S. mail, overnight mail, special delivery mail, hand delivery, or email. Due to the declared state of disaster, please submit comments and requests via e-mail, if feasible.

U.S. Mail

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Overnight mail, special delivery mail, or hand delivery

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