

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 amendments to the Texas State Plan for Medical Assistance under Title XIX of the Social Security Act. The proposed amendments will be effective September 1, 2023. The purpose of the proposed amendments is to modify the definition of rural hospitals to reflect the population updates in the 2020 U.S. Census, and to increase the minimum payment for the labor and delivery add-on rural hospitals as well as implement increases to outpatient reimbursement for rural hospitals. The modifications are to comply with House Bill 1 (H.B. 1) Rider 8 and Rider 16, 88th Legislature, Regular Session 2023.

The proposed amendment to Inpatient Hospital Reimbursement is estimated to result in an increased annual aggregate expenditure of \$558,804 for federal fiscal year (FFY) 2023, consisting of \$348,526 in federal funds and \$210,278 in state general revenue. For FFY 2024, the estimated annual aggregate expenditure is \$6,705,643 consisting of \$2,646,717 in federal funds and \$4,058,926 in state general revenue. For FFY 2025, the estimated annual aggregate expenditure is \$6,705,643 consisting of \$4,033,444 in federal funds and \$2,672,199 in state general revenue.

The proposed amendment to Outpatient Hospital Reimbursement is estimated to result in an increased annual aggregate expenditure of \$75,044 for federal fiscal year (FFY) 2023, consisting of \$46,805 in federal funds and \$28,239 in state general revenue. For FFY 2024, the estimated annual aggregate expenditure is \$900,532 consisting of \$545,092 in federal funds and \$355,440 in state general revenue. For FFY 2025, the estimated annual aggregate expenditure is \$990,585 consisting of \$595,837 in federal funds and \$394,748 in state general revenue.

Public Hearing

A public hearing to receive comments on the proposal will be held July 11, 2023, at the HHSC through a webinar. The meeting date and time will be posted on the HHSC Communications and Events Website at <https://hhs.texas.gov/about-hhs/communications-events> and on the HHSC Provider Finance Hospitals website at <https://pfd.hhs.texas.gov/provider-finance-communications>.

Copy of Proposed Amendment.

Interested parties may obtain additional information and/or a free copy of the proposed amendment by contacting Nicole Hotchkiss, State Plan Policy Advisor, by mail at the Health and Human Services Commission, P.O. Box 13247, Mail Code H-600, Austin, TX 78711; by telephone at (512) 487-3349; by facsimile at (512) 730-7472; or by email at Medicaid_Chip_SPA_Inquiries@hpsc.state.tx.us. Copies of the

proposed amendment will be available for review at the local county offices of HHSC, formerly the local offices of the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services.

Written Comments.

Written comments about the proposed amendment and/or requests to review comments may be sent by U.S. mail, overnight mail, special delivery mail, hand delivery, fax, or email:

U.S. Mail

Texas Health and Human Services Commission
Attention: Provider Finance Department
Mail Code H-400
P.O. Box 149030
Austin, Texas 78714-9030

Overnight mail, special delivery mail, or hand delivery
Texas Health and Human Services Commission
Attention: Provider Finance Department
North Austin Complex
Mail Code H-400
4601 W. Guadalupe St.
Austin, Texas 78751
Phone number for package delivery: (512) 730-7401

Fax

Attention: Provider Finance at (512) 730-7475

Email

pfd_hospitals@hhsc.state.tx.us

Preferred Communication.

For quickest response, please use email or phone, if possible, for communication with HHSC related to this state plan amendment.

Persons with disabilities who wish to attend the hearing and require auxiliary aids or services should contact the HHSC Provider Finance Department by calling (512) 730-7401 at least 72 hours before the hearing so appropriate arrangements can be made.