



Date: August 27, 2021

To: Nursing Facilities

Subject: Information Letter No. 2021-40
Payment Rates for Pediatric Long term Care Facilities
Effective September 1, 2021

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) approved a payment rate change for the pediatric care facility special reimbursement class of nursing facilities. The payment rate complies with the 2022-23 General Appropriations Act, Senate Bill (S.B.) 1, 87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021 (Article II, HHSC, Rider 40), which requires HHSC to revise the reimbursement methodology for pediatric long-term care facilities to mirror that of Medicare reimbursement. The payment rate will be effective September 1, 2021.

As part of a related initiative, HHSC is proposing to revise the reimbursement methodology for Pediatric Care Facilities currently in Title 1 of the Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Section 355.307(c). The proposed amendments to the TAC were published in Volume 46, Number 32 of the *Texas Register* on August 6, 2021.

Provider Finance calculated the new Pediatric Long-term Care Facility Reimbursement per diem rate of \$363.45, an increase from the \$302.02 rate previously adopted on September 1, 2020. Together with the COVID-19 add-on rate of \$19.63, the total rate for the remainder of the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE) is \$383.08.

For clarification, the rate of \$383.08, proposed during the public rate hearing on July 12, 2021, includes the \$19.63 COVID-19 add-on. The COVID-19 add-on rate will be in effect until the end of the federally-declared PHE. The end of the COVID-19 PHE is to be determined.

The approved payment rate, effective September 1, 2021, can be accessed at:
<https://pfd.hhs.texas.gov/long-term-services-supports/nursing-facility/pediatric-care-facility-special-reimbursement-class>.

Claims Submission

Providers should continue to bill using their normal billing process. No additional action is required by individual providers.

Resources

Please contact the HHSC Provider Finance Long-term Services and Supports Customer Information Team at PFD-LTSS@hhs.texas.gov or (512) 424-6637 if you have questions regarding the rates or this letter.

Sincerely,

[signature on file]

Samuel West
Director of Provider Finance
for Long-Term Services and Supports