State Fiscal Year 2024 Open Enrollment July 1-31, 2023

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) announces Open Enrollment for the following programs:

- Attendant Compensation Rate Enhancement Program for:
 - Community Living Assistance and Support Services (CLASS) Direct Service Agency (DSA)
 - Day Activity and Health Services (DAHS)
 - Deaf-Blind with Multiple Disabilities Waiver (DBMD)
 - Home and Community-based Services (HCS)
 - Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with an Intellectual Disability or Related Conditions (ICF/IID)
 - Primary Home Care (PHC)
 - Residential Care (RC)
 - Texas Home Living (TxHmL)
- Direct Care Staff Enhancement Program for Nursing Facility (NF)

For state fiscal year 2024, enrollment will be open for the Attendant Compensation Rate Enhancement and the Direct Care Rate Enhance programs (Rate Enhancement) until July 31, 2023 at 5:00p.m. CST, in accordance with <u>Title 1</u>, Texas Administrative Code (1 TAC) Sections 355.112 and 355.308.

All Open Enrollment forms, worksheets, and instructions can be accessed from the website, <u>here</u>.

The HHSC Open Enrollment for the Rate Enhancement programs applies only to providers with a fee-for-service contract with HHSC. Providers contracted directly with a Managed Care Organization (MCO) will continue to enroll for the MCOs rate enhancement program through that MCO.

Rate Enhancement programs are voluntary. Participating providers receive increased funding to incentivize increased compensation, including increased wages and benefits, for attendants and direct care staff. Participating providers agree to spend the increased funds to meet program spending requirements, or they will be subject to recoupment.

Enrollment Contract Amendments (ECA) Requirements

To enroll, contracted providers must properly complete the ECA on the <u>HHSC Open Enrollment Portal</u> by July 31, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. CST. HHSC PFD will not accept requests after the deadline.

A properly completed ECA must:

- 1. Have a checkmark in either the "Yes, this facility chooses to enroll" or the "No, this facility chooses not to enroll" box;
- 2. Verify the fiscal year-end for the entity. If incorrect, <u>email the PFD Help Desk</u> to have the information verified and corrected; and
- 3. Reflect the correct 9-digit contract number for the provider.

Roll-Over and Level Requests

Providers checking the "Yes, this facility chooses to enroll" box must indicate their chosen Level number in the "Level" box. Please note that Level 0 is not an option. In addition, levels are awarded within available funds. Therefore, a provider may not be awarded the requested level.

- For Community Care providers, Level 35 is the highest enhancement level that any contract may request.
- For IDD providers, Level 25 is the highest enhancement level that any contract may request.
- For Nursing Facility providers, Level 27 is the highest enhancement level that any contract may request.

Any provider who has not submitted their properly completed ECA to HHSC PFD by 5:00 p.m. on July 31, 2023, will continue at their Level of Participation in effect during the open enrollment period, within available funds. This continued enrollment provision is called "roll-over" enrollment. Participating providers can confirm their current level of participation, on the 2023 Enrollment Levels Awarded, here.

Liability Insurance Rate Add-ons for Nursing Facilities only

Pursuant to 1 TAC Section 355.312, concerning Reimbursement Setting Methodology – Liability Insurance Costs, HHSC requires Nursing Facilities to submit an annual provider attestation to receive the payment of liability insurance rate add-ons.

All Nursing Facility providers must complete a liability insurance attestation through the HHSC Open Enrollment Portal during the open enrollment period between July 1, 2023, and July 31, 2023, to receive liability insurance add-on rates for the upcoming rate year (September 1, 2023, to August 31, 2024).

The Nursing Facility Liability Insurance attestation form must be received through the HHSC Open Enrollment Portal by July 31, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. CST. No faxes, mail, or emails will be accepted. HHSC PFD will not accept requests after the deadline.

ISS for HCS and TxHmL

Effective March 1, 2023, Individualized Skills and Socialization Services (ISS) replaced Day Habilitation Services. Since ISS is delivered hourly and Day Habilitation was delivered daily, the rate enhancement participation level cannot roll over to ISS.

All HCS and TxHmL providers who wish to participate in Rate Enhancement for ISS will need to complete a revised enrollment and submit an ECA during the 2024 enrollment period beginning on July 1, 2023. Providers who do not complete an ECA to participate in Rate Enhancement for ISS, will be a non-participant in Rate Enhancement for the rate year that begins on September 1, 2023.

For more information, please visit the PFD website.