

## Public Hearing Notice

Proposed Rule for the Medicaid Reimbursement for Rural Health Clinics

**January 24, 2022**  
**2:00 p.m.**

**Hearing.** The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) will conduct a public hearing on January 24, 2022, at 2:00 p.m., to receive public comments on the proposed rule for the Medicaid Reimbursement for Rural Health Clinics (RHC).

Due to the declared state of disaster stemming from COVID-19, this hearing will be conducted both in-person and as an online event. To join the hearing from your computer, tablet, or smartphone, register for the hearing in advance using the following link:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4468288131800929547>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the hearing. You can also dial in using your phone at +1 (631) 992-3221.

If you are new to GoToWebinar, please download the GoToMeeting app at <https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/626873213> before the hearing starts.

The hearing will be held in compliance with Texas Human Resources code §32.0282, which requires public notice of and hearings on proposed Medicaid reimbursements. The broadcast will be archived for access on-demand and can be accessed at <https://hhs.texas.gov/about-hhs/communications-events/live-archived-meetings>.

Members of the public may attend the rule hearing in person, which will be held in the Public Hearing Room 125 in the John H. Winters Building located at 701 W 51<sup>st</sup> Street, Austin, Texas or [access a live stream of the meeting here](#). For the live stream, select the "Winters Live" tab.

**Proposal.** HHSC proposes an amendment to rule §355.8101, concerning Rural Health Clinics Reimbursement, effective March 1, 2022.

**Background and Purpose.** The purpose of the proposed amendment to §355.8101 is to comply with House Bill 4 (H.B. 4), 87th Legislature, Regular Session 2021, and to make other amendments to enhance clarity, consistency, and specificity. HHSC is required by H.B. 4 to ensure an RHC is reimbursed for a covered telemedicine or telehealth medical service delivered by a health care provider to a Medicaid recipient at an RHC facility.

The proposed rule includes reformatted text for clarity and transparency in subsection(h) and subsection(l) with form updates in subsection(j).

Additional clarifying updates are made to ensure consistency throughout the rule and that the rule appropriately describes current practices.

For the full rule proposal, please see the January 14, 2022, issue of the *Texas Register*.

**Written Comments.** Written comments regarding the proposal may be submitted in lieu of, or in addition to, oral testimony. To be considered, comments must be submitted no later than 21 days after the January 14, 2022, issue of the *Texas Register*. Comments must be (1) postmarked or shipped before the last day of the comment period; (2) hand-delivered before 5:00 p.m. on the last working day of the comment period; or (3) faxed or emailed before midnight on the last day of the comment period. If the last day to submit comments falls on a holiday, comments must be postmarked, shipped, or emailed before midnight on the following business day to be accepted. When faxing or emailing comments, please indicate "Comments on Proposed Rule 22R047" in the subject line. Questions about the content of this proposal may be directed to the HHSC Provider Finance for Hospitals department at [PFD\\_Hospitals@hhsc.state.tx.us](mailto:PFD_Hospitals@hhsc.state.tx.us).

Written comments may be sent by U.S. mail, overnight mail, special delivery mail, fax, or e-mail.

U.S. Mail

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

Overnight mail or special delivery mail

Health and Human Services Commission  
Provider Finance Department, Mail Code H-400  
4601 W Guadalupe St.  
Austin, Texas 78751

The phone number for package delivery: (512) 730-7401

Fax

Attention: Provider Finance at (512) 730-7475

E-mail

[PFD\\_Hospitals@hhsc.state.tx.us](mailto:PFD_Hospitals@hhsc.state.tx.us)

**Preferred Communication.** During the current state of disaster due to COVID-19, physical forms of communication are checked with less frequency than during normal business operations. For the quickest response, please use email or phone, if possible, for communication with HHSC related to this public hearing.

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