



Proposed Payment Rates for FFY 2022 Medicaid Community Hospice, Personal Attendant Services, and Biennial Fee Review

November 12, 2021



Hearing. The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) will conduct a public hearing on November 12, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. in the Public Hearing Room 125 of the John H. Winters Building, 701 W 51st St, Austin TX 78751, to receive public comments on the proposed payment rates for multiple long-term services and supports programs.

Increased payment rates are proposed for Medicaid Community Hospice; Personal Attendant Services in Community Living Assistance and Support Services (CLASS); and Community Attendant Services, Family Care, and Primary Home Care (CAS/FC/PHC). Increased payment rates are also proposed for the state fiscal year 2022-23 first quarter biennial fee review for Intervener Services in the Deaf-Blind with Multiple Disabilities Waiver (DBMD) program and Transportation Services in the Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care Centers (PPECC) program.

Proposal. HHSC proposes to increase payment rates for Medicaid Community Hospice for federal fiscal year 2022 for routine home, continuous home, inpatient respite, and general inpatient care services, effective retroactive to October 1, 2021.

HHSC proposes a correction to payment rates for personal attendant services in CLASS and CAS/FC/PHC to align with the 2020-21 General Appropriations Act, House Bill 1, 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019 (Article II, HHSC, Rider 45), effective January 1, 2022.

HHSC also proposes to increase the DBMD Intervener rates and the PPECC Transportation rates, effective March 1, 2022.

Rate Determination. The increased payment rates for Medicaid Community Hospice for routine home, continuous home, inpatient respite, and general inpatient care services were determined in accordance with the hospice reimbursement methodology located at the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 42, Part 418, Subpart G.

The proposed rates for CLASS and CAS/FC/PHC were calculated to align with the legislative intent of Rider 45.

The proposed payment rates for DBMD were guided by Title 1 of the Texas Administrative Code (1 TAC) §355.513, related to the Reimbursement Methodology for the Deaf-Blind with Multiple Disabilities Waiver Program. The proposed payment rate for PPECC was guided by 1 TAC §355.9080, related to the Reimbursement Methodology for Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care Centers.

Hospice Rates.

HHSC proposes to increase payment rates for Medicaid Community Hospice for routine home, continuous home, inpatient respite, and general inpatient care services, effective retroactive to October 1, 2021. The rates can be found [10-01-2021-proposed-rate-actions-fffy2022-medicaid-comm-hospice.pdf \(texas.gov\)](https://www.texas.gov/public-records-requests/10-01-2021-proposed-rate-actions-fffy2022-medicaid-comm-hospice.pdf)

Attendant Care Rate Adjustment

HHSC proposes a correction to payment rates for personal attendant services in CLASS and CAS/FC/PHC to align with the 2020-21 General Appropriations Act, House Bill 1, 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019 (Article II, HHSC, Rider 45), effective January 1, 2022.

Attendant Services Rates for Proposal at November 12, 2021, Rate Hearing

Program	Service	Current Rate	Current Unit	Rate Corrected for Rider 45	Corrected Rate Difference (\$)	Corrected Rate Difference (%)
Community Living Assistance and Support Services (CLASS)	In-Home Respite	\$241.24	1 day	\$241.50	\$0.26	0.11%
	In-Home Respite CDS	\$217.24	1 day	\$217.50	\$0.26	0.12%
Primary Home Care/Community Attendant Services / Family Care (PHC/CAS/FC)	Priority (Agency and SRO)	\$11.56	1 hour	\$11.57	\$0.01	0.09%
	Priority Consumer Directed Services (CDS)	\$10.76	1 hour	\$10.77	\$0.01	0.09%
	Non-Priority (Agency and SRO)	\$11.34	1 hour	\$11.35	\$0.01	0.09%
	Non-Priority CDS	\$10.54	1 hour	\$10.55	\$0.01	0.09%

Biennial Review for Intervener Services in the Deaf-Blind with Multiple Disabilities Waiver Program (DBMD) and Transportation Services in Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care Centers (PPECC)

As part of the biennial fee review, which include existing services with rates that are reviewed at least once every two years, HHSC is proposing rate changes to Intervener Services in the Deaf-Blind with Multiple Disabilities Waiver Program (DBMD) and Transportation Services in Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care Centers (PPECC). The DBMD intervener and PPECC transportation rates are proposed to be effective March 1, 2022.

Quarter 1 SFY 2022-23 Biennial Fee Review Rates for Proposal at November 2021 Rate Hearing

Service	Program	Current Rate	Proposed Rate	Change (%)	Unit
Intervener	DBMD	\$20.28	\$23.43	15.53%	1 hour
Intervener CDS		\$19.28	\$23.93	24.12%	
Intervener I		\$25.17	\$25.19	0.08%	
Intervener I CDS		\$24.17	\$24.19	0.08%	
Intervener II		\$28.31	\$31.06	9.71%	
Intervener II CDS		\$27.31	\$30.06	10.07%	
Intervener III		\$31.45	\$36.92	17.39%	
Intervener III CDS		\$30.45	\$35.92	17.96%	
PPECC Transportation	PPECC	\$18.98	\$37.94	99.89%	1 day

Public Comment

Robin Leobrand, Permanent Supportive Housing commented on care giver pay and the lack of professional caregiving due to low pay. Pay disparity has several negative impacts:

- Poor service resulting in regression in behavior
- Parents are exhausted
- The rate is a base rate and service agencies should be authorized to increase care giver pay
- There are so many barriers to necessary care

The care giver rate proposal is not sufficient and should raise to \$15 per hour.

Brian Broadbent, Father stated it is insulting to propose a one cent pay raise. The state Comptroller predicted a \$25 billion surplus in the Texas budget. Consumer prices are up 8% making the rate increases a joke.

Linda Litzinger, Texas Parent to Parent stated she wanted to talk about CLASS and DBMD. The one cent per hour increase is insulting and ridiculous. Some waivers pay more. There is a difference in the different waiver rates. This should be remedied.

Rosalind Kingsbury, Service Provider stated they cannot keep attendants because of the pay. It is impossible to get people to provide the service at the rates that are paid. We are all being let down by these rates.

Lynett Westbrook, Parent of CDS person stated that finding and retaining attendants is impossible at the rate proposed. The rate should be at least \$15 per hour.



There being no further testimony, the meeting was adjourned.

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