

**An Important Message from
The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC)
Requirements for Attendant Base Wages in the Consumer Directed
Services Option**

Background:

HHSC is reminding providers in STAR Kids, STAR+PLUS, STAR Health, and Dual Demonstration Medicare-Medicaid Plans (MMPs) that, effective Sept. 1, 2019, the base wage paid to a “personal attendant” increased to \$8.11 per hour. This includes personal attendant services delivered in the Consumer Directed Services (CDS) option.

The 2020-2021 General Appropriations Act provided funding to HHSC to support this increase and fully fund the attendant compensation rate enhancement programs for community care and intellectual and developmental disability providers.

Key Details:

Must ensure that providers of “personal attendant” services in the CDS option are paid at or above \$8.11 per hour. CDS employer budgets should be adjusted to accommodate this change.

CDS employer budgets should be adjusted to reflect the increase in funding from the General Appropriations Act to support the base wage increase for the appropriate services, as reflected in corresponding HHSC fee-for-service rates.

This requirement applies to the following types of services:

- STAR Kids
 - Personal Care Services (PCS);
 - Community First Choice (CFC) services (including PCS-CFC and acquisition, maintenance, and enhancement of skills); and
 - MDCP in-home respite and flexible family support services
- STAR Health
 - PCS;
 - CFC PAS/HAB services; and
 - MDCP in-home respite and flexible family support services
- STAR+PLUS
 - Primary Home Care;
 - Personal Assistance Services;
 - CFC PAS/HAB services;
 - STAR+PLUS Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) in-home respite

Resources:HHSC Long-term Services & Supports Rate Analysis:

- [Community First Choice \(CFC\) Payment Rate Information](#)
- [Community Based Alternatives \(CBA\) Payment Rate Information](#)
- [Medically Dependent Children Program \(MDCP\) Payment Rate Information](#)

Texas Medicaid & Healthcare Partnership (TMHP) Fee Schedule:

- [Comprehensive Care Program – Personal Care Services](#)