

Cecile Erwin Young *Executive Commissioner*

Date: October 1, 2024

To: CLASS - DSA Providers, DAHS Providers, DBMD Providers,

HCS Providers, ICF/IID Providers, NF Providers, PHC Providers,

RC Providers, TxHmL Providers

Subject: Information Letter No. 2024-13

Fiscal Year 2025 Awarded Levels for the Attendant Compensation Rate

Enhancement and Direct Care Staff Enhancement Programs,

Effective Retroactive to September 1, 2024

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) announces the publication of the fiscal year 2025 awarded levels for Long-term Services and Supports (LTSS) providers participating in the Attendant Compensation Rate Enhancement and Direct Care Staff Enhancement programs. The Rate Enhancement programs are administered for eligible providers who contract with HHSC for the programs listed below.

Attendant Compensation Rate Enhancement Program:

- 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);
- Primary Home Care (PHC), Community Attendant Services (CAS), and Family Care (FC);
- Residential Care (RC);
- Texas Home Living (TxHmL); and
- Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with an Intellectual Disability or Related Conditions (ICF/IID).

Direct Care Staff Enhancement Program:

Nursing Facilities (NF)

Rate Enhancement Add-on Amounts and Participation Levels

The 88th Texas Legislature appropriated \$12,961,440 in all funds in fiscal year 2025 for the attendant compensation rate enhancement program in the 2024-25 General Appropriations Act (GAA), House Bill (HB) 1, 88th Legislature, Regular Session, 2023 (Article II, HHSC, Rider 30(b)). The 2024-2025 GAA, HB 1, 88th Legislature, Regular Session, 2023 (Article II, HHSC, Rider 30(c)), appropriated \$15,725,709 in all funds in fiscal year 2024 and \$15,722,389 in fiscal year 2025 to increase the per-level add-on amount to 5 cents per level for individualized skills and socialization services rate enhancement.

For all programs, rate enhancement levels awarded above pre-existing levels were limited by available appropriations.

Community Care Providers

For fiscal year 2025, providers requesting to increase their enhancement participation level were awarded up to level 35, the highest level. Participating providers in fiscal year 2024 who did not submit an Enrollment Contract Amendment and did not have an imposed limitation will maintain the previous year's awarded level.

Table 1. Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Attendant Compensation Rate Enhancement Program Information for Community Care Providers.

Category	Services	Unit Type	Add	'2024 -on per unit	FY2025 Add-on per unit		# of Levels	Level Awarded in 2025
Community Care	PHC, CAS, FC,	Hourly	\$	0.05	\$	0.05	35	Level 35
Community Care	CLASS	Hourly	\$	0.05	\$	0.05	35	Level 35

Category	Services	Unit Type	FY2024 Add-on per unit		FY2025 Add-on per unit		# of Levels	Level Awarded in 2025
Community Care	DAHS	Hourly	\$	0.05	\$	0.05	35	Level 35
Community Care	DBMD	Hourly	\$	0.05	\$	0.05	35	Level 35
Community Care	RC	Hourly	\$	0.05	\$	0.05	35	Level 35

HCS and TxHmL Providers

For fiscal year 2025, providers requesting to increase their enhancement participation level were awarded the following enhancements for each participation category:

- HCS/TxHmL individualized skills and socialization Level 1, with an \$0.05 add-on amount following the day habilitation daily rate to individualized skills and socialization hourly rate conversion;
- HCS Residential Level 9; and
- HCS/TxHmL non-individualized skills and socialization Level 9.

Participating providers in fiscal year 2024 who did not submit an Enrollment Contract Amendment and did not have an imposed limitation will maintain the previous year's awarded level.

Table 2. FY2025 Attendant Compensation Rate Enhancement Program Information for HCS/TxHmL Providers.

Category	Services	Unit Type	Add	'2024 -on per init*	Add	2025 -on per unit	# of Levels	Level Awarded in 2025
Individualized	Individualized	Hourly	\$	0.05	\$	0.05	25	Level 1
Skills and	Skills and							
Socialization	Socialization							
	Services							

Category	Services	Unit Type	FY2024 Add-on per unit*		FY2025 Add-on per unit		Add-on per Add-on per Levels		# of Levels	Level Awarded in 2025
Non- Individualized Skills and Socialization	Supported Home Living, Transportation, CFC PAS/HAB, Respite, Employment Assistance, Supported Employment	Hourly	\$	0.05	\$	0.05	25	Level 9		
Residential	Residential Support Services, Supervised Living	Daily	\$	0.40	\$	0.40	25	Level 9		

ICF/IID Providers

For fiscal year 2025, providers requesting to increase their enhancement participation level were awarded the following enhancements:

- ICF Day Habilitation Level 1; and
- ICF Residential Level 9.

Participating providers in fiscal year 2024 who did not submit an Enrollment Contract Amendment, and did not have an imposed limitation, will maintain the previous year's awarded level.

Table 3. FY2025 Attendant Compensation Rate Enhancement Program Information for ICF/IID Providers.

Category	Services	Unit Type	Ad	2024 d-on r unit	Ac	2025 ld-on r unit	# of Levels	Level Awarded in 2025
Day Habilitation	Day Habilitation Services	Daily	\$	0.30	\$	0.30	25	Level 1
Residential	Residential Services	Daily	\$	0.40	\$	0.40	25	Level 9

NF Providers

For fiscal year 2025, facilities requesting to increase their enhancement participation level were awarded enhancements up to level 1. Participating providers in fiscal year 2024 who did not submit an Enrollment Contract Amendment, and did not have an imposed limitation, will maintain the previous year's awarded level.

Table 4. FY2025 Direct Care Staff Enhancement Program Information.

Category	Services	Unit Type	Add	2024 -on per unit	Add	2025 -on per unit	# of Levels	Level Awarded in 2025
NF	NF Services	Daily	¢	0.40	¢	0.40	27	Level 1

FY2025 Enrollment and Awarded Levels List

To view the fiscal year 2025 enrollment awarded levels list, <u>please visit the PFD</u> website.

Providers who did not participate in fiscal year 2024 must have completed an Enrollment Contract Amendment during the open enrollment period for fiscal year 2025. If a current contracted provider did not submit an ECA to enroll in the program or roll over their fiscal year 2024 participation to fiscal year 2025, the provider will not be eligible to participate in fiscal year 2025.

The HHSC Provider Finance Department (PFD) is continuously processing new providers, terminations, and changes of ownership. We will continue to update these requests monthly.

Claims Submission

Awarded enhancement levels will not be entered into the Claims Management System until after your first billing cycle of the new state fiscal year. If your awarded enhancement level is different from your current enhancement level, this change will result in retroactive rate adjustments for any applicable claims paid before your new level is entered into the system.

Please contact the HHSC PFD, Long-term Services and Supports, Center for Information and Training at PFD-LTSS@hhs.texas.gov or (737) 867-7817 if you have questions regarding this notice.

Sincerely,

[signature on file]

Samuel West Director of Provider Finance Long-term Services and Supports