

OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY CARE ATTENDANT COMPENSATION RATE ENHANCEMENT & ACCOUNTABILITY

- Implementation. Implemented September 1, 2000 in former the Department of Human Services community-based programs that employ attendants (Article II, Department of Human Services, Rider 37, H.B. 1, 76th Legislature, Regular Session, 1999). Rules are outlined in Title 1, Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §355.112.
- Optional Participation. Participation in the attendant compensation rate enhancement is voluntary.
- Participation Agreement. Contracted providers may choose to participate in the attendant compensation rate enhancement by submitting to the Texas Health & Human Services Commission (HHSC) a signed Enrollment Contract Amendment choosing to enroll and indicating the level of enhanced add-on rate they desire to receive. Requested add-on rate levels will be granted beginning with the lowest level and granting successive levels until requested enhancements are granted within available funds.
- Enrollment. Enrollment in the attendant compensation rate enhancement is held in July, prior to the rate year. Funding for the enhancement add-on rate levels is limited by appropriations.
- Attendant revenue enhancements for participants. Providers participating in the attendant compensation rate enhancement agree to spend approximately 90 percent of their total attendant revenues, including their enhanced add-on rate revenues, on attendant compensation. Attendant compensation includes salaries, payroll taxes, benefits, and mileage reimbursement. Participating providers must submit reports to HHSC documenting their spending on attendant compensation.
- Attendant Compensation Spending Accountability. Determination of each provider's compliance with the attendant compensation spending requirement will be made on an annual basis from the spending reports submitted to HHSC. Participants failing to meet their spending requirement for the reporting period will have their enhanced add-on revenues associated with the unmet spending requirements recouped. At no time will a participating provider's attendant care rate after their spending recoupment be less than the rate paid to providers not participating in receiving the enhanced add-on rates.
- Grouping. Compliance with the spending requirement may be evaluated in the aggregate for all participating contracts controlled by a single entity. Providers may request this aggregation when they submit their report at the end of their reporting period.