

**TEXAS HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
RATE ANALYSIS DEPARTMENT**

February 3, 2014

Proposed Payment Rates for the following programs:

Community Based Alternatives - Home and Community Support Services
Associated Consumer Directed Services

Payment rates are proposed to be effective
March 1, 2014

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED PAYMENT RATES

Effective March 1, 2014

The Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) will conduct a public hearing to receive public comment on proposed payment rates for the Community Based Alternatives – Home and Community Support Services (CBA-HCSS) waiver and associated Consumer Directed Services (CDS) programs. These programs are operated by the Department of Aging and Disability Services. The payment rates are proposed to be effective March 1, 2014. The public hearing will be held in compliance with Human Resources Code §32.0282 and Title 1 of the Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §355.105(g), which require public notice and hearings on proposed reimbursement rates. HHSC will consider concerns expressed at the hearing prior to final rate approval.

PROPOSED RATES

HHSC proposes to increase the base rate for personal attendant services (PAS) provided under the CBA-HCSS program and the associated rate for Consumer Directed Services. For the CBA-HCSS program, the entire increase is included in the attendant cost area portion of the rate.

Program	Current Rate	Proposed Rate
CBA – HCSS	\$11.20	\$11.30
CDS CBA - HCSS	\$10.86	\$10.96

METHODOLOGY AND JUSTIFICATION

Effective September 1, 2013, DADS amended Title 40, TAC, Chapter 49, Contracting for Community Care Services, and HHSC amended its managed care contracts to incorporate a minimum wage requirement of \$7.50 per hour for personal attendants (to increase to \$7.86 effective September 1, 2014). These changes were made in response to the 2014-15 General Appropriations Act (Article II, Special Provisions, Section 61, Senate Bill 1, 83rd Legislature, Regular Session, 2013) which indicated that appropriations made elsewhere in the Act included funds for an increase in the base wage of personal attendants to \$7.50 an hour in fiscal year 2014 and \$7.86 an hour in fiscal year 2015. HHSC proposes to increase the attendant compensation rate component for nonparticipating and participating contracts in the Attendant Compensation Rate Enhancement for the CBA-HCSS program and associated rate(s) in the CDS program to support the required minimum wage.

The proposed rates were determined in accordance with the rate setting methodologies codified at Title 1 of the Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Chapter 355, Subchapter C, §355.503, Reimbursement Methodology for the Community Based Alternatives Waiver

Program and the Integrated Care Management-Home and Community Support Services and Assisted Living/Residential Care Program, Subchapter A, §355.112, Attendant Compensation Rate Enhancement and §355.114, Consumer Directed Services Payment Option. These rates were subsequently adjusted in accordance with 1 TAC Chapter 355, Subchapter A, §355.101, Introduction, and §355.109, Adjusting Reimbursement When New Legislation, Regulations or Economic Factors Affect Costs, and Subchapter B, §355.201, Establishment and Adjustment of Reimbursement Rates by the Health and Human Services Commission.

Should you have any questions regarding the information in this document, please contact Doug Odle, Rate Analyst at (512) 707-6086 or doug.odle@hhsc.state.tx.us.