

**Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC)
2020-21 Biennium Legislative Appropriations Request
Exceptional Items**

The submission of HHSC's Legislative Appropriations Request for the next biennium represents a culmination of months of evaluation of agency programs and operations. HHSC also considered stakeholder input received in April regarding programs and issues of greatest importance to the people we serve. As we put forward our most critical funding needs, we have grouped the budget proposals into the following categories.

Maintain Current Funding for Client Services

- Maintain Medicaid Entitlement Program Cost Growth
- Maintain CHIP Non-entitlement Program Cost Growth
- Maintain Medicaid Non-entitlement Cost Growth
- Prevent Loss of Service in State Hospitals and State Supported Living Centers (SSLCs)
- Maintain Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) Services for Children with Disabilities
- Increasing Access for Women and Maternal Health Services
- Maintain Funding for Client Services to Replace Money Follows the Person
- Maintain Baseline for Claims Administrator Support
- Sustain Services for Blind Children
- Maintain Guardianship Services for Vulnerable Texans

Comply with State and Federal Laws and Regulations

- HHS Information Technology Security
- Comply with Statutory Requirements for Intellectual and Developmental Disability (IDD) System Redesign
- Make Necessary Electronic Visit Verification System Improvements
- Comply with Federal Requirements for Community Integration for Individuals with Disabilities
- Data Center Services
- Improve System Efficiency to Comply with Preadmission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) Requirements
- Meet State Requirements to Ensure Quality in Long-Term Care Services
- Ensure State Oversight of Community Programs for Individuals with Disabilities
- Provide Intensive Behavioral Intervention for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Comply with State Law to Conduct Mortality Reviews for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Living in Community Settings
- Pediatric Telemedicine Grant Program for Rural Texas

Address Community Services Needs for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

- Provide Transition to the Community and Reduce Community Program Interest Lists
- Statewide Behavioral Health Coordinating Council (SBHCC): Maintain and Expand IDD Crisis Continuum of Care
- Improve Access to Specialty Services for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities
- Support Medically Complex Individuals with IDD Living in Community Settings

Provide Critical Support, Staffing, and Infrastructure for Procurement and Contract Oversight Functions

- Enhance Procurement and Contract Management Functions
- Centralized Accounting and Payment/Personnel System (CAPPS) HCM and Financial Upgrades

Address Capacity Demands for Behavioral Health Services

- Funding Expanded Capacity at Renovated State Hospitals (Comprehensive Plan Phase 1 Projects)
- Funding State Hospital Planning and Construction (Comprehensive Plan Phase II)
- Enhance Mental Health Capacity
- SBHCC: Ensure Services for Individuals Experiencing Early Psychosis
- SBHCC: Ensure Access to Residential Treatment Center Beds for Children
- Substance Use Disorder Treatment
- Improve Capacity for Community Inpatient Psychiatric Services
- Maintain Service Levels for Mental Health Grant Programs
- SBHCC: Enhance Real-Time Behavioral Health Data Sharing

Protect Vulnerable Texans

- Addressing Major Building, Fleet, and Equipment Failures at State Hospitals and SSLCs
- Child Care Licensing New License Type
- Additional FTEs for Protection of Vulnerable Texans
- Enhance Background Checks
- Protect Assisted Living Facility Residents with Ombudsman Services

Improve Access to Needed Client Services

- Recruiting and Retaining a Capable and Competent Workforce
- Enhancing State Hospital and SSLC Services Through Technology
- Increase Availability of Child Advocacy Services Throughout the State for Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) and Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs)

- Ensure Sustainability of Home Delivered Meals Program to Support Older Texans
- Enhance Services for the Family Violence Program
- Attendant Wage Increases
- Ensure Programs of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) Sustainability

Provide Critical Information Technology Infrastructure and Support

- System-Wide Business Enablement Platform
- HHS Telecom Technology Upgrade
- HHSC Seat Management