



## **Community Care Service Eligibility Bulletin 19-01**

**Date:** November 25, 2019

**To:** Community Care Services Eligibility - Regional Directors  
Community Care Services Eligibility - Program Managers

**From:** Access and Eligibility Services Program Policy  
State Office 2115

**Subject:** 1. Personal Attendant Reimbursement Rate Change for Consumer  
Directed Services

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Bulletins are sent to CCSE Regional Directors and Program Managers. Regional Directors and Program Managers must share this information with all eligibility staff. Please ensure that copies are provided to all CCSE staff as soon as possible. If you have any questions regarding the policy information in this bulletin, follow regional procedures.

Active bulletins are posted on the following website:

- [Community Care Service Eligibility Handbook \(CCSEH\)](https://hhs.texas.gov/laws-regulations/handbooks/case-worker-community-care-aged-disabled-handbook) at <https://hhs.texas.gov/laws-regulations/handbooks/case-worker-community-care-aged-disabled-handbook>

## 1. Personal Attendant Reimbursement Rate Change for Consumer Directed Services

### Background

House Bill 1, Article II, Rider 45, passed by the 86th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2019, increased the base hourly wage for personal attendants from \$8.00 to \$8.11 effective September 1, 2019.

As a result of the increase in the base hourly wage, the HHSC reimbursement rate for personal attendant services for Primary Home Care (PHC), Family Care (FC), and Community Attendant Services (CAS) will increase to allow contractors to pay the new base hourly wage.

### Current Policy

#### PHC, FC, and CAS

When a person chooses the Consumer Directed Services (CDS) option, an annual service plan (ASP) is calculated based on the hourly personal attendant reimbursement rate.

The current reimbursement rates are:

- \$10.43 for Non-Priority; and
- \$10.67 for Priority.

### New Policy

#### PHC, FC, and CAS

When determining the ASP for a person who chooses to participate in the CDS option, use the new hourly personal attendant reimbursement rate (CCSE Handbook Section 6332.2).

The new reimbursement rates are:

- \$10.54 for Non-Priority; and
- \$10.76 for Priority.

The new reimbursement rates can be accessed at the following Texas Health and Human Services Commission website: <https://rad.hhs.texas.gov/long-term-services-supports/primary-home-care-phc>.

Staff must use the new reimbursement rates to revise the ASPs with an effective date of September 1, 2019.

The Financial Management Services Agency (FMSA) must provide the amount of funds expended by each CDS employer and the amount of funds remaining, including allocated funds, from the beginning of the person's service plan year through August 31, 2019.

If the FMSA does not provide the amount of funds expended, staff must contact the agency to request the information, ensure the person has sufficient service units and funds remaining for the rest of their service plan year and follow current policies and procedures in CCSEH Section 6333.3.2 Rate Change to revise the ASPs.

**Handbook**

CCSE Handbook updates are not required.

**Training**

Training updates are not required.

**Effective Date**

The policy is effective on September 1, 2019.