



**Home and Community-
based Services Waiver
Slot Enrollment Plan
for the 2018-2019
Biennium**

As Required by

**2018-2019 General Appropriations
Act, Senate Bill 1, 85th
Legislature, Regular Session, 2017
(Article II, Health and Human
Services Commission, Rider 213)**

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1. Introduction

The 2018-2019 General Appropriations Act, Senate Bill 1, 85th Legislature, Regular Session, 2017 (Article II, Health and Human Services Commission [HHSC], Rider 213), directs HHSC to submit a plan and subsequent progress reports for waiver slot enrollment to the Governor, Legislative Budget Board (LBB), Senate Finance Committee, and House Appropriations Committee. This plan must include waiver slot enrollments appropriated for the Home and Community-based Services (HCS) program for the following purposes:

- Promoting Independence (PI) Initiative:
 - ▶ for persons moving out of large and medium Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities or Related Conditions (ICF/IID); and
 - ▶ for children aging out of foster care.
- Compliance with federal Preadmission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) requirements:
 - ▶ for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) moving from nursing facilities; and
 - ▶ for persons with IDD diverted from nursing facility admission.

Appropriations assume equal rollout throughout the 2018-2019 biennium. The plan reviews the waiver enrollment process and identifies actions necessary for HHSC to reach waiver enrollment targets for fiscal years 2018 and 2019.

2. Background

Purpose and Population

First authorized September 1, 1985, HCS is a Medicaid waiver program providing community-based services and supports to individuals with IDD. Individuals enrolled in the HCS program live in a variety of residential settings, including an individual's own home, family home, a host home/companion care setting, or a three- or four-person group home setting. Services and supports enhance quality of life, functional independence, and health and well-being. Services support community-based living as an alternative to institutional living.

General Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for HCS, an individual must be a Texas resident not living in an institution:

- with a primary diagnosis of an intellectual disability, or:
 - ▶ an intelligence quotient of 75 or below; and
 - ▶ a related condition such as cerebral palsy and autism spectrum disorder;
- eligible for ICF/IID level of care I or VIII;
- with monthly income within 300 percent of Supplemental Security Income limit;
- with an Individual Plan of Care (IPC) for which the IPC cost does not exceed whichever of the two costs is greater:
 - ▶ 200 percent of the annual ICF/IID reimbursement rate paid to a small ICF/IID for the recipient's level of need; or
 - ▶ 200 percent of the estimated annualized per capita cost for ICF/IID services, whichever is greater; and
- not enrolled in any other Medicaid waiver program.

Benefits

The HCS waiver program offers an array of services through contracted HCS program providers and a self-directed service model called Consumer-Directed Services (CDS). HCS services through the program provider include residential services, respite, day habilitation, employment assistance, supported employment,

nursing, dental, behavioral support, transportation as an activity of supported home living, social work, occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech/language pathology, dietary, audiology, cognitive rehabilitation therapy for individuals with a brain injury, minor home modifications, adaptive aids, and transition assistance services.

Individuals may choose to self-direct the services of transportation as an activity of supported home living, respite, nursing, employment assistance, supported employment, and cognitive rehabilitation therapy. Individuals self-directing services can also receive assistance with self-directing through the service support consultation.

Individuals in the HCS waiver can also receive acute care prescription drugs. If living in their own home or a family home setting, the individual can receive attendant care through Community First Choice.

3. Enrollment Plan for the 2018-2019 Biennium

General Enrollment Processes

HHSC offers an HCS waiver program slot to an individual interested in services when funding is available or a slot becomes vacant through natural attrition. When a slot becomes available, HHSC notifies the local intellectual and developmental disability authority (LIDDA).¹ The LIDDA is responsible for notifying and presenting the available HCS waiver program slot to an individual. An individual has up to 30 days to respond to the HCS waiver program slot offer after notification. After responding to the LIDDA, an individual is offered a selection of providers available in the area.

The LIDDA assesses the individual and gathers information to help determine eligibility. An individual who does not have Medicaid at the time the HCS waiver slot is offered must apply for Medicaid with HHSC. If the individual has a confirmed disability determination, Medicaid usually can be established within 45 days after receiving the application for Medicaid. If the individual does not have a confirmed determination of disability, HHSC must first establish a disability, and then Medicaid can be established. This process may take up to 90 days.

Once HHSC verifies the individual meets all HCS eligibility criteria, the individual is enrolled in the waiver program, effective on the service plan start date agreed to by the individual and the provider. Because of the steps involved, it may take several months for an individual to start receiving services in the HCS waiver program after HHSC releases a slot.

¹ LIDDAs manage the interest list and handle enrollment for the HCS program.

Enrollment Plan

Table 1 below represents the plan for enrollment of the appropriated HCS waiver program slots for the 2018-2019 biennium. Since the Legislature assumes an equal roll-out of slots for fiscal years 2018 and 2019, slots will be released for the first nine months of each fiscal year to allow LIDDAs time to complete the enrollments before the end of each fiscal year.

Table 1. Home and Community-based Services Slot Enrollment Plan, 2018-2019

Type of Slot	Purpose	FY 2018	FY 2019	Total Enrollment for Biennium
Promoting Independence Initiative	For persons moving out of large and medium ICF/IIDs	163	162	325
Promoting Independence Initiative	For children aging out of foster care	55	55	110
Compliance with Federal PASRR Requirements	For persons with IDD moving from nursing facilities	75	75	150
Compliance with Federal PASRR Requirements	For persons with IDD diverted from nursing facility admission	75	75	150
Totals		368	367	735

HHSC expects some individuals will not complete HCS enrollment activities by the end of the 2016-2017 biennium. These individuals are considered to be carryover and will be taken out of 2018-2019 biennium slot appropriations before the monthly slot releases begin. LIDDAs are directed to make all reasonable efforts to complete all enrollment activities by the end of fiscal year 2017 to minimize the number of carryovers into the 2018-2019 biennium.

In addition, HHSC will use attrition slots as they become available to support the PI initiative, compliance with federal PASRR requirements, and individuals in crisis at risk of imminent institution.

HHSC will monitor the progress of HCS waiver program enrollments on a monthly basis to:

- review the number of individuals enrolled;
- identify the number of individuals whose eligibility is in the process of being determined;
- discuss the waiver slot take-up-rate; and
- review the number of remaining slots available.

Progress Reports

In accordance with the rider, HHSC will submit three progress reports during the 2018-2019 biennium. Each progress report will identify:

- the number of individuals enrolled in each type of slot and for each purpose identified in the rider;
- the planned enrollment for the remainder of the biennium;
- any issues with enrollment identified by the agency; and
- how the agency plans to address those issues to achieve targets by the end of fiscal year 2019.

Progress reports will be submitted on March 1, 2018, September 1, 2018, and March 1, 2019, to the LBB, Governor, Senate Finance Committee, and House Appropriations Committee.

4. Conclusion

Rider 213 directs HHSC to enroll 735 individuals in the HCS waiver program during the 2018-2019 biennium for the PI initiative and for compliance with federal PASRR requirements. Appropriations assume equal rollout of HCS waiver slots throughout the 2018-2019 biennium. HHSC will monitor the progress of HCS waiver program enrollments on a monthly basis to address barriers and ensure enrollments are completed as intended.

In addition to this plan, the rider requires HHSC to submit progress reports on March 1, 2018, September 1, 2018, and March 1, 2019, to the LBB, Governor, Senate Finance Committee, and House Appropriations Committee.

List of Acronyms

Acronym	Full Name
FY	Fiscal Year
HCS	Home and Community-based Services
HHSC	Health and Human Services Commission
ICF/IID	Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities or Related Conditions
IDD	Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
LBB	Legislative Budget Board
LIDDA	Local Intellectual and Developmental Disability Authorities
PASRR	Pre-Admission Screening and Resident Review
PI	Promoting Independence