

## Table of Contents

State/Territory Name: Texas

State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: 18-0020

This file contains the following documents in the order listed:

- 1) Approval Letter
- 2) CMS 179 Form
- 3) Approved Page

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
Dallas Regional Office  
1301 Young Street, Suite 833  
Dallas, Texas 75202



**DIVISION OF MEDICAID & CHILDREN'S HEALTH - REGIONVI**

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January 23, 2019

**Our Reference: SPA TX 18-0020**

Ms. Stephanie Muth  
State Medicaid Director  
Texas Health and Human Services Commission  
Mail Code: H100  
Post Office Box 13247  
Austin, TX 78711

Dear Ms. Muth:

We have reviewed the State's proposed amendment to the Texas State Plan submitted under Transmittal Number 18-0020, dated December 21, 2018. This state plan amendment proposes to update the physicians and other practitioners' fee schedules.

Based on the information submitted, we have approved the amendment for incorporation into the official Texas State Plan with an effective date change of October 1, 2018. A copy of the CMS-179 and approved plan pages are enclosed with this letter.

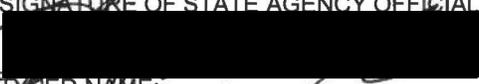
If you have any questions, please contact Ford Blunt of my staff. Mr. Blunt may be reached at (214) 767-6381 or by email at [Ford.Blunt@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Ford.Blunt@cms.hhs.gov).

Sincerely



Bill Brooks  
Associate Regional Administrator

CC: Dana Williamson, Manager, Policy Development Support

<b>TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF STATE PLAN MATERIAL</b> <b>FOR: CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES</b>		1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER: <b>18-0020</b>	2. STATE: <b>TEXAS</b>
		3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT (MEDICAID)	
TO: REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES		4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE: <b>October 1, 2018</b>	
5. TYPE OF PLAN MATERIAL ( <i>Circle One</i> ): <input type="checkbox"/> NEW STATE PLAN <input type="checkbox"/> AMENDMENT TO BE CONSIDERED AS NEW PLAN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AMENDMENT			
COMPLETE BLOCKS 6 THRU 10 IF THIS IS AN AMENDMENT ( <i>Separate Transmittal for each amendment</i> )			
6. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION: <b>Social Security Act §1902(a)(30); 42 CFR §447.201(b).</b>		7. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT: a. FFY 2019      \$1,197,930 b. FFY 2020      \$1,262,543 c. FFY 2021      \$1,276,302	
8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT: <b>SEE ATTACHMENT TO BLOCKS 8 &amp; 9</b>		9. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT ( <i>If Applicable</i> ): <b>SEE ATTACHMENT TO BLOCKS 8 &amp; 9</b>	
10. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT: <b>The proposed amendment updates the physicians and other practitioners' fee schedules.</b>			
11. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW ( <i>Check One</i> ): <input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER, AS SPECIFIED: Sent to Governor's Office this date. Comments, if any, will be forwarded upon receipt. <input type="checkbox"/> COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED <input type="checkbox"/> NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL			
12. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL: 		16. RETURN TO: <b>Stephanie Muth</b> <b>State Medicaid Director</b> <b>Post Office Box 13247, MC: H-100</b> <b>Austin, Texas 78711</b>	
13. TYPED NAME: <b>Stephanie Muth</b>			
14. TITLE: <b>State Medicaid Director</b>			
15. DATE SUBMITTED: <b>December 21, 2018</b>			
FOR REGIONAL OFFICE USE ONLY			
17. DATE RECEIVED: <b>December 21, 2018</b>		18. DATE APPROVED: <b>January 23, 2019</b>	
PLAN APPROVED – ONE COPY ATTACHED			
19. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL: <b>October 1, 2018</b>		20. SIGNATURE OF REGIONAL OFFICIAL: 	
21. TYPED NAME: <b>Bill Brooks</b>		22. TITLE: <b>Associate Regional Administrator</b> <b>Division of Medicaid and Children's Health</b>	
23. REMARKS:			

**Attachment to Blocks 8 & 9 of CMS Form 179**

**Transmittal Number 18-0020**

**Number of the  
Plan Section or Attachment**

Attachment 4.19-B  
Page 1a.3

**Number of the Superseded  
Plan Section or Attachment**

Attachment 4.19-B  
Page 1a.3 (TN 18-0011)

State: Texas  
Date Received: 12-21-18  
Date Approved: 01-23-19  
Date Effective: 10-01-18  
Transmittal Number: 18-0020

**1. Physicians and Other Practitioners (continued)**

- (f) When a procedure code is nationally discontinued, a replacement procedure code is nationally assigned for the discontinued procedure code, and Medicaid implements the replacement procedure code, a state plan amendment will not be submitted since the fee for the service has not changed.
- (g) To ensure access to care and prompt provider reimbursement, when a new national procedure code is assigned to a physician-administered drug or biological product, a preliminary reimbursement rate will be established by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) based on the published Medicare reimbursement rate; or the average wholesale price (AWP) in the absence of a Medicare reimbursement rate for the procedure code or the comparable code. In accordance with 42 CFR §447.205(b)(1), a public notice and state plan amendment will not be submitted for this preliminary reimbursement rate. This will allow the new procedure code to be payable as the reimbursement process is completed with a public notice published and a state plan amendment submitted.
- (h) All fee schedules are available through the agency's website, as outlined on Attachment 4.19-B, page 1.
- (i) The agency's fee schedule was revised with new fees for services provided by physicians and other practitioners affiliated with tuberculosis clinics or employed by tuberculosis clinics, effective July 1, 2018, and this fee schedule was posted on the agency's website on July 6, 2018.
- (j) The agency's fee schedule was revised with new fees for therapy assistants. Effective December 1, 2017, the reimbursement for therapy assistants will equal 85 percent of the payment to a therapist. Effective September 1, 2018, the reimbursement for therapy assistants will equal 70 percent of the payment to a therapist.
- (k) The agency's fee schedule was revised with new fees to include peer specialists effective January 1, 2019, and this fee schedule was posted on the agency's website on January 7, 2019.
- (l) The agency's fee schedule was revised with new fees for physicians and other practitioners effective October 1, 2018, and this fee schedule was posted on the agency's website on October 14, 2018.

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TN: 18-0020 Approval Date: 01-23-19  
Supersedes TN: 18-0011 Effective Date: 10-01-18

State: Texas  
Date Received: 12-21-18  
Date Approved: 01-23-19  
Date Effective: 10-01-18  
Transmittal Number: 18-0020