DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-25-26
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850

CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES
CENTER FOR MEDICAID & CHIP SERVICES

State Demonstrations Group

October 13, 2020

Stephanie Stephens
State Medicaid Director
Texas Health and Human Services Commission
4900 Lamar Boulevard
MC: H100
P.O. Box 13247
Austin, Texas 78751

Dear Ms. Stephens:

Thank you for your letter, received October 2, 2020, accepting the two amendments to Texas' section 1115(a) demonstration, titled Texas Healthcare Transformation and Quality Improvement Program (THTQIP) (Project number 11-W002786), that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) approved on September 8, 2020. We accept the state's proposed technical correction as outlined in your letter and is reissuing the Special Terms and Conditions (STCs) to include that technical correction as well as to merge the terms and conditions of both amendments approved on September 8 into a single set of STCs.

If you have any questions, please contact your CMS project officer, Mr. Eli Greenfield, at Eli.Greenfield@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

Angela D. Garner
Director
Division of System Reform Demonstration

cc: Ford Blunt, State Lead, Medicaid and CHIP Operations Group

CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

WAIVER LIST

NUMBER: **No. 11-W-00278/6**

TITLE: **Texas Healthcare Transformation and Quality Improvement Program**

AWARDEE: **Texas Health and Human Services Commission**

Title XIX Waivers

All requirements of the Medicaid program expressed in law, regulation, and policy statement, not expressly waived in this list, shall apply to the Demonstration project beginning January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2022. In addition, these waivers may only be implemented consistent with the approved Special Terms and Conditions (STCs).

Under the authority of section 1115(a)(1) of the Social Security Act (the Act), the following waivers of State plan requirements contained in section 1902 of the Act are granted in order to enable Texas to carry out the Texas Healthcare Transformation and Quality Improvement Program section 1115 Demonstration.

1. Statewideness **Section 1902(a)(1)**

To enable the State to conduct a phased transition of Medicaid beneficiaries from fee-for-service to a managed care delivery system based on geographic service areas.

To the extent necessary, to enable the State to operate the STAR+PLUS program on a less than statewide basis.

2. Amount, Duration, and Scope of Services **Section 1902(a)(10)(B)**

To the extent necessary to enable the State to vary the amount, duration, and scope of services offered to individuals, regardless of eligibility category, by providing additional, or cost-effective alternative benefit packages to enrollees in certain managed care arrangements. To the extent necessary to enable the state to provide a greater duration of hospital services for individuals with severe and persistent mental illness.

3. Freedom of Choice **Section 1902(a)(23)(A)**

To the extent necessary, to enable the State to restrict freedom of choice of provider through the use of mandatory enrollment in managed care plans for the receipt of covered services. No waiver of freedom of choice is authorized for family planning providers.

4. Self-Direction of Care for HCBS Members Section 1902(a)(32)

To permit section 1915(c)-like Home and Community Based Services (hereinafter HCBS) members to self-direct expenditures for HCBS long-term care and supports as specified in paragraph 43(h) of the STCs.

CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES
EXPENDITURE AUTHORITIES

NUMBER: **No. 11-W-00278/6**

TITLE: **Texas Healthcare Transformation and Quality Improvement Program**

AWARDEE: **Texas Health and Human Services Commission**

Under the authority of section 1115(a)(2) of the Social Security Act (the Act), expenditures made by the State for the items identified below, which are not otherwise included as expenditures under section 1903 of the Act, shall, for the period of this demonstration extension, January 1, 2018, through September 30, 2022, be regarded as expenditures under the State's Medicaid title XIX State plan.

The expenditure authorities listed below promote the objectives of title XIX in the following ways:

- Expenditure authorities 1, 2, 3 4, 6, and 7 promote the objectives of title XIX by increasing efficiency and quality of care through initiatives to transform service delivery networks.
- Expenditure authorities 1, 2, 3, and 4 promote the objectives of title
- XIX by increasing overall coverage of low-income individuals in the state.
- Expenditure authorities 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7 promote the objectives of title XIX by improving health outcomes for Medicaid and other low-income populations in the state.
- Expenditure authorities 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 promote the objectives of title XIX by increasing access to, stabilizing, and strengthening providers and provider networks available to serve Medicaid and low-income populations in the state

EXPENDITURES RELATED TO POPULATIONS COVERED UNDER THE DEMONSTRATION

1. Expenditures for the STAR+PLUS 217-Like HCBS Group

Expenditures for the provision of state plan benefits and HCBS like services to individuals age 65 and older, or age 21 and older with disabilities, not eligible for these benefits under the state plan, who would otherwise be Medicaid-eligible under section 1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(VI) of the Act and 42 CFR § 435.217 in conjunction with section 1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(V) of the Act, if the services they receive under STAR+PLUS were provided under a HCBS waiver granted to the State under section 1915(c) of the Act. This expenditure authority is subject to an enrollment cap. All Medicaid laws, regulations and policies apply to this expenditure authority except as expressly waived or listed as not applicable.

2. Expenditures Related to Managed Care Organization (MCO) Enrollment and Disenrollment

Expenditures made under contracts that do not meet the requirements in section 1903(m) of the Act specified below. Texas managed care plans will be required to meet all requirements of section 1903(m) of the Act except the following:

- Section 1903(m)(2)(H) of the Act, Federal regulations at 42 CFR 438.1, to the extent that the rules in section 1932(a)(4) are inconsistent with the enrollment and disenrollment rules contained in STC 23(c) of the Demonstration's Special Terms and Conditions (STCs), which permit the State to authorize automatic re-enrollment in the same managed care organization (MCO) if the beneficiary loses eligibility for less than six (6) months.

3. Expenditures for Inpatient Hospital Services and Prescription Drugs for STAR, STAR Kids, and STAR+PLUS Enrollees that Exceed State Plan Limits

Expenditures for all enrollees for inpatient hospital services that would not otherwise be covered under the State plan (as outlined in the STCs), and expenditures for prescription drugs for adults ages 21 and older enrolled in STAR or STAR+PLUS.

4. HCBS for SSI-Related State Plan Eligibles

Expenditures for the provision of HCBS waiver-like services as specified in Table 5 and Attachment C of the STCs that are not described in section 1905(a) of the Act, and not otherwise available under the approved State plan, but that could be provided under the authority of section 1915(c) waivers, that are furnished to STAR+PLUS enrollees who are ages 65 and older and ages 21 and older with disabilities, qualifying income and resources, and a nursing facility institutional level of care. All Medicaid laws, regulations and policies apply to the Demonstration Expenditure authority except as expressly waived or listed as not applicable.

EXPENDITURES RELATED TO THE UNCOMPENSATED CARE POOL

Subject to an overall cap on the Uncompensated Care (UC) Pool, the following expenditure authorities are granted for the period of the Demonstration:

5. Through September 30, 2019, expenditures for care and services that meet the definition of "medical assistance" contained in section 1905(a) of the Act that are incurred by hospitals and other providers for uncompensated costs of medical services provided to Medicaid eligible or uninsured individuals, and to the extent that those costs exceed the amounts paid to the hospitals pursuant to section 1923 of the Act. Effective October 1, 2019, expenditures for care and services that meet the definition of "medical assistance" contained in section 1905(a) of the Act that are incurred by hospitals and other providers for uncompensated costs of medical services provided to uninsured individuals as charity care, and to the extent that those costs exceed the amounts paid to the hospitals pursuant to section 1923 of the Act.

EXPENDITURES RELATED TO THE DELIVERY SYSTEM REFORM INCENTIVE PAYMENT (DSRIP) PROGRAM

The following expenditure authorities are granted for the 7th and 8th years of the Demonstration (FFY 2018 and FFY 2019):

6. Expenditures for incentive payments from DSRIP pool funds for the Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) Program.

Subject to CMS' timely receipt and approval of all deliverables specified in STC 37 (Transition Plan for DSRIP Pool) relating to the creation and implementation of the sustainability plan and associated milestones for DSRIP transition, the following expenditure authorities are granted for the 9th and 10th years of the Demonstration (FFY 2020 and FFY 2021):

7. Expenditures for incentive payments from DSRIP pool funds for the Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment Program.

EXPENDITURES RELATED TO COVID-19 RESPONSE

8. Additional inpatient hospital care during COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.

The following are temporary expenditure authorities that will expire 60 days after the conclusion of the Secretary's Public Health Emergency, and are effective March 1, 2020:

Expenditure authority for inpatient hospital stays related to COVID-19 (i.e. a stay for which the COVID-19 diagnosis is listed anywhere on the claim but is not necessarily the primary diagnosis, excluding presumptive positive cases), in order to extend the 30-day spell of illness limitation in STAR+PLUS for an additional 30 days, allowing an individual to stay up to 60 days in a hospital.

Expenditure authority for inpatient hospital stays related to COVID-19 to extend the 30-day spell of illness limitation described in the state plan for an additional 30 days to allow a Medicaid beneficiary to stay up to 60 days in a hospital.

Expenditure authority to allow Medicaid beneficiaries to exceed the $200,000 inpatient hospital benefit limitation for COVID-19 related stays.

CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES
SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS (STCs)

NUMBER: **11-W-00278/6**

TITLE: **Texas Healthcare Transformation and Quality Improvement Program**

AWARDEE: **Texas Health and Human Services Commission**

DEMONSTRATION EXTENSION PERIOD: **December 13, 2017 through September 30, 2022**

CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES
SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

NUMBER: **Title XIX No. 11-W-00278/6**

TITLE: **Texas Healthcare Transformation and Quality Improvement Program**

AWARDEE: **Texas Health and Human Services Commission**

I. PREFACE

The following are the Special Terms and Conditions (STCs) for the Texas Healthcare Transformation and Quality Improvement Program section 1115(a) Medicaid demonstration (hereinafter "demonstration"). The parties to this agreement are the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC/state) and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). The STCs set forth, in detail, the nature, character, and extent of Federal involvement in the Demonstrations, and the state's obligations to CMS during the life of the demonstration. This Demonstration is effective the date of the approval letter through September 30, 2022, unless otherwise specified.

The STCs have been arranged into the following subject areas:

The following attachments have been included to provide supplemental information and guidance for specific STCs. The following attachments are incorporated as part of this agreement.

Attachment A: Schedule of Deliverables
Attachment B: Semi-annual and Annual Report Template
Attachment C: HCBS Service Definitions
Attachment D: Reserved
Attachment E: Reserved
Attachment F: HCBS Fair Hearing Procedures
Attachment G: HCBS Participant Safeguards
Attachment H: UC Claiming Protocol and Application
Attachment I: Regional Healthcare Partnership (RHP) Planning Protocol
Attachment J: Program and Funding Mechanics Protocol
Attachment K: Administrative Cost Claiming Protocol
Attachment L: Consumer Support System Plan
Attachment M: Historical Demonstration Information
Attachment N: Reserved
Attachment O: Preparing the Evaluation Plan
Attachment P: Preparing the Evaluation Report
Attachment Q: DSRIP Sustainability Plan
Attachment R: Measure Bundle Protocol
Attachment S: Evaluation Design

II. OBJECTIVES

Through this demonstration, the state aims to:

- Expand risk-based managed care to new populations and services;
- Support the development and maintenance of a coordinated care delivery system;
- Improve outcomes while containing cost growth; and
- Transition to quality-based payment systems across managed care and providers.

III. GENERAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

1. **Compliance with Federal Non-Discrimination Statutes.** The state must comply with all applicable Federal statutes relating to non-discrimination. These include, but are not limited to, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975.

2. **Compliance with Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Law, Regulation, and Policy.** All requirements of the Medicaid program and CHIP expressed in law, regulation, and policy statement, not expressly waived or identified as not applicable in the waiver and expenditure authority documents (of which these terms and conditions are part), must apply to the demonstration.

3. **Changes in Medicaid and CHIP Law, Regulation, and Policy.** The state must, within the timeframes specified in law, regulation, or policy statement, come into compliance with any changes in federal law, regulation, or policy affecting the Medicaid program that occur during this demonstration approval period, unless the provision being changed is expressly waived or identified as not applicable. In addition, CMS reserves the right to amend the STCs as needed to reflect such changes and/or changes of an operational nature without requiring the state to submit an amendment to the demonstration under STCs 6 and 7. CMS will notify the state at least 30 days prior to the expected approval date of the amended STCs to allow the state to provide comment. Changes will be considered in force upon issuance of the approval letter by CMS. The state must accept the changes in writing

4. **Impact on Demonstration of Changes in Federal Law, Regulation, and Policy Statements.**

    a. To the extent that a change in Federal law, regulation, or policy requires either a reduction or an increase in Federal financial participation (FFP) for expenditures made under this Demonstration, the State must adopt, subject to CMS approval, modified budget neutrality and allotment neutrality agreements for the Demonstration as necessary to comply with such change. The modified agreements will be effective upon the implementation of the change. The trend rates for the budget neutrality agreement are not subject to change under the subparagraph.

    b. If mandated changes in the Federal law require state legislation, the changes must take effect on the day such state legislation becomes effective, or on the last day such legislation was required to be in effect under the law.

5. **State Plan Amendments.** The state will not be required to submit a title XIX state plan amendment for changes affecting any populations made eligible solely through the demonstration. If a population eligible through the Medicaid state plan is affected by a change to the demonstration, a conforming amendment to the state plan may be required, except as otherwise noted in these STCs.

6. **Changes Subject to the Amendment Process.** Changes related to eligibility, enrollment, benefits, cost sharing, sources of non-Federal share of funding, budget neutrality, spending limits for funding pools, methodologies for determining amounts paid from pools (to the extent specified in the STCs), deadlines for deliverables, and other comparable program elements must be submitted to CMS as amendments to the demonstration. All amendment requests are subject to approval at the discretion of the Secretary, in accordance with section 1115 of the Act. The state must not implement changes to these elements without prior approval by CMS. Amendments to the demonstration are not retroactive, and FFP will not be available for changes to the demonstration that have not been approved through the amendment process set forth in STC 7 below (*Amendment Process*).

7. **Amendment Process.** Requests to amend the demonstration must be submitted to CMS for approval no later than 120 days prior to the planned date of implementation of the change and may not be implemented until approved. CMS reserves the right to deny or delay

approval of a demonstration amendment based on non-compliance with the STCs, including but not limited to failure by the state to submit required elements of a viable amendment request as found in these STCs, reports or other deliverables required in the approved STCs in a timely fashion according to the deadlines specified herein. Amendment requests must, at a minimum, include the following information:

a. Public Notice: The state must provide documentation of the state's compliance with the public notice process and tribal consultation requirements outlined in STC 14 for demonstration amendments. Such documentation shall include a summary of any public feedback received and identification of how this feedback was addressed by the state in the final amendment request submitted to CMS.

c. Demonstration Amendment Summary and Objectives: The state must provide a detailed description of the amendment, including what the state intends to demonstrate via the amendment as well as impact on beneficiaries with sufficient supporting documentation, the objective of the change and desired outcomes including a conforming Title XIX and/or Title XXI state plan amendment, if necessary.

d. Waiver and Expenditure Authorities: The state must provide a list, along with a programmatic description, of the waivers and expenditure authorities that are being requested for the amendment.

e. The state must provide a data analysis worksheet which identifies the specific "with waiver" impact of the proposed amendment on the current BN agreement. Such analysis shall include current total computable (TC) "With Waiver" and "Without Waiver" status on both a summary and detailed level through the current approval period using the most recent actual expenditures, as well as summary and detailed projections of the change in the "with waiver" expenditure total as a result of the proposed amendment, which isolates (by Eligibility Group) the impact of the amendment.

f. The state must provide an up-to-date CHIP allotment neutrality worksheet, if necessary.

g. The state must provide updates to existing demonstration reporting and evaluation plans: A description of how the evaluation design, and reports will be modified to incorporate the amendment provisions, as well as the oversight, monitoring and measurement of the provisions.

8. **Extension of the Demonstration.** States that intend to request demonstration extensions under sections 1115(e) or 1115(f) of the Act must submit extension applications in accordance with the timelines contained in statute. Otherwise, no later than 12 months prior to the expiration date of the demonstration, the Governor of Texas must submit to CMS either a demonstration extension request that meets federal requirements at 42 CFR section 431.412(c) or a transition and phase-out plan consistent with the requirements of STC 9.

9. **Demonstration Transition and Phase-Out.** The state may only suspend or terminate this demonstration in whole, or in part, consistent with the following requirements;

a. Notification of Suspension or Termination: The state must promptly notify CMS in writing of the reason(s) for the suspension or termination, together with the effective date and a transition and phase-out plan. The state must submit its notification letter and a draft phase-out plan to CMS no less than 6 months before the effective date of the demonstration's suspension or termination. Prior to submitting the draft transition and phase-out plan to CMS, the state must publish on its website the draft transition and phase-out plan for a 30-day public comment period. In addition, the state must conduct tribal consultation in accordance with its approved tribal consultation state plan amendment. Once the 30-day public comment period has ended, the state must provide a summary of each public comment received, the state's response to the comment and how the state incorporated the received comment into a revised phase-out plan.

b. The state must obtain CMS approval of the phase-out plan prior to the implementation of the phase-out activities. Implementation of phase-out activities must be no sooner than 14 days after CMS approval of the phase-out plan.

c. Transition and Phase-out Plan Requirements: The state must include, at a minimum, in its phase-out plan, the process by which it will notify affected beneficiaries(including those on any applicable interest lists), the content of said notices (including information on the beneficiary's appeal rights), the process by which the state will conduct administrative reviews of Medicaid eligibility for the affected beneficiaries, and ensure ongoing coverage for those beneficiaries currently enrolled who are eligible.

d. Phase-out Procedures: The state must comply with all notice requirements found in 42 CFR §431.206, 431.210 and 431.213. In addition, the state must assure all appeal and hearing rights afforded to demonstration participants as outlined in 42 CFR §431.220 and 431.221. If a demonstration participant requests a hearing before the date of action, the state must maintain benefits as required in 42 CFR §431.230. In addition, the state must conduct administrative renewals for all affected beneficiaries in order to determine if they qualify for Medicaid eligibility under a different eligibility category as discussed in October 1, 2010, State Health Official Letter #10-008.

e. Exemption from Public Notice Procedures 42 CFR 431.416(g): CMS may expedite or waive the federal and state public notice requirements under circumstances described in 42 CFR §431.416(g).

f. Federal Financial Participation (FFP): If the project is terminated or any relevant waivers suspended by the state, FFP shall be limited to normal closeout costs associated with terminating the demonstration including services and administrative costs of disenrolling enrollees.

10. Expiring Demonstration Authority. For demonstration authority that expires prior to the demonstration's expiration date, the state must submit a demonstration expiration plan to CMS no later than 6 months prior to the applicable demonstration authority's expiration date, consistent with the following requirements:

a) Expiration Requirements: The state must include, at a minimum, in its demonstration expiration plan the process by which it will notify affected beneficiaries, the content of said notices (including information on the beneficiary's appeal rights), the process by

which the state will conduct administrative reviews of Medicaid eligibility for the affected beneficiaries, and ensure ongoing coverage for eligible individuals, as well as any community outreach activities.

b) Expiration Procedures: The state must comply with all notice requirements found in 42 CFR § 431.206, 431.210 and 431.213. In addition, the state must assure all appeal and hearing rights afforded to demonstration participants as outlined in 42 CFR § 431.220 and 431.221. If a demonstration participant requests a hearing before the date of action, the state must maintain benefits as required in 42 CFR §431.230. In addition, the state must conduct administrative renewals for all affected beneficiaries in order to determine if they qualify for Medicaid eligibility under a different eligibility category as discussed in October 1, 2010, State Health Official Letter #10-008.

c) Federal Public Notice: CMS will conduct a 30-day federal public comment period consistent with the process outlined in 42 CFR § 431.416 in order to solicit public input on the state's demonstration expiration plan. CMS will consider comments received during the 30-day period during its review and approval of the state's demonstration expiration plan. The state must obtain CMS approval of the demonstration expiration plan prior to the implementation of the expiration activities. Implementation of expiration activities must be no sooner than 14 days after CMS approval of the plan.

d) Federal Financial Participation: FFP shall be limited to normal closeout costs associated with the expiration of the demonstration including services and administrative costs of disenrolling enrollees.

11. CMS Right to Terminate or Suspend.

a. CMS may suspend or terminate the demonstration (in whole or in part) at any time before the date of expiration, whenever it determines, following a hearing, that the state has materially failed to comply with the terms of the project. CMS will promptly notify the state in writing of the determination and the reasons for the suspension or termination, together with the effective date.

b. **Finding of Non-Compliance.** The state does not relinquish its rights to challenge the CMS finding that the state materially failed to comply.

12. Withdrawal of Waiver Authority. CMS reserves the right to withdraw waivers of expenditure authorities at any time it determines that continuing the waivers or expenditure authorities would no longer be in the public interest or promote the objectives of title XIX and/or XXI. CMS will promptly notify the State in writing of the determination and the reasons for the withdrawal, together with the effective date, and afford the State an opportunity to request a hearing to challenge CMS' determination prior to the effective date. If a waiver or expenditure authority is withdrawn, FFP is limited to normal closeout costs associated with terminating the waiver or expenditure authority, including services and administrative costs or disenrolling participants.

13. **Adequacy of Infrastructure.** The State will ensure the availability of adequate resources for the implementation and monitoring of the Demonstration, including education, outreach, and enrollment; maintaining eligibility systems; compliance with cost sharing requirements; and reporting on financial and other Demonstration components.

14. **Public Notice, Tribal Consultation, and Consultation with Interested Parties.** The state must comply with the state notice procedures as required in 42 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) section 431.408 prior to submitting an application to extend the demonstration. For applications to amend the demonstration, the state must comply with the state notice procedures set forth in 59 Fed. Reg. 49249 (September 27, 1994) prior to submitting such request. The state must also comply with the public notice procedures set forth in 42 CFR section 447.205 for changes in statewide methods and standards for setting payment rates.

    The state must also comply with tribal and Indian Health Program/Urban Indian Health Organization consultation requirements at section 1902(a)(73) of the Act, 42 CFR section 431.408(b), State Medicaid Director Letter #01-024, and contained in the state's approved Medicaid State plan, when any program changes to the demonstration, either through amendment as set out in STC 6 or extension, are proposed by the state

15. **Federal Financial Participation (FFP).** No federal matching funds for expenditures authorized for this demonstration will be available prior to the effective date identified in the demonstration approval letter.

16. **Common Rule Exemption.** The state shall ensure that the only involvement of human subjects in research activities which may be authorized and/or required by this demonstration is for projects which are conducted by or subject to the approval of CMS, and which are designed to study, evaluate, or otherwise examine the Medicaid program – including public benefit or service programs; procedures for obtaining Medicaid benefits or services; possible changes in or alternatives to those programs or procedures; or possible changes in methods or level of payment for benefits or services under those programs. CMS has determined that this demonstration as represented in these approved STCs meets the requirements for exemption from the human subject research provisions of the Common Rule set forth in 45 CFR 46.101(b)(5).

IV. DEMONSTRATION DELIVERY SYSTEMS

This section governs the state's exercise of the following: waivers of the requirements for Statewideness (section 1902(a)(1)), Amount, Duration, and Scope of Services (section 1902(a)(10)(B)), Freedom of Choice (section 1902(a)(23)(A)), and Self-Direction of Care for HCBS Participants (section 1902(a)(32)), and Expenditure Authorities 1 through 4, as well as waivers of the requirements of the federal regulations implementing these statutory provisions.

A. MANAGED CARE DELIVERY SYSTEMS

17. **Description of Managed Care Program.** Under terms of this demonstration, the state provides managed medical assistance through the following programs.

a. **STAR.** STAR is the primary managed care program providing acute care services to low-income families, children, and pregnant women.

b. **STAR+PLUS.** STAR+PLUS provides acute and long-term service and supports to older adults and adults with disabilities.

c. **STAR Kids.** The STAR Kids Program provides acute and long-term service and supports to children with disabilities.

i. **Delivery of Medically Dependent Children Program (MDCP) Services.** The State will deliver services authorized under the MDCP section 1915(c) waiver through the STAR Kids managed care model for those individuals not in state conservatorship. Those children in state conservatorship who are eligible for the MDCP section 1915(c) waiver will receive those services through the STAR Health managed care program under the 1915(a) authority, rather than under the 1115 authority, and through contract with the STAR Health managed care organization.

18. The state contracts with managed care organizations on a geographical basis, and for this purpose, the state is divided in to service areas. Table 1 provides the definitions of the service areas.

Table 1. Service Areas and Delivery Systems

Service Area	STAR, STAR+PLUS, and STAR Kids
Bexar	Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Comal, Guadalupe, Kendall, Medina, Wilson
Dallas	Collin, Dallas, Ellis, Hunt, Kaufman, Navarro, Rockwall
El Paso	El Paso, Hudspeth
Harris	Austin, Brazoria, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Matagorda, Montgomery, Waller, Wharton
Hidalgo	Cameron, Duval, Hidalgo, Jim Hogg, Maverick, McMullen, Starr, Webb, Willacy, Zapata
Jefferson	Chambers, Hardin, Jasper, Jefferson, Liberty, Newton, Orange, Polk, San Jacinto, Tyler, Walker
Lubbock	Carson, Crosby, Deaf Smith, Floyd, Garza, Hale, Hockley, Hutchinson, Lamb, Lubbock, Lynn, Potter, Randall, Swisher, Terry

Service Area	STAR, STAR+PLUS, and STAR Kids
Nueces	Aransas, Bee, Brooks, Calhoun, Goliad, Jim Wells, Karnes, Kenedy, Kleberg, Live Oak, Nueces, Refugio, San Patricio, Victoria
Tarrant	Denton, Hood, Johnson, Parker, Tarrant, Wise
Travis	Bastrop, Burnet, Caldwell, Fayette, Hays, Lee, Travis, Williamson
Medicaid Rural Service Area: West Texas	Andrews, Archer, Armstrong, Bailey, Baylor, Borden, Brewster, Briscoe, Brown, Callahan, Castro, Childress, Clay, Cochran, Coke, Coleman, Collingsworth, Concho, Cottle, Crane, Crockett, Culberson, Dallam, Dawson, Dickens, Dimmit, Donley, Eastland, Ector, Edwards, Fisher, Foard, Frio, Gaines, Glasscock, Gray, Hall, Hansford, Hardeman, Hartley, Haskell, Hemphill, Howard, Irion, Jack, Jeff Davis, Jones, Kent, Kerr, Kimble, King, Kinney, Knox, La Salle, Lipscomb, Loving, Martin, Mason, McCulloch, Menard, Midland, Mitchell, Moore, Motley, Nolan, Ochiltree, Oldham, Palo Pinto, Parmer, Pecos, Presidio, Reagan, Real, Reeves, Roberts, Runnels, Schleicher, Scurry, Shackelford, Sherman, Stephens, Sterling, Stonewall, Sutton, Taylor, Terrell, Throckmorton, Tom Green, Upton, Uvalde, Val Verde, Ward, Wheeler, Wichita, Wilbarger, Winkler, Yoakum, Young, and Zavala
Medicaid Rural Service Area: Central Texas	Bell, Blanco, Bosque, Brazos, Burleson, Colorado, Comanche, Coryell, DeWitt, Erath, Falls, Freestone, Gillespie, Gonzales, Grimes, Hamilton, Hill, Jackson, Lampasas, Lavaca, Leon, Limestone, Llano, Madison, McLennan, Milam, Mills, Robertson, San Saba, Somervell, Washington
Medicaid Rural Service Area: Northeast Texas	Anderson, Angelina, Bowie, Camp, Cass, Cherokee, Cooke, Delta, Fannin, Franklin, Grayson, Gregg, Harrison, Henderson, Hopkins, Houston, Lamar, Marion, Montague, Morris, Nacogdoches, Panola, Rains, Red River, Rusk, Sabine, San Augustine, Shelby, Smith, Titus, Trinity, Upshur, Van Zandt, Wood

B. ASSURANCES RELATED TO THE ONGOING OPERATION OF MANAGED CARE

19. Managed Care Requirements.

a. General. The state must comply with the managed care regulations published at 42 CFR 438.

b. Medical Care Advisory Committee. The state will maintain a state Medical Care Advisory Committee, per CFR §431.12, which is comprised of Medicaid recipients, Managed Care Organizations, providers, community-based organizations and advocates serving or representing Medicaid recipients and other interested parties as set forth in Tex. Gov't Code sec. 533.041. The advisory committee will provide input and recommendations to the Health and Human Services Commission regarding the statewide implementation of Medicaid Managed Care, including input and recommendations regarding: 1) program design and benefits, 2) systematic concerns from consumers and providers, 3) the efficiency and quality of services delivered by Medicaid managed care organizations, 4) contract requirements for the Medicaid managed care organizations, 5) Medicaid managed care network adequacy, and 6) trends in claims processing. The advisory committee will also assist HHSC with issues relevant to Medicaid managed care to improve the polices established for and programs operating under Medicaid managed care, including early and periodic screening, diagnosis and treatment, provider and patient education issues, and patient eligibility issues. The state will maintain minutes from these meetings and use them in monitoring program operations and identifying necessary program changes. Copies of committee meeting minutes will be made available to CMS upon request and the outcomes of the meetings may be discussed on the demonstration monitoring calls.

c. MCO Participant Advisory Committees. The state shall require each MCO, through its contracts, to create and maintain participant advisory committees through which the MCO can share information and capture enrollee feedback. The MCOs will be required to support and facilitate participant involvement and submit meeting minutes to the State. Copies of meeting minutes will be made available to CMS upon request.

d. Independent Consumer Supports. To support the beneficiary's experience receiving medical assistance and long term services and supports in a managed care environment, the State shall create and maintain a system of consumer supports independent from the managed care plans to assist enrollees in understanding the coverage model and in the resolution of problems regarding services, coverage, access and rights.

e. Core Elements of the Independent Consumer Support System.

i. *Organizational Structure.* The Independent Consumer Supports System shall operate independently from any STAR+PLUS or STAR Kids MCO. The organizational structure of the support system shall facilitate transparent and collaborative operation with beneficiaries, MCOs, and state government.

ii. *Accessibility*. The services of the Independent Consumer Supports System will be available to all Medicaid beneficiaries enrolled in STAR+PLUS or STAR Kids receiving Medicaid long-term services and supports (institutional, residential and community based). The Independent Consumer Supports system will be accessible through multiple entryways (e.g., phone, internet, office) and will have the capacity to reach out to beneficiaries and/or authorized representatives through various means (mail, phone, in person), as appropriate.

iii. *Functions*. The Independent Consumer Supports system will be available to assist beneficiaries in navigating and accessing covered health care services and supports. Where an individual is enrolling in a new delivery system, the services of this system help individuals understand their choices and resolve problems and concerns that may arise between the individual and a provider/payer. The following list encompasses the system's scope of activity.

    A. The system will offer beneficiaries support in the pre-enrollment stage, such as unbiased health plan choice counseling and general program-related information.

    B. The system will serve as an access point for complaints and concerns about health plan enrollment, access to services, and other related matters.

    C. The system will be available to help enrollees understand the hearing, grievance, and appeal rights and processes within the health plan as well as the fair hearing, grievance, and appeal rights and processes available at the state level and assist them through the process if needed/requested.

iv. *Staffing and training*. The Independent Consumer Supports system will include individuals who are knowledgeable about the state's Medicaid programs; beneficiary protections and rights under Medicaid managed care arrangements; and the health and service needs of persons with complex needs, including those with a chronic condition, disability, and cognitive or behavioral needs. In addition, the Independent Consumer Supports System will ensure that its services are delivered in a culturally competent manner and are accessible to individuals with limited English proficiency. The system ultimately developed by the state may draw upon existing staff within the chosen organizational structure and provide substantive training to ensure core competencies and a consistent consumer experience.

v. *Data Collection and Reporting*. The Independent Consumer Supports System shall track the volume and nature of beneficiary complaints and the resolution of such complaints on a schedule and manner determined by the state, but no less frequently than quarterly. This information will inform the state of any provider or contractor issues and support the reporting requirements to CMS.

f. Reporting under the Demonstration. The state will report on the activities of the Independent Consumer Support System in the annual reports. The approved Independent Consumer Support System Plan is shown in Attachment L. Changes to Attachment L must be submitted to CMS for review and approval subject to STC 7. The state will monitor the impact of the Independent Consumer Support Program in the demonstration.

C. BENEFICIARIES SERVED THROUGH THE DEMONSTRATION

20. Eligibility Groups Affected by the Demonstration. Mandatory and optional Medicaid state plan groups described below are subject to all applicable Medicaid laws and regulations except as expressly waived under authority granted by this Demonstration and as described in these STCs. Any Medicaid state plan amendments to the eligibility standards and methodologies for these eligibility groups will apply to this demonstration. These state plan eligible beneficiaries are required under the demonstration to enroll in managed care to receive benefits and may have access to additional benefits not described in the state plan.

Table 2 below describes the state plan eligibility groups that are mandatory and voluntary enrollees into managed care. A STAR+PLUS member who enters a nursing facility remains in STAR+PLUS and the nursing facility services are paid through managed care.

Table 2. State Plan Populations Affected by the Demonstration

A=STAR Start of Demo; **B** = STAR+PLUS Start of Demo; **C** = STAR March 2012; **D** = STAR March 2012 (MRSA); **E** = STAR+PLUS March 2012; **F**= STAR January 2014; **G =** STAR+PLUS September 2014; * = Effective through August 31, 2014 (part of STAR+PLUS effective September 1, 2014 – see "G"); **H** = STAR Kids November 1, 2016, includes only individuals from birth through age 20; **I** = STAR+PLUS September 2017; **J**=STAR Kids September 2017; **K**= STAR September 2017.									
Medicaid Eligibility Group	**Description and Medicaid Eligibility Group (MEG)**	**Income Limit and Resource Standards**	**STAR**		**STAR+ (T)**		**STAR Kids (S)**	
			Mandatory	**Voluntary**	**Mandatory**	**Voluntary**	**Mandatory**	**Voluntary**
Low Income Families §1931 low income families	Parents and other caretaker relatives; §1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(I); 42 CFR §435.110 MEG: THTQIP-Adults (parents and caretaker relatives)	14% FPL (uses MAGI converted AFDC limits); No resource test; member meets relationship requirement	A C D					
Earnings Transitional Twelve months TMA from increase in earnings, combined increase in earnings and Alimony/Spousal support	Individuals who lose eligibility under §1931 due to increased earnings or hours of work §1902(a)(52); §1902(e)(1); §1925; §1931(c)(2) MEG: THTQIP-Adults (parents and caretaker relatives) OR THTQIP-Children (dependent children)	185% FPL in second extension period; No resource test	A C D					

A=STAR Start of Demo; **B** = STAR+PLUS Start of Demo; **C** = STAR March 2012; **D** = STAR March 2012 (MRSA); **E** = STAR+PLUS March 2012; **F**= STAR January 2014; **G =** STAR+PLUS September 2014; * = Effective through August 31, 2014 (part of STAR+PLUS effective September 1, 2014 – see "G"); **H** = STAR Kids November 1, 2016, includes only individuals from birth through age 20; **I** = STAR+PLUS September 2017; **J**=STAR Kids September 2017; **K**= STAR September 2017.									
Medicaid Eligibility Group	**Description and Medicaid Eligibility Group (MEG)**	**Income Limit and Resource Standards**	**STAR**		**STAR+ (T)**		**STAR Kids (S)**	
			Mandatory	**Voluntary**	**Mandatory**	**Voluntary**	**Mandatory**	**Voluntary**
Alimony/Spousal Support Transitional Four months post Medicaid resulting from Alimony/Spousal support	Individuals who lose eligibility under §1931 due to Alimony/Spousal support; §1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(I);); 42 CFR §435.115 MEG: THTQIP-Adults (parents and caretaker relatives) OR THTQIP-Children (dependent children)	N/A; No resource test	A C D					
Pregnant Women	§1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(IV), §1902(l)(1)(A); 42 CFR §435.116 MEG: THTQIP-Adults	198% FPL; No resource test	A C D					
Children Under 1	Poverty level infants; §1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(IV), §1902(l)(1)(B);); 42 CFR §435.118 MEG: THTQIP-Children	198% FPL	A C D					
Newborn Children Children to age one born to Medicaid eligible mother	Deemed Newborn – mother was eligible for and received Medicaid for the birth; §1902(e)(4), 42 CFR §435.117 MEG: THTQIP-Children	N/A; No resource test	A C D					
Children Age 1-5	Poverty level children under 6; §1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(VI), §1902(l)(1)(C); 42 CFR §435.118 MEG: THTQIP-Children	144% FPL	A C D					

A=STAR Start of Demo; **B** = STAR+PLUS Start of Demo; **C** = STAR March 2012; **D** = STAR March 2012 (MRSA); **E** = STAR+PLUS March 2012; **F**= STAR January 2014; **G =** STAR+PLUS September 2014; * = Effective through August 31, 2014 (part of STAR+PLUS effective September 1, 2014 – see "G"); **H** = STAR Kids November 1, 2016, includes only individuals from birth through age 20; **I** = STAR+PLUS September 2017; **J**=STAR Kids September 2017; **K**= STAR September 2017.									
Medicaid Eligibility Group	**Description and Medicaid Eligibility Group (MEG)**	**Income Limit and Resource Standards**	**STAR**		**STAR+ (T)**		**STAR Kids (S)**	
			Mandatory	**Voluntary**	**Mandatory**	**Voluntary**	**Mandatory**	**Voluntary**
Children Age 6-18	Poverty level children under 19; §1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(VII), §1902(l)(1)(D); 42 CFR §435.118 Note: All children at or below 100 percent FPL in this eligibility group are funded through title XIX. Title XXI funding for children between 100-133% FPL shall be claimed as outlined in 42 CFR § 433.11 MEG: If title XIX: THTQIP-Children If title XXI: THTQIP-MCHIP Children	133% FPL;[1]	A C D F					
Former Foster Care Children	Former foster care children §1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(IX); 42 CFR §435.150 Mandatory managed care for 18-26. Ages 18 through 20: - Choice between STAR Health or STAR. - If receiving 1915(c) services: choice between STAR Health or STAR Kids. Ages 21 through 26: - STAR -If receiving 1915(c) IDD waiver services (unless the individual is dually eligible): STAR+PLUS MEG: THTQIP-Children THTQIP-Adults (parents and caretaker relatives)	N/A; No resource test	F		I		J	

A=STAR Start of Demo; **B** = STAR+PLUS Start of Demo; **C** = STAR March 2012; **D** = STAR March 2012 (MRSA); **E** = STAR+PLUS March 2012; **F**= STAR January 2014; **G =** STAR+PLUS September 2014; * = Effective through August 31, 2014 (part of STAR+PLUS effective September 1, 2014 – see "G"); **H** = STAR Kids November 1, 2016, includes only individuals from birth through age 20; **I** = STAR+PLUS September 2017; **J**=STAR Kids September 2017; **K**= STAR September 2017.

Medicaid Eligibility Group	Description and Medicaid Eligibility Group (MEG)	Income Limit and Resource Standards	STAR		STAR+ (T)		STAR Kids (S)	
			Mandatory	Voluntary	Mandatory	Voluntary	Mandatory	Voluntary
SSI Recipient 21 and older with Medicare (Dual)	Individuals receiving SSI cash benefits; §1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(ll) §1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(ll)(cc) Covers gap month children within the waiver; however, retroactive payments, including payment for the gap month, are paid via FFS MEG: THTQIP-AMR	74% FPL (SSI Limit); $2,000 individual, $3,000 couple			B E G			
SSI Recipient under 21 with Medicare (Dual)	Individuals receiving SSI cash benefits; §1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(ll) §1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(ll)(cc). Covers gap month children within the waiver; however, retroactive payments, including payment for the gap month, are paid via FFS MEG: THTQIP-AMR	74% FPL (SSI Limit); $2,000 individual, $3,000 couple				B E G	H	
SSI Recipient without Medicare 21 and older	Individuals receiving SSI cash benefits; §1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(II). §1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(II)(cc). Covers gap month children within the waiver; however, retroactive payments, including payment for the gap month, are paid via FFS MEG: THTQIP-Disabled	74% FPL (SSI Limit); $2,000 individual, $3,000 couple	D*	A*	B E G			
SSI Recipient without Medicare under 21	Individuals receiving SSI cash benefits; §1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(II) §1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(II)(cc) Covers gap month children within the waiver; however, retroactive payments, including payment for the gap month, are paid via FFS MEG: THTQIP-Disabled	74% FPL (SSI Limit); $2,000 individual, $3,000 couple		A* D*		B E G	H	
Pickle Group 21 and older, with Medicare Includes pre-Pickle eligibility group	Would be eligible for SSI if title II COLAs deducted from income; 42 CFR §§435.134, 435.135 MEG: THTQIP-AMR	74% FPL (SSI Limit); $2,000 individual, $3,000 couple			B E G			
Pickle Group 21 and older without Medicare	Would be eligible for SSI if title II COLAs were deducted from income; 42 CFR §435.134, 42 CFR §435.135	74% FPL (SSI Limit); $2,000 individual, $3,000 couple	D*	A*	B E G			

A=STAR Start of Demo; **B** = STAR+PLUS Start of Demo; **C** = STAR March 2012; **D** = STAR March 2012 (MRSA); **E** = STAR+PLUS March 2012; **F**= STAR January 2014; **G =** STAR+PLUS September 2014; * = Effective through August 31, 2014 (part of STAR+PLUS effective September 1, 2014 – see "G"); **H** = STAR Kids November 1, 2016, includes only individuals from birth through age 20; **I** = STAR+PLUS September 2017; **J**=STAR Kids September 2017; **K**= STAR September 2017.

Medicaid Eligibility Group	Description and Medicaid Eligibility Group (MEG)	Income Limit and Resource Standards	STAR		STAR+ (T)		STAR Kids (S)	
			Mandatory	Voluntary	Mandatory	Voluntary	Mandatory	Voluntary
Includes pre-Pickle eligibility group	MEG: THTQIP-Disabled							
Pickle Group under 21 with Medicare	Would be eligible for SSI if title II COLAs deducted from income; 42 CFR §435.135 MEG: THTQIP-AMR	74% FPL (SSI Limit); $2,000 individual, $3,000 couple				B E G	H	
Pickle Group under 21 without Medicare	Would be eligible for SSI if title II COLAs deducted from income; 42 CFR §435.135 MEG: THTQIP-Disabled	74% FPL (SSI Limit); $2,000 individual, $3,000 couple		A* D*		B E G	H	
Disabled Adult Children (DAC) 21 or over with Medicare	§1635(c); §1935 MEG: THTQIP-AMR	74% FPL (SSI Limit); $2,000 individual, $3,000 couple			B E G			
Disabled Adult Children (DAC) 21 or over without Medicare	§1635(c); §1935 MEG: THTQIP-Disabled	74% FPL (SSI Limit); $2,000 individual, $3,000 couple	D*	A*	B E G			
DAC under 21 with Medicare	§1635(c); §1935 MEG: THTQIP-AMR	74% FPL (SSI Limit); $2,000 individual, $3,000 couple				B E G	H	
DAC under 21 without Medicare	1635(c); §1935 MEG: THTQIP-Disabled	74% FPL (SSI Limit); $2,000 individual, $3,000 couple		A* D*		B E G	H	
Disabled Widow(er)	Widows/Widowers, 1634(b); §1935 MEG: THTQIP-Disabled	74% FPL (SSI Limit); $2,000 individual, $3,000 couple	D*	A*	B E G			
Early Aged Widow(er)	Early Widows/Widowers, 1634(d); §1935 MEG: THTQIP-Disabled	74% FPL (SSI Limit); $2,000 individual, $3,000 couple	D*	A*	B E G			
Medicaid Buy-In (MBI) with Medicare	BBA Work Incentives Group; §1902(a)(10)(ii)(XIII) MEG: THTQIP-AMR	250% FPL; $2,000			B E G		H	
Medicaid Buy-In (MBI) without Medicare	BBA Work Incentives Group; §1902(a)(10)(ii)(XIII) MEG: THTQIP-Disabled	250% FPL; $2,000	D*	A*		B E G	H	
Medicaid Buy-In for Children (under age 19) with Medicare	Family Opportunity Act (MBIC), §1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XIX) MEG: THTQIP-AMR	300% FPL; No resource standard				B E G	H	

A=STAR Start of Demo; **B** = STAR+PLUS Start of Demo; **C** = STAR March 2012; **D** = STAR March 2012 (MRSA); **E** = STAR+PLUS March 2012; **F**= STAR January 2014; **G =** STAR+PLUS September 2014; * = Effective through August 31, 2014 (part of STAR+PLUS effective September 1, 2014 – see "G"); **H** = STAR Kids November 1, 2016, includes only individuals from birth through age 20; **I** = STAR+PLUS September 2017; **J**=STAR Kids September 2017; **K**= STAR September 2017.									
Medicaid Eligibility Group	**Description and Medicaid Eligibility Group (MEG)**	**Income Limit and Resource Standards**	**STAR**		**STAR+ (T)**		**STAR Kids (S)**	
			Mandatory	**Voluntary**	**Mandatory**	**Voluntary**	**Mandatory**	**Voluntary**
Medicaid Buy-In for Children(under age 19) without Medicare	Family Opportunity Act (MBIC), §1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XIX) MEG: THTQIP-Disabled	300% FPL; No resource standard		A* D*		B E G	H	
Nursing Facility age 21 and older	Special income level group, in a medical institution for at least 30 consecutive days with gross income that does not exceed 300% of the SSI income standard; §1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(V) MEG: THTQIP-AMR (with Medicare) OR THTQIP-Disabled (without Medicare)	300% SSI or Approx. 220% FPL; $2,000 individual/ $3,000 couple			B† E† G			
217 Group without Medicare under 21	Institutional eligibility and post-eligibility rules for individuals who are eligible as specified under 42 CFR 435.217, 435.236, and 435.726 and §1924 of the Act. MEG: THTQIP-Disabled (without Medicare)	300% SSI or Approx. 220% FPL; $2,000 individual/$3,000 couple. Use spousal impoverishment policy for eligibility, and for post-eligibility.		D*		G	H	
217 Group without Medicare 21and older	Institutional eligibility and post-eligibility rules for individuals who are eligible as specified under 42 CFR 435.217, 435.236, and 435.726 and §1924 of the Act. MEG: THTQIP-Disabled (without Medicare)	300% SSI or Approx. 220% FPL; $2,000 individual/$3,000 couple. Use spousal impoverishment policy for eligibility, and for post-eligibility.	D*		G			
Medicaid for Breast and Cervical Cancer (MBCC)	Individuals screened for breast and cervical cancer by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention breast and cervical cancer early detection program and found to need treatment for breast or	N/A; No resource test.			I			

A=STAR Start of Demo; **B** = STAR+PLUS Start of Demo; **C** = STAR March 2012; **D** = STAR March 2012 (MRSA); **E** = STAR+PLUS March 2012; **F**= STAR January 2014; **G =** STAR+PLUS September 2014; * = Effective through August 31, 2014 (part of STAR+PLUS effective September 1, 2014 – see "G"); **H** = STAR Kids November 1, 2016, includes only individuals from birth through age 20; **I** = STAR+PLUS September 2017; **J**=STAR Kids September 2017, choice of STAR Kids September 2020; **K**= STAR September 2017.									
Medicaid Eligibility Group	**Description and Medicaid Eligibility Group (MEG)**	**Income Limit and Resource Standards**	**STAR**		**STAR+ (T)**		**STAR Kids (S)**	
			Mandatory	**Voluntary**	**Mandatory**	**Voluntary**	**Mandatory**	**Voluntary**
	cervical cancer as specified in §1902 (aa) and 42 CFR 435.213. MEG: THTQIP-AMR							
Adoption Assistance and Permanency Care Assistance (AAPCA)	Children and young adults who are the subject of a IV-E adoption assistance agreement, as specified in SSA §1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(I), SSA §473(b)(3), and 42 CFR §435.145. Children and young adults who are the subject of a non-IV-E adoption assistance agreement, as specified in SSA §1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(VII) and 42 CFR §435.227. Children and young adults for whom IV-E guardianship assistance payments are made, as specified in SSA §1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(I), SSA §473(b)(3), and 42 CFR §435.145. Children and young adults in AAPCA who meet any of the following criteria will have a choice between STAR Health and STAR Kids: • receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI), • were receiving SSI before becoming eligible for AAPCA • enrolled in Medicare • enrolled in a 1915(c) Medicaid waiver Children and young adults in AAPCA who meet all of the	N/A; No resource test.	K					J

	following criteria are mandatory for STAR: • not receiving SSI, • not receiving SSI before becoming eligible for AAPCA • not enrolled in Medicare • not enrolled in a 1915(c) waiver Note: AAPCA clients who reside out-of-state will remain FFS. MEG: THTQIP-Children OR THTQIP-Adult							

(S): Note children and young adults who are members of federally-recognized tribes will still be able to opt to remain in traditional fee-for-service Medicaid. **(T):** Note individuals who are members of federally-recognized tribes, and have Medicaid through the Medicaid for Breast and Cervical Cancer Program, Adoption Assistance Program, Permanency Care Assistance Program or Former Foster Care Group will be able to voluntarily enroll in managed care or opt to remain in traditional fee-for-service Medicaid.

21. Demonstration Expansion Population – STAR+PLUS 217-Like Eligibility Group. Table 3 below describes the demonstration expansion populations that are mandatory and voluntary enrollees into managed care. Groups made eligible by virtue of the expenditure authorities expressly granted in this demonstration are subject to Medicaid laws, regulations and policies, except as expressly identified as not applicable under expenditure authority granted in this demonstration.

Table 3. Demonstration Expansion Populations Made Eligible by the Demonstration

A=STAR Start of Demo; **B** = STAR+PLUS Start of Demo; **C** = STAR March 2012; **D** = STAR March 2012 (MRSA); **E** = STAR+PLUS March 2012; **F** = STAR January 2014; **G** = STAR+PLUS September 2014; * = Effective through August 31, 2014 (part of STAR+PLUS effective September 1, 2014 – see "G")

Expansion Eligibility Group	Description and MEG	Income Limit and Resource Standards	STAR		STAR+	
			Mandatory	Voluntary	Mandatory	Voluntary
217-Like Group Categorically needy individuals under the State plan receiving HCBS services (of the kind listed in Table 5) in the STAR+PLUS service areas.	Institutional eligibility and post-eligibility rules for individuals who would only be eligible in the same manner as specified under 42 CFR 435.217, 435.236, 435.726, and §1924 of the Act, if the State had not eliminated its 1915(c) STAR+PLUS and CBA waivers. MEG: THTQIP-AMR (with Medicare) OR THTQIP-Disabled (without Medicare)	300% SSI or Approx. 220% FPL; $2,000 individual/$3,000 couple. Use spousal impoverishment policy for eligibility and for post-eligibility			B	

22. Populations Not Affected by the Demonstration. The following populations receive Medicaid services without regard to the demonstration.

a. Medically Needy;

b. STAR Health enrollees, transitioning foster care youth, independent foster care adolescents, and optional categorically needy children eligible under 42 CFR 435.222;

c. Adults 21 or older who have Medicare Part A or B and who are receiving 1915(c) IDD waiver services (HCS, TxHmL, CLASS and DBMD);

d. Residents of State Supported Living Centers;

e. Undocumented or Ineligible (5-year bar) Aliens only eligible for emergency medical services;

f. Individuals residing in a nursing facility who entered the nursing facility while enrolled in STAR, beginning with the month after the State receives notification that they entered the nursing facility;

g. Individuals enrolled in the Program for All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) program; and

h. Individuals residing in a facility in the pediatric care facility class of nursing facilities (currently, the Truman W. Smith Children Care Center), or any Veterans Land Board (VLB) Texas State Veterans Homes.

D. STAR, STAR+PLUS (non-HCBS), and STAR Kids ENROLLMENT, BENEFITS AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

23. Enrollment.

a. **Time to Choose a Plan.** All beneficiaries who obtain Medicaid eligibility will have at least 15 days to choose a managed care organization.

b. **Auto-Assignment.** If a potential beneficiary does not choose a managed care organization within the time frames defined in (a), he or she may be auto-assigned to a managed care organization. When possible, the auto-assignment algorithm shall take into consideration the beneficiary's history with a primary care provider, and when applicable, the beneficiary's history with a managed care organization. If this is not possible the state will equitably distribute beneficiaries among qualified MCOs.

c. **Re-Enrollment.** The State may automatically re-enroll a beneficiary in the same managed care organization if there is a loss of Medicaid eligibility for six months or less.

24. Disenrollment or Transfer. Individuals should be informed of opportunities no less than annually for disenrollment and ongoing plan choice opportunities, regularly and in a manner consistent with 42 CFR 438 and other requirements set forth in the Demonstration Special Terms and Conditions.

a. **MCO Transfer at Request of Beneficiary.** Beneficiaries may request transfer to another managed care organization in the service area through the enrollment broker at any time.

b. **Disenrollment at Request of Beneficiary.** Recipients that are voluntarily enrolled in a managed care programs may request disenrollment and return to traditional Medicaid. Mandatory recipients must request disenrollment from managed care in writing to HHSC; however, HHSC considers disenrollment from managed care only in rare situations, when sufficient medical documentation establishes that the MCO cannot provide the needed services, or in any of the circumstances described in 42 CFR 438.56(c). An authorized HHSC representative reviews all disenrollment requests, and processes approved requests for disenrollment from an MCO. The Enrollment Broker provides disenrollment education and offers other options as appropriate.

c. **Disenrollment at Request of MCO.** A managed care organization has a limited right to request a beneficiary be disenrolled from the managed care organization without the beneficiary's consent pursuant to 42 CFR 438.56(b).

25. Benefits. The following Table 3a specifies the scope of services that may be made available to STAR, STAR+PLUS, and STAR Kids enrollees through the STAR, STAR+PLUS and STAR Kids managed care plans. The schedule of services mirrors those provided in the Medicaid State plan, with the exception of 1915(b)(3)-like services as described in this waiver. The individuals in these programs would still be able to receive all Texas state plan services based on medical necessity that are not listed in this chart and delivered outside of managed care; e.g. dental, ICF/IID.

Should the state amend its State plan to provide additional optional services not listed below, coverage for those services may also be provided through the STAR, STAR+PLUS, and STAR Kids MCOs.

Table 3a. State Plan Services[1] for STAR, STAR+PLUS, and STAR Kids Participants

Adult/Child	Service	Mandatory or Optional State Plan Services (*)
Adult/Child	Inpatient Hospital Services[1,2,3]	Mandatory §1905(a)(1)
Adult/Child	Outpatient Hospital Services	Mandatory §1905(a)(2)
Adult/Child	Rural Health Clinic Services	Mandatory §1905(a)(2)
Adult/Child	(Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) Services	Mandatory §1905(a)(2)
Adult/Child	Laboratory and x-ray services	Mandatory §1905(a)(3)
Adult/Child	Diagnostic Services	Optional §1905(a)(13)
Child	EPSDT	Mandatory §1905(a)(4)
Adult/Child	Family Planning	Mandatory §1905(a)(4)
Adult/Child	Tobacco cessation counseling services for pregnant women.	Mandatory §1905(a)(4)
Adult/Child	Physician's Services	Mandatory §1905(a)(5)
Adult/Child	Medical and Surgical Services Furnished by a Dentist	Mandatory §1905(a)(5)
Adult/Child	Podiatrists' Services	Optional §1905(a)(6)
Adult/Child	Optometrists' Services	Optional §1905(a)(6)
Adult/Child	Chiropractor services	Optional §1905(a)(6)
Adult/Child	Other practitioner services: certified registered nurse anesthetists' Services, other categories of advanced nurse practitioner services, licensed clinical social worker (LCSW) services, licensed professional counselor (LPC) services, licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFT) services, psychologists services, services provided by physician assistants, and licensed midwife services	Optional §1905(a)(6)

[1] Services are provided as detailed in Texas' state plan.

Adult/Child	Intermittent or part-time nursing services provided by a home health agency	Mandatory for individuals who, under the State plan, are entitled to nursing facility services, §1902(a)(10)(D)
Adult/Child	Home health aide services provided by a home health agency	Mandatory for individuals who, under the State plan, are entitled to nursing facility services, §1902(a)(10)(D)
Adult/Child	Medical supplies, equipment, and appliances	Mandatory for individuals who, under the State plan, are entitled to nursing facility services, §1902(a)(10)(D)
Adult/Child	Physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech pathology, and audiology provided by a home health agency	Optional §1902(a)(10)(D), 42 CFR 440.70
Adult/Child	Clinic Services	Optional §1905(a)(9)
Child	Private Duty Nursing Services	Optional §1905(a)(8)
Adult/Child	Prescribed Drugs	Optional §1927(d)
Adult/Child	Physical Therapy and related services	Optional §1905(a)(11)
Adult/Child	Speech Therapy services	Optional §1905(a)(11)
Adult/Child	Non-prescription drugs	Optional §1927(d), §1905(a)(12)
Adult/Child	Prosthetic Devices	Optional §1905(a)(12)
Adult/Child	Eyeglasses	Optional §1905(a)(12)
Adult/Child	Preventive Services	Optional §1905(a)(13)
Adult	Services for individuals over age 65 in IMDs – Inpatient, Not Nursing Facility	Optional §1905(a)(14)
Adult	Nursing facility services (STAR+PLUS only)	Mandatory §1905(a)(4)
Child	Inpatient psychiatric facility services for individuals under age 21	Optional §1905(a)(16)
Adult (STAR+PLUS/STAR Kids)	Rehabilitative Services – Day Activity & Health Services	Optional, Rehabilitation Service, 42 CFR 440.130(d), 1905(a)(13)
Adult/Child	Mental Health Rehabilitative Services	Optional, Rehabilitation Service, 1905(a)(13) and 42 CFR 440.130(d)
Adult/Child	Targeted Case Management for Individuals with Chronic Mental Illness	Optional 1915(a)(19), 1915(g)
Adult/Child	Nurse-Midwife Services	Mandatory §1905(a)(17)
Adult/Child	Extended services for pregnant women–Pregnancy-related and postpartum services for a 60-day period after the pregnancy ends and any remaining days in the month in which the 60th day falls	Mandatory §1902(e)(5)
Adult/Child	Extended services for pregnant women–Services for any other medical conditions that may complicate pregnancy.	Mandatory §1905(a)(1-5), (17), (21), (28)
Adult/Child	Certified pediatric or family nurse practitioners' services	Mandatory §1905(a)(21)
Adult/Child	Personal care services in the home	Optional §1905(a)(24), 42 CFR 440.160

Adult/Child	Community First Choice	Optional §1915(k)
Adult/Child	Ambulatory prenatal care for pregnant women furnished during a presumptive eligibility period by a eligible provider (in accordance with section 1920 of the Act).	Optional §1920
Adult/Child	Respiratory care services (in accordance with section 1902(e)(9)(A) through (C) of the Act).	Optional §1905(a)(20)
Adult/Child	Services provided in Religious Nonmedical Health Care Institutions.	Optional §1905(a)(29)
Adult/Child	Emergency hospital services.	Optional §1905(a)(29)
Adult/Child	Ambulatory Surgical Center Services	Optional §1905(a)(29)
Adult/Child	Birthing Center Facility Services	Optional §1905(a)(28), (29)

[1]Substance use disorder treatment services are capitated services for STAR, STAR+PLUS, and STAR Kids, and MCOs may provide these services in a chemical dependency treatment facility in lieu of the acute care inpatient hospital setting. Similarly, the MCOs will be responsible for providing acute inpatient days for psychiatric conditions, and may provide these services in a free-standing psychiatric hospital in lieu of acute care inpatient hospital settings. The State does not include non-State plan services, such as room and board, in the STAR, STAR+PLUS, and STAR Kids capitation; however, the MCO is not restricted to only the delivery of State plan services when alternative services are a cost-effective and medically appropriate response to the needs of the member.

[2] The 30-day spell of illness limitation for hospital inpatient services described in the state plan does not apply to STAR enrollees, certain approved transplants, children age 20 and younger, or to individuals with severe and persistent mental illness. In addition, for inpatient hospital stays related to COVID-19 (i.e. a stay for which the COVID-19 diagnosis is listed anywhere on the claim but is not necessarily the primary diagnosis, excluding presumptive positive cases), Texas will extend the 30-day spell of illness limitation described in the state plan for an additional 30 days to allow an individual to stay up to 60 days in a hospital for the period of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE). The state will also allow an individual to exceed the $200,000 inpatient hospital benefit limitation for COVID-19 related stays during the PHE.

[3] The annual monetary benefit limitation on inpatient hospital services that is described in the state plan does not apply to STAR, STAR+PLUS, and STAR Kids enrollees.

(*) This column describes whether a services is a required state plan service or if a state can elect to cover the service under the Social Security Act. All services listed here are covered in the Texas State plan.

+ The state plan prescription drug limitations for adults aged 21 and older do not apply to STAR or STAR+PLUS enrollees.

26. Self-Referral. Demonstration beneficiaries may self-refer for the following services:

a. In-network behavioral health services;

b. Obstetric and gynecological services, regardless of whether the provider is in the client's MCO network;

c. In-network eye health care services, other than surgery, including optometry and ophthalmology;

d. Family planning services, regardless of whether the provider is in the client's MCO network; and

e. Services from a provider with the Early Childhood Intervention program for children ages 0-3 years with a developmental delay.

27. Federally Qualified Health Centers and Rural Health Centers. An enrollee is guaranteed the choice of at least one MCO which has at least one FQHC as a participating provider. If the enrollee elects not to select an MCO that includes a FQHC in the provider network, no FQHC services will be required to be furnished to the enrollee while the enrollee is enrolled with that MCO. The same requirements apply to Rural Health Centers.

28. Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT). The MCOs will fulfill the state's responsibilities for coverage, outreach, and assistance with respect to EPSDT services that are described in the requirements of sections 1905(a)(4)(b) (services), 1902(a)(43) (administrative requirements), and 1905(r) (definitions).

E. CHILDREN'S DENTAL PROGRAM

29. Implementation of the Children's Dental Program. Children's primary and preventive Medicaid dental services are delivered through a capitated statewide dental services program (the Children's Dental Program). Contracting dental maintenance organizations (DMOs) maintain networks of Main Dental Home providers, consisting of general dentists and pediatric dentists. The dental home framework under this statewide program is informed by the improved dental outcomes evidenced under the "First Dental Home Initiative" in the State. Services provided through the Children's Dental Program are separate from the medical services provided by the STAR,STAR+PLUS, and STAR Kids managed care organizations, and are available to persons listed in Table 2 who are under age 21, with the exception of the groups listed in (a) below. The Children's Dental Program must conform to all applicable regulations governing prepaid ambulatory health plans (PAHPs), as specified in 42 C.F.R. 438.

a. The following Medicaid recipients are excluded from the Children's Dental Program, and will continue to receive their Medicaid dental services outside of the Demonstration: Medicaid recipients age 21 and over; all Medicaid recipients, regardless of age, residing in Medicaid-paid facilities such as nursing homes, state supported living centers, or Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with an Intellectual Disability or Related Conditions (ICF/ID); and STAR Health Program recipients.

b. The state will collect relevant data from each DMO to comply with CMS-416 reporting requirements.

F. STAR+PLUS HOME AND COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES (HCBS) ENROLLMENT, BENEFITS AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

30. Operations of the STAR+PLUS HCBS Program

a. **Compliance with Specified HCBS Requirements.** All federal regulations that govern the provision of HCBS under section 1915(c) waivers apply, to the HCBS program

authorized under section 1115, and provided through STAR+PLUS. The state includes a description of the steps taken to ensure compliance with these regulations as part of the Annual Report discussed in STC 60. HCBS, under the demonstration, operates in accordance with these STCs and associated attachments.

b. **Determination of Benefits by Designation into a STAR+PLUS HCBS Group.** The STAR+PLUS HCBS Program provides long-term services and supports as identified in Table 5 to two groups of people, as defined below:

i. **STAR+PLUS 217-Like HCBS Group.** This group consists of persons age 21 and older, who meet the NF level of care (LOC), who qualify as members of the 217-Like HCBS Group, and who need and are receiving HCBS as an alternative to NF care. The Demonstration population includes persons who could have been eligible under 42 CFR 435.217 had the state continued its section 1915(c) HCBS waiver for persons who are elderly and/or physically disabled. This group is subject to a numeric enrollment limitation, as described below.

A. **Interest List for STAR+PLUS 217-LIKE HCBS Group.** The state operates an interest list for the STAR+PLUS 217-Like HCBS population in the demonstration who are not in the STAR+PLUS mandatory eligibility categories. An interest list is a list that an individual is placed on when they express interest in enrollment, to the state or local agency that determines eligibility for STAR +PLUS. Individuals meeting all eligibility criteria are enrolled into this population on a "first-come, first-served" basis from the interest list, except that persons entering the demonstration through Money Follows the Person (MFP) are placed at the head of the interest list. These lists are managed on a statewide basis using a standardized assessment tool, and in accord with criteria established by the state. Interest list policies are based on objective criteria and applied consistently in all geographic areas served.

B **Unduplicated Participant Slots for the 217-Like HCBS Group.** Table 4a below specifies the unduplicated number of participants for the 217-Like Group.

I. Column A reflects the following slots: (1) the number of unduplicated participant slots transferred from the STAR+PLUS 1915(c) waiver, TX 0862; (2) unduplicated participant slots transferred from the Community Based Alternatives (CBA) 1915(c) waiver, TX 0266; (3) individuals released from the interest list; and (4) individuals discharged from institutional care who are in the Money Follows the Person (MFP) Demonstration, in the areas of the state where the managed care expansion occurred.

II. Column B reflects the additional slots made available for the Nursing Facility Diversion Group, created June 1, 2013. The Nursing Facility Diversion Group was created as a subset of the STAR+PLUS 217-Like HCBS Group. This group consists of persons age 65 and older,

and adults with physical disabilities age 21 and older, who meet the NF LOC as defined by the state, who qualify as members of the 217-Like HCBS Group, and who are at imminent risk of entering a nursing facility as a result of a catastrophic episode. Examples of a catastrophic episode include: (1) an individual is significantly dependent on a caregiver to remain in the community and the caregiver passes away or is suddenly no longer able to provide care; (2) an individual has a community support system but must suddenly move where there is no support system; (3) an individual has a sudden occurrence that would cause imminent placement in a nursing facility because he can no longer care for himself; or (4) an individual is identified by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services as being at imminent risk of nursing facility placement. The number of nursing facility diversion group slots for each DY is listed in the chart below. Nursing Facility Diversion Group slots may be encumbered only by individuals identified as belonging to the Nursing Facility Diversion Group.

III. Column C reflects the additional slots added September 1, 2015 and September 1, 2016 after the 84th Legislature (Regular Session) of Texas appropriated additional funds to increase the number of unduplicated participants for the STAR+PLUS 217-Like Group served by the STAR+PLUS HCBS Program.

Table 4a. Unduplicated Number of Participants for the STAR+PLUS 217-Like HCBS group

Demonstration Year	Column A	Column B	Column C	Total
DY 7	23,001	100	1,235	24,336
DY 8	23,090	100	1,235	24,425
DY 9	23,407	100	1,235	24,742
DY 10	23,793	100	1,235	25,128
DY 11	24,239	100	1,235	25,574

ii. **SSI-Related Eligibles.** Persons age 65 and older, and adults age 21 and older, with physical disabilities that qualify as SSI eligibles and meet the NF LOC as defined by the state. Table 4b below specifies the unduplicated number of participants for the SSI-Related Eligible HCBS Group.

I. Column A column reflects the following slots: (1) the number of unduplicated participants transferred from the STAR+PLUS 1915(c) waiver, TX 0325; (2) the number of unduplicated participants transferred from the CBA 1915(c) waiver; and (3) individuals released from the interest list; and (4) individuals discharged from institutional care who are in the Money Follows the Person (MFP) Demonstration, in the areas of the state where the managed care expansion occurred.

Table 4b. Unduplicated Number of Participants for the SSI-Related Eligible Group	
Demonstration Year	Column A
DY 7	44,249
DY 8	44,710
DY 9	45,562
DY 10	46,514
DY 11	47,563

c. **Eligibility for STAR+PLUS HCBS Benefits.** Individuals can be eligible for HCBS under STAR+PLUS depending upon their medical and / or functional needs, financial eligibility designation as a member of the 217-Like STAR+PLUS HCBS Group or an SSI-related recipient, and the ability of the State to provide them with safe, appropriate, and cost-effective LTC services.

i. Medical and / or functional needs are assessed according to LOC criteria published by the State in State rules. These LOC criteria will be used in assessing eligibility for STAR+PLUS HCBS benefits through the 217-Like or SSI-related eligibility pathways.

ii. For an individual to be eligible for HCBS services, the State must have determined that the individual's cost to provide services is equal to or less than 202 percent of the cost of the level of care in a nursing facility.

d. **Freedom of Choice.** The service coordinators employed by the managed care organizations must be required to inform each applicant or member of any alternatives available, including the choice of institutional care versus home and community based services, during the assessment process. The Freedom of Choice Form must be incorporated into the Service Plan. The applicant or member must sign this form to indicate that he or she freely choices waiver services over institutional care. The managed care organization's service coordinator also addresses living arrangements, choice of providers, and available third party resources during the assessment.

e. **Service Plan.** In accordance with 42 CFR § 441.301(b)(1)(i), a participant-centered service plan of care must be developed for each participant. All waiver services must be furnished pursuant to the service plan, according to the projected frequency and type of provider. The service plan must also describe the other services, regardless of the funding source, and the informal supports that complement HCBS services in meeting the needs of the participant. The service plan is subject to the approval of the HHSC. Federal financial participation (FFP) may not be claimed for waiver services furnished prior to the development of the service plan or for services that are not included in the service plan. The State will use an electronic process for submission and approval of most individual service plans. Service plans for individuals turning 21, outside the cost ceiling, and the 217-Like Group will remain a manual process.

f. **Benefit Package under the STAR+PLUS HCBS Program.** The following Table 5 describe the benefits available to HCBS participants, whether in the 217-Like HCBS Group or the SSI-related group, that are provider-directed and, if the participant elects the option, self-directed. The services are further defined in Attachment C.

Table 5. HCBS Services

Service	Provider Directed	Participant Directed
Personal Assistance Service	X	X
Respite	X	X
Financial Management Services	X	
Support Consultation	X	X
Adaptive Aids and Medical Supplies	X	
Adult Foster Care	X	
Assisted Living	X	
Dental Services	X	
Emergency Response Services	X	
Home Delivered Meals	X	
Minor Home Modifications	X	
Nursing	X	X
Occupational Therapy	X	X
Physical Therapy	X	X
Speech, Hearing, and Language Therapy	X	X
Transition Assistance Services	X	
Cognitive Rehabilitation Therapy (Effective March 6, 2014)	X	X
Supported Employment Services (Effective September 1, 2014)	X	X
Employment Assistance Services (Effective September 1, 2014)	X	X

g. **Self-Direction of Home and Community Based Services.** STAR+PLUS participants who elect the self-direction opportunity will have the option to self-direct all or some of the long term services, as identified in Table 5, under the Demonstration. The services, goods, and supports that a participant self-directs will still be included in the calculations of the participant's budget. Participant's budget plans will reflect the plan for purchasing these needed services, goods, and supports.

i. **Information and Assistance in Support of Participant Direction.** The state shall have a support system that provides participants with information, training, counseling, and assistance, as needed or desired by each participant, to assist the participant to effectively direct and manage their self-directed services and budgets. Participants shall be informed about self-directed care, including feasible alternatives, before electing the self-direction option. Participants shall also have access to the support system throughout the time that they are self-directing their care. Support

activities must include, but are not limited to, financial management services and support consultation, defined as follows.

A **Financial Management Services.** Financial management services provide assistance to members with managing funds associated with the services elected for self-direction. Financial management services include initial orientation and ongoing training related to responsibilities of being an employer, and adhering to legal requirements for employers. The financial management services providers, referred to as the Financial Management Services Agency (FMSA), serves as the member's employer-agent, which is the Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) designation of the entity responsible for making payables and withholding, and filing and depositing taxes on behalf of the members. As the employer-agent, the FMSA files required forms and reports to the Texas Workforce Commission.

B **Support Consultation.** Support Consultation offers practical skills training and assistance to enable an individual to successfully direct those services the individual elects for participant-direction. This service is provided by a certified support advisor, and includes skills training related to recruiting, screening, and hiring workers, preparing job descriptions, verifying employment eligibility and qualifications, completion of documents required to employ an individual, management of workers, and development of effective back-up plans for services considered critical to the individual's health and welfare in the absence of the regular provider or an emergency situation. Support consultation is provided only by a certified support advisor certified by HHSC.

ii. **Participant Direction by Representative.** The participant who self-directs one or more services may appoint a volunteer designated representative to assist with or perform employer responsibilities to the extent approved by the participant. The participant documents the employer responsibilities, and that only a non-legal representative freely chosen by the participant or legally authorized representative may serve as the designated representative to assist in performance of employer responsibilities, to the extent desired by the individual or legally authorized representative. The participant documents the employer responsibilities that the designated representative may and may not perform on the participant's behalf.

iii. **Participant Budget Authority.** The participant's budget authority is operated and developed as follows:

A. The participant has budget authority and decision-making authority over the budget to reallocate funds among services included in the budget; to determine the amount paid for services within the State's established limits; to substitute service providers and to schedule the provision of services; to specify additional service provider qualifications consistent with established criteria; to specify the provision of services consistent with service specifications in Attachment C for services that may be self-directed as specified in Table 5; to identify service providers and refer for provider enrollment; to authorize payment for waiver

goods and services; and to review and approve provider invoices for services rendered.

B. All participants, in conjunction with the FMSA, must develop a budget based on the service plan. The amount of funds included in the service plan is calculated by the service planning team based on the planned waiver services and the adopted reimbursement rate. The service plan is developed in the same manner for the participant who elects to have services delivered through the consumer directed services option as it is for the participant who elects to have services delivered through the traditional provider-managed option.

With approval of the FMSA, the participant may make revisions to a specific service budget that does not change the amount of funds available for the service in the approved service plan. Revisions to the service plan amount available for a particular service, or a request to shift funds from one self-directed waiver service component to another, must be justified by the participant's service planning team and authorized by the MCO.

C. Modifications to the participant directed budget must be preceded by a change in the service plan.

iv. **Disenrollment from Self-Direction.** A participant may voluntarily disenroll from the self-directed option at any time and return to a traditional service delivery system. A participant may also be involuntarily disenrolled from the self-directed option for cause, if continued participation in the consumer directed services option would not permit the participant's health, safety, or welfare needs to be met, or the participant or the participant's representative, when provided with additional support from the CDSA, or through Support Consultation, has not carried out employer responsibilities in accordance with the requirements of this option. If a participant is terminated voluntarily or involuntarily from the self-directed service delivery option, the State will transition the participant to the traditional agency direction option and will have safeguards in place to ensure continuity of services.

h. **Fair Hearing.** For standard and expedited appeals, members must exhaust the MCO's internal standard or expedited appeals process before making a request for a standard or expedited state fair hearing. Procedures related to state fair hearings are described in Attachment F.

i. **Participant Safeguards**. The state must follow all member safeguard procedures as described in Attachment G of these STCs.

V. FUNDING POOLS UNDER THE DEMONSTRATION

The terms and conditions in Section V apply to the state's exercise of the following Expenditure Authorities: Expenditures Related to the Uncompensated Care Pool, and Expenditures Related to the Delivery System Incentive Reform Payment (DSRIP) Pool.

32. Terms and Conditions Applying to Pools Generally.

a. The non-Federal share of pool payments to providers may be funded by state general revenue funds, transfers from units of local government, and certified public expenditures that are compliant with section 1903(w) of the Act. Any payments funded by intergovernmental transfers must remain with the provider, and may not be transferred back to any unit of government.

b. The state must inform CMS of the funding of all payments from the pools to hospitals or other providers through a quarterly payment report to be submitted to CMS within 60 days after the end of each quarter. This report must identify the funding sources associated with each type of payment received by each provider.

c. The state will ensure that the lack of adequate funds from local sources will not result in lowering the amount, duration, scope or quality of services available under the State plan or this Demonstration. The preceding sentence is not intended to preclude the state from modifying the Medicaid benefit through the State Plan amendment process.

33. Uncompensated Care (UC) Pool. Through September 30, 2019, payments from the pool may be used to defray the actual uncompensated cost of medical services that meet the definition of "medical assistance" contained in section 1905(a) of the Act, that are provided to Medicaid eligible or uninsured individuals incurred by hospitals, clinics, or by other provider types, as agreed upon by CMS and the state and defined at subparagraph (c) below. Starting October 1, 2019, payments from this pool may be used to defray the actual uncompensated cost of medical services that meet the definition of "medical assistance" contained in section 1905(a) of the Act, that are provided to uninsured individuals as charity care by hospitals, clinics, or by other provider types, as specified at subparagraph (c) below, including uninsured full or partial discounts, that provide all or a portion of services free of charge to patients who meet the provider's charity care policy and that adhere to the charity care principles of the Healthcare Financial Management Association.[2] Annual UC Pool payments are limited to the annual amounts identified in STC 35. Expenditures for UC payments must be claimed in accordance with CMS-approved claiming protocols for each provider type and application form in Attachment H. The methodology used by the state to determine UC payments will ensure that payments to hospitals, clinics, and other providers are distributed based on uncompensated cost, without any relationship to source of non-federal share, as specified in Attachment H.

a) **UC Application.** To qualify for a UC Payment, a provider must submit to the state an annual UC Application that will collect cost and payment data on services eligible for reimbursement under the UC Pool. Data collected from the application will form the basis for UC Payments made to individual hospitals and non-hospital providers. The state must require hospitals to report data in a manner that is consistent with the

[2] Available at http://www.hfma.org/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=14589.

Medicare Form 2552-10 cost report, or for non-hospital providers, a CMS-approved cost report consistent with Medicare cost reporting principles.

i. Cost and payment data included on the application must be based on the Medicare 2552-10 cost report, or for non-hospital providers, a CMS-approved cost report consistent with Medicare cost reporting principles. For hospitals and physician groups, data on the application is for the federal fiscal year (FFY) that is two years prior to the DY in which UC Payments are to be made, in order to allow time for providers to finalize their cost reports from that data year and submit their application data to HHSC. (For example, FFY 2010 was the data year for UC Payments under the UC pool in DY 1.) The state may trend the data to model costs incurred in the year in which payments are to be made. HHSC or its designee will reconcile estimates for prior years. If trending is used, the base year can be no older than 2 years old and must be tied to a generally recognized and widely published trending factor used for trending health care costs. For hospitals not required to report charity care uncompensated costs on their cost reports, the hospital must report the required data in the tool approved by CMS and included in Attachment H. Any overpayments identified in the reconciliation process that occurred in a prior year must be recouped from the provider, with the FFP returned to CMS, except that during the reconciliation process, if a provider demonstrates that it has allowable uncompensated costs consistent with the protocol that were not reimbursed through the initial UC Payment (based on application figures), and the state has available UC Pool funding for the year in which the costs accrued, the state may provide reimbursement for those actual documented unreimbursed UC costs through a prior period of adjustment. For ambulance and dental providers, data on the application is based on actual eligible costs incurred during the demonstration year for which the payments are made.

ii. Any provider that meets the criteria below may submit a UC Application to be eligible to receive a UC Payment.

    A. Private providers must have an executed indigent care affiliation agreement on file with HHSC.

    B. Only providers participating in a (Regional Health Partnership) RHP are eligible to receive a UC Payment, although exceptions may be approved by CMS on a case by case basis.

iii. When submitting the UC Application, providers may request that cost and payment data from the data year be adjusted to reflect increases or decreases in costs, resulting from changes in operations or circumstances. A provider may request that:

A. Costs and revenue not reflected on the filed cost report, but which would be incurred for the program year, be included when calculating payment amounts; or

B. Costs and revenue reflected on the filed cost report, but which would not be incurred for the program year, be excluded when calculating payment amounts.

Adjustments described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) above cannot be considered as part of the reconciliation of a prior year payment. Such costs must be properly documented by the provider, and are subject to review by the State. Such costs are subject to reconciliation to ensure that providers actually incurred such eligible uncompensated costs.

iv. All applicable inpatient and outpatient hospital UC payments received by a hospital provider count as title XIX revenue, and must be included as offsetting revenue in the State's annual DSH audit reports. Providers receiving both DSH and UC Payments cannot receive total payments under the State plan and the UC Pool (related to inpatient and outpatient hospital services) that exceed the hospital's total eligible uncompensated costs for those services. UC Payments for physicians, non-physician professionals, pharmacy, and clinic costs are not considered inpatient or outpatient Medicaid payments for the purpose of annual hospital specific DSH limits and the DSH audit rule. All reimbursements must be made in accordance with CMS approved cost-claiming protocols that are consistent with the Medicare Form 2552-10 cost report or, for non-hospital providers, a CMS approved cost report consistent with Medicare cost reporting principles.

b) **UC Payment Protocol.** The UC Payment Protocol, also known as the funding and reimbursement protocol, establishes rules and guidelines for the State to claim FFP for UC Payments. The approved UC Payment Protocol is appended into these STCs as Attachment H. By March 30, 2018, the state must submit for CMS approval an addendum to the funding and reimbursement protocol that will establish rules and guidelines for the State to claim FFP for UC Payments beginning in DY 9 (October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020). CMS and Texas will work collaboratively with the expectation of CMS approval of the protocol within 90 calendar days after it receives the addendum. The state cannot claim FFP for any UC Payments for DY 9 or later until a UC Protocol addendum has been submitted to and approved by CMS. The UC Payment Protocol addendum must include precise definitions of eligible uncompensated provider charity care costs (consistent with the Medicare cost reporting principles and revenues that must be included in the calculation of uncompensated charity care cost for purpose of reconciling UC payments to unreimbursed charity care cost). The Protocol will also identify the allowable source documents to support costs; it will include detailed instructions regarding the calculation and documentation of eligible costs, the tool used by the State and providers to apply for UC Payments, and a timetable and reconciliation of payments

against actual charity care cost documentation. This process will align the application process (based on prior cost periods) to the reconciliation process (using the application costs from subsequent years to reconcile earlier payments). The Protocol will contain not only allowable costs and revenues, it will also indicate the twelve (12) month period for which the costs will apply.

The State must submit a UC Payment Protocol addendum for each non-hospital provider type that may seek UC payments. FFP will not be available for UC Payments made to a non-hospital provider type for DY 9 or later until a cost-claiming protocol addendum consistent with the Medicare cost reporting principles is approved by CMS for the relevant non-hospital provider type.

c) **UC Payments to Non-Hospital Providers.** UC Payments may be provided only to the following qualifying non-hospital providers: physician practice groups, government ambulance providers, and government dental providers. UC Payments are considered to be Medicaid payments to providers and must be treated as Medicaid revenue when determining total title XIX funding received, in particular for any provider utilizing certified public expenditures as the non-Federal share of a Medicaid payment.

d) **Reporting Requirements for UC Payments**. The state will submit to CMS two reports related to the amount of UC Payments made from the UC Pool per Demonstration Year. The reporting requirements are as follows:

    i. By December 31st of each Demonstration Year, the State shall provide the following information to CMS:

        A. The UC payment applications submitted by eligible providers; and

        B. A chart of estimated UC Payments to each provider for a DY.

    ii. Within ninety (90) days after the end of each Demonstration year, the State shall provide the following information to CMS:

        A. The UC Payment applications submitted by eligible providers; and

        B. A chart of actual UC payments to each provider for the previous DY.

e) **Required Milestones for UC Pool Transition.** CMS expects Texas will work in good faith to implement all requirements specified in these STCs, and in particular this STC 33, within the necessary timeline. To help ensure the state is making adequate progress toward meeting these requirements on the required timetable, the state must satisfy the milestones specified in this sub-STC 33(e). If Texas fails to meet any one or more of them, the permanent reduction of expenditure authority will immediately and irrevocably apply, as specified below. CMS will only modify these

milestones and associated penalties in extraordinary circumstances, and only through an amendment request pursuant to STC 7.

i. Submit and implement the revised Attachment H by DY9: Texas is required to submit the addendum to Attachment H (the UC Payment Protocol) that is described in paragraph (b) of this STC for CMS review by March 30, 2018. The methodology described in the addendum must be implemented as part of the revised UC distribution methodology for DY 9.

   A. CMS will permanently reduce Texas' UC expenditure authority by 20 percent for DY 7 and disallow funding that exceeds the reduced expenditure authority amount if Texas has not submitted a draft addendum to Attachment H to CMS by March 30, 2018.

   B. Texas may not claim FFP for UC payments for DY 9 until CMS has approved the addendum to Attachment H.

   C. Texas may claim FFP for DY 9 after it has received CMS approval and implemented the addendum to Attachment H, up to the annual limit (which is subject to reduction pursuant to sub-STC 33(e)(i)(D), below).

   D. If Texas has not demonstrated to CMS it has implemented the methodology described in the addendum to Attachment H by October 1, 2019, CMS will permanently reduce Texas' UC pool expenditure authority by 20 percent for DY 9 and disallow funding that exceeds the reduced expenditure authority amount.

ii. Revise UC applications for all provider types: After HHSC receives CMS approval of the addendum to Attachment H (UC Payment Protocol), and concurrent with the state administrative rule amendment timeframe (see sub-STC 33(e)(iii), below), HHSC must revise, test, and obtain CMS approval of the application tools used to collect the information needed to determine the eligibility of providers to participate in the UC pool and their eligible uncompensated costs, as described in the protocol.

   A. CMS will permanently reduce Texas' UC expenditure authority by 20 percent for DY 8 and disallow funding that exceeds the reduced expenditure authority amount if Texas has not submitted draft revised UC application tools for all provider types to CMS by May 1, 2019, or if CMS has not approved revised UC tools for all provider types by August 31, 2019.

iii. Amend the administrative rules that govern the program: Once HHSC has received CMS approval of the addendum to Attachment H (UC Payment Protocol), and concurrent with its revision of the UC applications for all provider types, HHSC must conduct the state administrative rulemaking

process to amend the state's administrative rules governing the UC pool with respect to each provider type to comport with the requirements of these STCs. The state has indicated that the rule development timeline is normally six-to-nine months, including the notice and comment periods required by state law.

A. CMS will permanently reduce Texas' UC expenditure authority by 20 percent for DY7 and disallow funding that exceeds the reduced expenditure authority amount unless Texas begins the necessary administrative rule amendment process required to implement the UC pool distribution changes required by these STCs by no later than July 31, 2018. Texas must demonstrate to CMS that it is undertaking rulemaking to amend the Texas Administrative Code (TAC) to implement the required UC pool distribution methodology changes; this will be demonstrated by publishing a notice of the proposed rulemaking in the Texas Register and notice of a public hearing related to that rulemaking.

B. CMS will permanently reduce Texas' UC expenditure authority by an additional 20 percent for DY8 and disallow funding that exceeds the reduced expenditure authority amount unless Texas has published the necessary final administrative rules to implement the required UC pool distribution methodology by January 30, 2019. The amended rules must be effective no later than September 30, 2019. Texas must demonstrate this by sending CMS a copy of the final rule as published in the Texas Register.

iv. If Texas's UC expenditure authority is reduced more than once for a DY, the reductions are applied cumulatively.[3]

v. The deliverables mentioned in this subparagraph (e) are not subject to STC 56.

34. Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) Pool. The DSRIP Pool is available for the development of a program of activity that supports providers' efforts to enhance access to health care, the quality of care, and the health of the patients and families they serve. The program of activity funded by the DSRIP shall be based in Regional Healthcare Partnerships (RHPs) that are directly responsive to the needs and characteristics of the populations and communities comprising the RHP. Each RHP will have geographic boundaries, and will be directed by a public hospital or a local governmental entity. In collaboration with participating providers, the public hospital or local governmental entity will develop a delivery reform and incentive plan that is rooted in the intensive learning and sharing that will accelerate meaningful improvement within the providers participating in

[3] For one reduction in a DY, multiply the original UC pool limit by (1 - 0.20). For two reductions in a DY, multiply the reduced UC pool limit again by (1 – 0.20), or equivalently, multiply the original UC pool limit by (1 - 0.20)×(1 - 0.20).

the RHP. Individual providers' DSRIP proposals must flow from the RHP plans, and be consistent with the providers' shared mission and quality goals within the RHP, as well as CMS's overarching approach for improving health care through the simultaneous pursuit of three aims: better care for individuals (including access to care, quality of care, and health outcomes; better health for the population; and lower cost through improvement (without any harm whatsoever to individuals, families or communities) (the Three Part Aim).

Starting with DY 7, DSRIP will be temporarily extended with the goal of identifying non-DSRIP funding to continue financing these activities, and an updated methodology, reflecting an evolution from project-level reporting to provider core activities supporting performing provider-level outcomes that measure continued transformation of the Texas healthcare system. Performing providers are named in RHP plans to be eligible to receive DSRIP payments. DSRIP in this extension will support performing providers to move further towards sustainability of their transformed systems outside of the DSRIP funding structure, which could include development of Alternative Payment Models (APMs) to continue services for Medicaid beneficiaries within managed care or FFS funding structures, and to low-income or uninsured individuals outside of the Medicaid program after the demonstration ends. Further operational details (such as the definitions of categories, terms and processes below) will be delineated in the protocols.

a. **Focus Areas.** There are 4 areas for which funding is available under the DSRIP, each of which has explicit connection to the achievement of the Three Part Aim. Activities will be identified within the following categories, and included in the full list of projects provided in the Measure Bundle Protocol (Attachment R)

    i. **Category A: Required reporting in order to be eligible for any amount of DSRIP payment** – Providers will describe transition from DY 2-6 to DY 7-8 activities, and specifically address the following.
        1. Core activities – Report on performance improvement projects designed to enhance achievement on Category C measure goals.
        2. Alternative Payment Methodology (APM) – Report on provider's progress toward, or implementation of, APM arrangements.
        3. Costs and savings – Performing providers with greater than $1M total valuation will submit costs and forecasted/generated savings for at least one core activity. Valuations are described in Attachment J.
        4. Collaborative activities - Performing providers will attend at least one learning collaborative, stakeholder forum, or other stakeholder meeting annually.

    ii. **Category B: Report on Medicaid and Low-income or Uninsured (MLIU) Patient Population by Provider (PPP)** – Performing providers must maintain or increase number of MLIU individuals served each DY, within allowable variation specified in the protocols.

    iii. **Category C: Measure Bundles and Measures** – Providers will select and report on health care quality and system performance measures, selected from

a menu of pre-determined Measure Bundles or measures, and be rewarded based on meeting targeted improvement goals.

iv. **Category D: Statewide Reporting Measure Bundle** – Providers will report on a statewide reporting Measure Bundle of population health measures for their provider type, to gain information on and understanding of the health status of key populations and to build the capacity for reporting on a comprehensive set of population health metrics.

b. **Regional Healthcare Partnerships.** Regional Healthcare Partnerships will be maintained throughout the state to coordinate regional planning, information sharing, and ongoing collaborative activities among DSRIP providers. Each RHP will include a variety of healthcare providers to adequately respond to the needs of the community, and the process of maintaining each RHP and developing RHP plans will evidence meaningful participation by all interested providers. Each RHP will be anchored (i.e. single point of contact for the RHP) by a public hospital (or in areas with no public hospital, anchored by a local governmental entity) that will be responsible for developing the RHP's DSRIP plan in coordination with other identified RHP providers.

c. **DSRIP Plans within the RHP.** RHP anchoring entities will develop RHP plans in good faith, to leverage public and non-public hospital and other community resources to best achieve delivery system transformation goals within RHP areas consistent with the Demonstration's requirements. RHP anchoring entities shall provide opportunities for public input to the development of RHP plans, and shall provide opportunities for discussion and review of proposed RHP plans prior to plan submission to the state. In accordance with the guidelines specified in the DSRIP protocols (see STC 34(d)), a final RHP DSRIP Plan must include maximum payment amounts for DSRIP Payments. These amounts may be proportionally adjusted based on available non-Federal share.

d. **DSRIP Plans and Protocols.** The state may not claim DSRIP funding after January 1, 2018, for DSRIP DY 7-10, until the milestones discussed in this paragraph have been met.

i. Within one month of the approval of this second extension, CMS, the state and Texas providers will, through a collaborative process, finalize updates to the RHP Planning Protocol (Attachment I), Program Funding and Mechanics Protocol (Attachment J), or other protocol documents as the state may propose to implement the DSRIP program as described above.

ii. The updated protocols must include information on state and CMS review and approval processes for RHP Plan Updates, RHP and State reporting requirements, how potential DSRIP incentive payment amounts will be distributed to Performing Providers and to RHPs, mechanisms and payment methodologies.

iii. Texas may not claim FFP for DSRIP payments after January1, 2018 for DSRIP DY 7-10, or later until after updated protocols for those DYs have been approved by CMS.

e. **DSRIP Payments are Not Direct Reimbursement for Expenditures or Payments for Services.** Payments from the DSRIP pool are intended to support and reward hospital systems and other providers for improvements in their delivery systems that support the simultaneous pursuit of improving the experience of care, improving the health of populations, and reducing per capita costs of health care. Payments from the DSRIP Pool are not considered patient care revenue, and shall not be offset against disproportionate share hospital expenditures or other Medicaid expenditures that are related to the cost of patient care (including stepped down costs of administration of such care) as defined under these Special Terms and Conditions, and/or under the State Plan.

f. **DSRIP Expenditure Reporting**. Texas will submit total DSRIP expenditures, including payments to providers reflecting the basis for incentive payments, 6 months after the end of each demonstration year.

35. Limits on Pool Payments. Expenditures eligible for FFP for UC Pool and DSRIP Pool in each DY may not exceed the amounts shown in Table 6.

a. **Reassessment of Hospitals' Uncompensated Charity Care.** CMS and Texas agree that UC Pool limits for DY 9-11 will be revised based on a reassessment of the amount of uncompensated charity care cost provided by Texas hospitals, to take place by September 1, 2019. The state and CMS will collaborate on the reassessment, which will be based on information reported by hospitals for 2017 on schedule S-10 of the CMS 2552-10 hospital cost report, with adjustment to ensure that demonstration pool payments do not enter the calculation, following a methodology approved by CMS. For non-S-10 hospitals, costs will be based on the CMS-approved cost reports described in Attachment H for the most recent available year. The results of the reassessment will be used to revise the UC Pool limits for DY 9-11.

b. If the reassessment discussed in (a) is not completed to produce an updated UC Pool limit by September 1, 2019, the place-holder amounts shown in Table 6 will be used to supply the preliminary UC Pool limits for DY 9-11.

c. When 2017 S-10 data as specified in 35(a) becomes available, the state and CMS will collaborate to recalculate the UC pool limits for DY 9-11 based on this updated information. The recalculated UC pool limits will become the final UC pool limits for DY 9-11. In addition to prospectively modifying the UC pool limits based on this recalculation, CMS and the state will perform a reconciliation of UC pool payments made on or after October 1, 2019. If UC pool payments for the reconciliation period have exceeded the final UC pool limit for that period, CMS will reclaim overpayments for these years. If the UC pool payments for the reconciliation period were less than the final

UC pool limit, CMS will provide FFP for additional payments consistent with the final UC pool limits so that Texas may make additional payments to providers for UC costs.

Table 6. Pool Allocations According to Demonstration Year (total computable)

Type of Pool	DY 6* (2016-2017)	DY 7* (2017-2018)	DY 8 (2018- 2019)	DY 9 (2019- 2020)	DY 10 (2020-2021)	DY 11 (2021-2022)
UC	3,100,000,000	3,101,776,278	3,101,776,278	3,873,206,193	3,873,206,193	3,873,206,193
DSRIP	3,100,000,000	3,100,000,000	3,100,000,000	2,910,000,000	2,490,000,000	0

*Amounts shown for DY 6 are reduced by 20 percent from the amounts shown in the terms and conditions for the 15-month extension, to reflect redefinition of DY 6 to be 12 months instead of 15 months. Amounts for DY 7 include the 20 percent of adjustment formerly shown as part of DY 6.

36. Assurance of Budget Neutrality.

a. By October 1 of each year, the State must submit an assessment of budget neutrality to CMS, including a summation of all expenditures and member months already reported to CMS, estimates of expenditures already incurred but not reported, and projections of future expenditures and member months to the end of the Demonstration, broken out by DY and Medicaid Eligibility Group (MEG) or other spending category.

b. Should the report in (a) indicate that the budget neutrality Annual Target for any DY has been exceeded, or is projected to be exceeded, the State must propose adjustments to the limits on UC Pool and DSRIP Pool limits, such that the Demonstration will again be budget neutral on an annual basis, and over the lifetime of the Demonstration. The new limits will be incorporated through an amendment to the Demonstration.

37. Transition Plan for DSRIP Pool.

a. Texas will submit a draft transition plan to CMS by October 1, 2019 for CMS review and approval, describing how the state will further develop its delivery system reform efforts without DSRIP funding and/or phase out DSRIP funded activities. The final transition plan will become Attachment Q of the STCs for this demonstration. It must be finalized within 6 months of submission to CMS. As Texas' DSRIP is a time-limited federal investment that will conclude by October 2021, Texas will propose milestones by which it will be accountable for measuring sustainability of its delivery system reform efforts absent DSRIP funding. Milestones may relate to the use of alternative payment models, the state's adoption of managed care payment models, payment mechanisms that support providers' delivery system reform efforts, and other opportunities.

b. Portions of overall FFP for DSRIP will be at-risk for the state's achievement on achievement milestones, as specified below. If Texas fails to submit a complete sustainability plan by October 1, 2019, CMS will defer 10 percent of FFP for DSRIP funding starting in the next quarter, and an amount in all subsequent quarters indefinitely until the state comes into compliance. Accountability for performance on these milestones will be as follows:, an additional 15 percent for FFP for DSRIP will be at risk

in demonstration year 9, and additional 20 percent off FFP for DSRIP will be at risk in demonstration year 10.

c. This deliverable will not be subject to the deferral as described to STC 56; all accountability for the Transition Plan will be applied as per this STC.

38. 1115A Duals Demonstration Savings. When Texas' section 1115(a) demonstration is considered for an amendment, renewal, and at the end of the duals demonstration, CMS' Office of the Actuary (OACT) will estimate and certify actual title XIX savings to date under the duals demonstration attributable to populations and services provided under the 1115(a) demonstration. This amount will be subtracted from the 1115(a) budget neutrality savings approved for the renewal.

Specifically, OACT will estimate and certify actual title XIX savings attributable to populations and services provided under the 1115(a) demonstration following the methodology below.

The actual title XIX savings attributable to populations and services provided under the 1115(a) demonstration are equal to the savings percentage specified in the 1115A duals demonstration MOU multiplied by the Medicaid portion of the 1115A demonstration capitation rate and the number of 1115A duals demonstration beneficiaries enrolled in the 1115(a) demonstration. The Medicaid portion of the 1115A Demonstration capitation rate is reviewed by CMS's Medicare and Medicaid Coordination Office (MMCO), MMCO's contracted actuaries and CMS' Office of the Actuary (OACT), and was certified by the state's actuaries. Per the 1115A duals demonstration MOU, the actual Medicaid rate paid for beneficiaries enrolled in the 1115A demonstration is equivalent to the state's 1115A Medicaid capitation rate minus an established savings percentage (as outlined in the chart below). The state must track the number of member months for every Medicare-Medicaid enrollee (MME) who participates in both the 1115(a) and 1115A demonstration.

The table below provides an illustrative example of how the savings attributable to populations and services provided under the 1115(a) demonstration is calculated

A. 1115A Demonstration Year	B. Medicaid Capitation Rate (hypothetical)	C. Medicaid Savings Percentage Applied Per MOU (average)	D. Savings Per Month (B*C)	E. Member Months of MMEs who participated in 1115A and 1115(a) Demos (estimated)	F. Amount subtracted from 1115(a) BN savings/ margin (D*E)
DY 1.a	$1,000 PMPM	1.25%	$12.50 PMPM	1,000	1,000* $12.50 PMPM = $12,500

DY 1.b	$1,000 PMPM	2.75%	$27.50 PMPM	1,000	1,000 * $27.50 PMPM = $27,500
DY 2	$1,000 PMPM	3.75%	$37.50 PMPM	1,000	1,000* $37.50 PMPM = $37,500
DY 3	$1,000 PMPM	5.5%	$55.00 PMPM	1,000	1,000 * $55.00 PMPM = $55,000

In each quarterly budget neutrality report, the state must provide the information in the above-named chart (replacing estimated figures with actual data). Should rates differ by geographic area and/or rating category within the 1115A demonstration, this table should be done for each geographic area and/or rating category. In addition, the state must show the "amount subtracted from the 1115(a) budget neutrality savings" in the updated budget neutrality Excel worksheets that are submitted each quarter.

Finally, in each quarterly CMS-64 submission and in each quarterly budget neutrality report, the state must indicate in the notes section: "For purposes of 1115(a) demonstration budget neutrality reporting purposes, the state reports the following information:

- Number of Medicare-Medicaid enrollees served under the 1115 duals demonstration = *[Insert number]*
- Number of member months = *[Insert number]*
- PMPM savings per dual beneficiary enrolled from the 1115A duals demonstration = *[Insert number]*

The State must make the necessary retroactive adjustments to the budget neutrality worksheets to reflect modifications to the rates paid in the 1115A demonstration. This must include any Medicaid payment triggered by the risk corridor, IGTs, or other retroactive adjustments. The State must add additional columns to the chart above in subsequent quarterly reporting to reflect those adjustments.

VI. HEALTH IT

39. This STC is specifically related to the purposes of this demonstration. The plans envisioned in this section however should be aligned with the state's broader State Medicaid Health IT Plan (SMHP). The state will use Health Information Technology ("Health IT") to link services and core providers across the continuum of care to the greatest extent possible. The state is expected to achieve minimum standards in foundational areas of Health IT and to develop its own goals for the transformational areas of Health IT use. The state will discuss how it plans to meet the Health IT goals/milestones outlined below . Through semi-annual reporting, the state will further enumerate how it has, or intends to, meet the stated goals. This STC is not subject to STC 56.

a. The state must have plan(s) with achievable milestones for Health IT adoption for Medicaid service providers both eligible and ineligible for the Medicaid Electronic Health Records (EHR) Incentive Programs and execute upon the plan(s).
b. The state shall create a pathway, or a plan, for the exchange of clinical health information related to Medicaid beneficiaries statewide to support the demonstration's program objectives.
c. The state shall advance the standards identified in the "Interoperability Standards Advisory—Best Available Standards and Implementation Specifications" (ISA) in developing and implementing state policies—and in all applicable state procurements (e.g. including managed care contracts).
    i. Wherever it is appropriate, the state must require that contractors providing services paid for by funds authorized under this demonstration shall adopt the standards referenced in 45 CFR Part 170.
    ii. Wherever services paid for by funds authorized by this demonstration are not addressed by 45 CFR Part 170, but are addressed by the ISA, the state should require that contractors providing such services adopt the appropriate ISA standard.
    iii. States should use the CMS 1115 Health IT resources available on "Medicaid Program Alignment with State Systems to Advance HIT, HIE, and Interoperability" at https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/data-and-systems/hie/index.html. Specifically, the state should utilize the "1115 Health IT Toolkit" for health IT considerations in conducting an assessment and developing their Health IT Strategic Plans.
d. Based on the assessment described above, the state will provide a Health IT Strategic Plan that details existing HIT capabilities. Texas will aim to submit the Plan to CMS by October 1, 2019. The Strategic Plan should also support the goals below -- and develop a mutually-agreed upon timeframe between CMS and the state for submitting the plan and any necessary enhancements.
    i. When multiple Medicaid providers provide coordinated care to a beneficiary, the state shall require the legally appropriate electronic exchange of clinical health information, using the Consolidated Clinical Document Architecture (C-CDA), among appropriate members of the individual patient's interdisciplinary care team.
    ii. The state shall ensure legally appropriate access to a comprehensive Medicaid enterprise master patient index that supports the programmatic objectives of the demonstration.
    iii. The state shall ensure a comprehensive Medicaid service provider directory strategy that supports the programmatic objectives of the demonstration.
    iv. The state will pursue legally appropriate means of improved coordination and improved integration between Medicaid Behavioral Health, Physical Health, Home and Community Based Providers and community-level collaborators for Improved Care Coordination (as applicable) through the adoption of provider-level Health IT infrastructure and software—to facilitate and improve integration and coordination to support the programmatic objectives of the demonstration.

v. The State shall ensure a comprehensive Health IT-enabled quality measurement strategy that supports the legally appropriate collection of data necessary for the State to monitor and evaluate programmatic objectives of the demonstration, and the legally appropriate means of providing such data for demonstration monitoring and evaluation activities.

VII. GENERAL FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

This project is approved for title XIX expenditures applicable to services rendered during the demonstration period. This project is approved for title XXI expenditures applicable to services rendered during the demonstration period for certain children ages 6-18 between 100-133% FPL. This section describes the general financial requirements for these expenditures.

40. Quarterly Expenditure Reports. The state must provide quarterly title XIX expenditure reports using Form CMS-64, to separately report total expenditures for services provided through this demonstration under section 1115 authority that are subject to budget neutrality. This project is approved for expenditures applicable to services rendered during the demonstration period. CMS shall provide FFP for allowable demonstration expenditures, only as long as they do not exceed the pre-defined limits on the costs incurred, as specified in Section VIII.

The state shall provide quarterly title XXI expenditure reports using the Form CMS64.21U/CMS64.21UP to report total title XXI expenditures for services provided to M-CHIP children under the section 1115 authority until its XXI allotment is spent and then using the 64.9/64.9P Waiver form with waiver name of “THTQIP-M-CHIP," and “THTQIP-Qualified”. CMS will provide Federal financial participation (FFP) for allowable Texas title XXI demonstration expenditures that do not exceed the state’s available title XXI funding and then Federal participation at the enhanced rate under Title XIX once the state's Title XXI funding is fully exhausted.

41. Expenditures Subject to the title XIX Budget Neutrality Expenditure Limit.

a. All expenditures for Medicaid services for demonstration participants (as defined in STC 20 [Table 2], 21 [Table 3], and 30 [Table 5]) are demonstration expenditures subject to the budget neutrality expenditure limit, except expenditures for the services listed as follows:

   i. Medical transportation;

   ii. Medicare premiums;

   iii. Other 1915(c) waiver programs as follows: Medically Dependent Children Program (TX 0181), Deaf Blind with Multiple Disabilities (TX 0281), Home and Community-Based Services (TX 0110), Community Living Assistance and Support Services (TX

0221), Texas Home Living (TX 0403), and Youth Empowerment Services (TX 0657).

b. All Funding Pool expenditures (as defined in Section V) are demonstration expenditures subject to the budget neutrality expenditure limit.

42. Reporting Expenditures Under the Demonstration. The following describes the reporting of expenditures subject to the budget neutrality agreement:

a. **Use of Waiver Forms.** In order to track expenditures under this demonstration, the state must report demonstration expenditures through the Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program Budget and Expenditure System (MBES/CBES), following routine CMS-64 reporting instructions outlined in Section 2500 of the State Medicaid Manual (SMM). All Demonstration expenditures claimed under the authority of title XIX of the Act, and subject to the budget neutrality expenditure limit, must be reported each quarter on separate Forms CMS-64.9 Waiver and/or 64.9P Waiver, identified by the Demonstration Project Number (11-W-00278/6) assigned by CMS.

b. **Reporting By Date of Service.** In each quarter, Demonstration expenditures (including prior period adjustments) must be totaled and reported on separate Forms CMS-64.9 Waiver and/or 64.9P Waiver by Demonstration Year (DY). The DY for which expenditures are reported is identified using the project number extension (a 2-digit number appended to the Demonstration Project Number). Expenditures must be assigned to DYs on the basis of date of service (except for pool payments, as discussed below). The date of service for premium payments is identified as the DY that includes the larger share of the month for which the payment is principally made. Pool payments must be reported by DY as follows: UC payments must be reported in a manner consistent with the payment timeframes specified in the UC Pool Protocol, and DSRIP payments must be reported based on the payment methodologies and annual maximum budgets specified in the final master DSRIP plans. DY 1 will be the year beginning October 1, 2011, and ending September 30, 2012, and subsequent DYs will be defined accordingly.

c. **Use of Waiver Forms.** Each quarter, the State must identify separate forms CMS-64.9 Waiver and/or 64.9P Waiver by Waiver Name to report expenditures that belong in the following categories:

i. "THTQIP-Adults" – Medicaid service expenditures for all participating individuals whose MEG is defined as Adults;

ii. "THTQIP-Children" – Medicaid service expenditures for all participating individuals whose MEG is defined as Children;

iii. "THTQIP-AMR" – Medicaid service expenditures for all participating individuals who are aged, or who are disabled and have Medicare;

iv. "THTQIP-Disabled" – Medicare service expenditures for all participating individuals

who are disabled and do not have Medicare;

v. "THTQIP-UC" – All expenditures that count against UC Pool limits;

vi. "THTQIP-DSRIP" – All DSRIP Pool expenditures.

vii. "THTQIP-QUALIFIED" – Medicaid service expenditures for all participating individuals whose MEG is defined as Qualified aliens. Title XXI expenditures for this group are excluded from budget neutrality but are counted against the Title XXI allotment as described in paragraph (d) below.

viii. "THTQIP-M-CHIP" – All expenditures for children who are ages 6-18 and between 100-133% FPL, or children served in CHIP on December 31, 2013 due to assets in excess of Medicaid eligibility limits. These are children who meet the definition of "targeted low-income child" specified in section 2110 (b)(1) of the Social Security Act. Title XXI expenditures for this group are excluded from budget neutrality but are counted against the Title XXI allotment as described in paragraph (d) below.

d. Title XXI Funded Groups in the Waiver.

Expenditures for THTQIP-Qualified and THTQIP-M-CHIP under title XXI must be reported on separate Forms CMS-64.21U and/or 64.21UP in accordance with the instructions in section 2115 of the State Medicaid Manual, identified using Waiver Name "THTQIP-M-CHIP" or "THTQIP-QUALIFIED."

i. Title XIX funds for children who are ages 6-18 and between 100-133% FPL meeting the definition of "targeted low-income child" specified in section 2110(b)(1) of the Social Security Act (M-CHIP children) are available under this demonstration if the state exhausts its title XXI allotment once timely notification as described in subparagraph (iii) has been provided.

ii. If the state exhausts its title XXI allotment prior to the end of a federal fiscal year, title XIX federal matching funds are available for these M-CHIP children. During the period when title XIX funds are used, expenditures related to this demonstration population must be reported as waiver expenditures on the Forms CMS 64.9 Waiver and/or CMS 64.9P Waiver, identified using Waiver Name "THTQIP-M-CHIP.". To initiate this:

A. The state shall provide CMS with 120 days prior notice before it begins to draw down title XIX matching funds for the M-CHIP children demonstration population;

B. The State shall submit:

I. An updated budget neutrality assessment that includes a data analysis which identifies the specific "with waiver" impact of the proposed change on the current budget neutrality expenditure cap. Such analysis shall include current total computable "with waiver" and "without waiver" status on both a summary and detailed level through the current extension approval period using the most recent actual expenditures, as well as summary and detailed projections of the change in the "with waiver" expenditure total as result of the proposed change which isolates (by Eligibility Group) the impact of the change;

II. An updated CHIP allotment neutrality worksheet.

iii. If the state exhausts its title XXI allotment prior to the end of a Federal fiscal year, the expenditures attributable to the M-CHIP children demonstration population for which title XIX funds are available will count toward the budget neutrality expenditure cap calculated under STC 50, using member month of title XIX funded M-CHIP children times the per member per month (PMPM) amounts for TANF Children described in STC 50(b)(ii), and will be considered expenditures subject to the budget neutrality cap as defined in STC 48(a).

e. **Pharmacy Rebates.** Because pharmacy rebates are not reflected in the data used to determine the budget neutrality expenditure limit, all pharmacy rebates must be reported on Forms CMS-64.9 Base or Forms CMS-64.9P Base, and not on any waiver form associated with this Demonstration.

f. **Cost Settlements.** For monitoring purposes, cost settlements related to the Demonstration must be recorded on the appropriate prior period adjustment schedules (Form CMS 64.9P Waiver) for the Summary Sheet Line 7 or 10.B, in lieu of Line 9. For any other cost settlements (i.e., those not attributable to this Demonstration), the adjustments should be reported, as instructed in the State Medicaid Manual. The amount of non-claim specific cost settlements will be allocated to each DY based on the larger share of the coverage period for which the cost settlement is made.

g. **Premium and Cost Sharing Adjustments.** Premiums and other applicable cost-sharing contributions that are collected by the State from enrollees under the Demonstration must be reported to CMS each quarter on Form CMS-64 Summary Sheet Line 9D, columns A and B. In order to assure that these collections are properly credited to the Demonstration, premium and cost-sharing collections (both total computable and Federal share) should also be reported separately by Demonstration Year on the Form CMS-64 Narrative. In the calculation of expenditures subject to the budget neutrality expenditure limit, premium collections applicable to Demonstration populations will be offset against expenditures. These section 1115 premium collections will be included as a manual adjustment (decrease) to the Demonstration's actual expenditures on a quarterly basis.

h. **Administrative Costs.** Administrative costs are not included in the budget neutrality expenditure limit, but the State must separately track and report additional administrative

costs that are directly attributable to the demonstration. All attributable administrative costs must be identified on the Forms CMS-64.10 Waiver and/or 64.10P Waiver, using Waiver Name "TX Reform Admin."

i. **Administrative Cost Claiming Protocol.** The state must maintain a CMS-approved Administrative Cost Claiming Protocol, to be incorporated as Attachment K to these STCs, which explains the process the State will use to determine administrative costs incurred under the demonstration. CMS will provide Federal financial participation (FFP) to the State at the regular 50 percent match rate for administrative costs incurred according to limitations set forth in the approved Administrative Cost Claiming protocol. No FFP is allowed until a claiming protocol is approved by CMS.

j. **Claiming Period**. All claims for expenditures subject to the budget neutrality expenditure limit (including any cost settlements) must be made within 2 years after the calendar quarter in which the state made the expenditures. Furthermore, all claims for services during the demonstration period (including any cost settlements) must be made within 2 years after the conclusion or termination of the demonstration. During the latter 2-year period, the State must continue to identify separately on the CMS-64 waiver forms, the net expenditures related to dates of service during the operation of the section 1115 demonstration, in order to account for these expenditures properly to determine budget neutrality.

43. Reporting Member Months. The following describes the reporting of member months for Demonstration participants.

a. For the purpose of calculating the budget neutrality expenditure limit, the state must provide to CMS, as part of the Budget Neutrality Monitoring Tool required under STC 54, the actual number of eligible member months for all demonstration participants, according to the MEGs defined in STCs 20 (Table 2) and 21 (Table 3). The state must submit a statement accompanying the Budget Neutrality Monitoring Tool, which certifies the accuracy of this information.

b. To permit full recognition of "in-process" eligibility, reported member month totals may be revised subsequently, as needed. To document revisions to totals submitted in prior quarters, the State must report a new table with revised member month totals indicating the quarter for which the member month report is superseded.

c. The term "eligible member months" refers to the number of months in which persons are eligible to receive services. For example, a person who is eligible for 3 months contributes 3 eligible member months to the total. Two individuals, who are eligible for 2 months each, contribute 2 eligible member months to the total, for a total of 4 eligible member months.

44. Standard Medicaid and CHIP Funding Process.

a. The standard Medicaid funding process must be used during the Demonstration. The State must estimate matchable demonstration expenditures (total computable and Federal

share) subject to the budget neutrality expenditure limit, and separately report these expenditures by quarter for each Federal fiscal year on the Form CMS-37 for both the Medical Assistance Payments (MAP) and State and Local Administration Costs (ADM). CMS shall make Federal funds available based upon the State's estimate, as approved by CMS. Within 30 days after the end of each quarter, the State must submit the Form CMS-64 quarterly Medicaid expenditure report, showing Medicaid expenditures made in the quarter just ended. CMS shall reconcile expenditures reported on the Form CMS-64 with Federal funding previously made available to the state, and include the reconciling adjustment in the finalization of the grant award to the state.

b. The standard title XXI funding process will be used during the demonstration for M-CHIP children. The state must estimate matchable M-CHIP expenditures on the quarterly Form CMS-37. As a footnote to the CMS-37, the state shall provide updated estimates of expenditures for the M-CHIP children demonstration populations. CMS will make Federal funds available based upon the state's estimate, as approved by CMS. Within 30 days after the end of each quarter, the state must submit the Form CMS-64.21 U-Waiver quarterly CHIP expenditure report. CMS will reconcile expenditures reported on the Form CMS-64.21U-waiver with Federal funding previously made available to the state, and include the reconciling adjustment in the finalization of the grant award to the state.

45. Extent of Federal Financial Participation for the Demonstration. Subject to CMS approval of the source(s) of the non-federal share of funding (see STC 46, *Sources of Non-Federal Share*), CMS shall provide FFP at the applicable federal matching rates for the demonstration as a whole as outlined below, subject to the budget neutrality limits described in Section IX of these STCs:

a. Administrative costs, including those associated with the administration of the demonstration;

b. Net expenditures and prior period adjustments of the Medicaid program that are paid in accordance with the approved Medicaid state plan and waiver authorities;

c. Net expenditures and prior period adjustments, made under approved Expenditure Authorities granted through section 1115(a)(2) of the Act, with dates of service during the operation of the demonstration;

d. Net expenditures for Funding Pool payments.

46. Sources of Non-Federal Share. The state certifies that the matching non-Federal share of funds for the demonstration is state/local monies. The state further certifies that such funds shall not be used as the match for any other federal grant or contract, except as permitted by law. All sources of non-Federal funding must be compliant with section 1903(w) of the Act and applicable regulations. In addition, all sources of the non-Federal share of funding are subject to CMS approval. CMS approval of this demonstration does not constitute approval of any specific Medicaid financing mechanism used to support provider payment

arrangements. All federal statutes and regulations not expressly waived or identified as inapplicable, including with respect to state share financing, continue to apply.

a. CMS may review, at any time, the sources of the non-federal share of funding for the demonstration. The State agrees that all funding sources deemed unacceptable by CMS shall be addressed within the time frames set by CMS.

b. Any amendments that impact the financial status of the program shall require the State to provide information to CMS regarding all sources of the non-Federal share of funding.

c. Under all circumstances, health care providers must retain 100 percent of the STAR, STAR+PLUS, and STAR Kids reimbursement amounts claimed by the state as a demonstration expenditure. Moreover, no pre-arranged agreements (contractual or otherwise) may exist between the health care providers and the State and/or local government to return and/or redirect any portion of the Medicaid payments. This confirmation of Medicaid payment retention is made with the understanding that payments that are the normal operating expenses of conducting business (such as payments related to taxes (including health care provider-related taxes), fees, and business relationships with governments that are unrelated to Medicaid and in which there is no connection to Medicaid payments) are not considered returning and/or redirecting a Medicaid payment.

47. Demonstration Year Definitions. Demonstration Years are defined in the following table.

Table 7: Demonstration Year Definitions

Demonstration Year	Start Date	End Date
DY 1	December 12, 2011*	September 30, 2012
DY 2	October 1, 2012	September 30, 2013
DY 3	October 1, 2013	September 30, 2014
DY 4	October 1, 2014	September 30, 2015
DY 5	October 1, 2015	September 30, 2016
DY 6	October 1, 2016	September 30, 2017
DY 7	October 1, 2017	September 30, 2018
DY 8	October 1, 2018	September 30, 2019
DY 9	October 1, 2019	September 30, 2020
DY 10	October 1, 2020	September 30, 2021
DY 11	October 1, 2021	September 30, 2022

* For purpose of expenditure reporting and budget neutrality, DY 1 begins October 1, 2011.

VIII. MONITORING BUDGET NEUTRALITY FOR THE DEMONSTRATION

48. Limit on Title XIX and XXI Funding.

a. The state shall be subject to a limit on the amount of federal title XIX funding that the state may receive on selected Medicaid expenditures during the period of approval of the

demonstration. The limit is determined by using a per capita cost method, with an aggregate adjustment for projected supplemental provider payments. The budget neutrality expenditure targets are set on a yearly basis with a cumulative budget neutrality expenditure limit for the length of the entire demonstration. Actual expenditures subject to the budget neutrality expenditure limit shall be reported by the state using the procedures described in Section VII.

b. The state will be subject to a limit on the amount of federal title XXI funding that the state may receive on demonstration expenditures for M-CHIP children during the demonstration period. Federal title XXI funding available for demonstration expenditures for M-CHIP children is limited to the state's available allotment, including currently available reallocated funds and contingency funds. Should the state expend its available title XXI Federal funds for the claiming period, no further enhanced title XXI Federal matching funds will be available for costs of the approved title XXI child health program or demonstration until the next allotment becomes available.

   i. Exhaustion of title XXI Funds. After the State has exhausted title XXI funds, expenditures for M-CHIP children, may be claimed as title XIX expenditures. The State shall report expenditures for these children as waiver expenditures on the Forms CMS 64.9 Waiver and/or CMS 64.9P Waiver in accordance with STC 42.

   ii. Exhaustion of title XXI Funds Notification. The State must notify CMS in writing of any anticipated title XXI shortfall at least 120 days prior to an expected change in claiming of expenditures for the M-CHIP children. The State must follow Medicaid State plan criteria for these beneficiaries unless specific waiver and expenditure authorities are granted through this demonstration.

49. Risk. Under this budget neutrality agreement, Texas shall be at risk for the per capita cost of participating Medicaid and demonstration eligibles, but not for the number of demonstration eligibles. In this way, Texas will not be at risk for changing economic conditions that impact enrollment levels; however, by placing Texas at risk for the per capita costs for Medicaid and demonstration eligibles, CMS assures that the Federal demonstration expenditures do not exceed the level of expenditures that would have occurred had there been no demonstration.

50. Budget Neutrality Expenditure Limit. The following describes the method for calculating the budget neutrality expenditure limit:

a. For each DY of the budget neutrality agreement, an Annual Target is calculated as the sum two components.

   i. The Per Capita Component is the sum of four sub-components, calculated as the projected per member per month (PMPM) cost, times the actual number of member months (reported by the State in accordance with STC 43) for the MEGs identified in (b) below.

ii. The Aggregate Component is a projection of what certain supplemental payments to providers would have cost each year in the absence of the Demonstration, as shown in (c) below.

b. Table 8 gives the projected PMPM costs to be used in the Per Capita Component calculation in each DY.

Table 8 – Projected PMPM Costs, Base Medical and Included UPL

MEG	DY 6 Base	Trend	DY 7	DY 8	DY 9	DY 10	DY 11
AMR	$1,167.10	3.8%	$1,253.57	$1,301.21	$1,350.66	$1,401.98	$1,455.26
Disabled	$1,755.80	4.1%	$1,723.19	$1,793.84	$1,867.39	$1,943.96	$2,023.66
Adults	$1,110.87	5.3%	$1,023.19	$1,077.42	$1,134.52	$1,194.65	$1,257.96
Children	$344.52	4.5%	$347.08	$362.70	$379.02	$396.07	$413.90

c. The following table shows the calculation of the Aggregate Component for each DY. These projections were developed by the state and accepted by CMS, and are based on historical trends in supplemental payment amounts and UPLs. They represent what the state would have paid in supplemental provider payments in the absence of the demonstration.

Table 9-– Aggregate Component

Payment Stream	DY 6 Base*	DY 7	DY 8	DY 9	DY 10	DY 11
Inpatient Hospital UPL for Included Population	N/A	$2,346,880,705	$2,346,880,705	$2,346,880,705	$2,346,880,705	$2,346,880,705
Inpatient Hospital UPL for Excluded Population	$1,681,649,843	$1,681,649,843	$1,681,649,843	$1,681,649,843	$1,681,649,843	$1,681,649,843
Outpatient Hospital UPL	$72,483,206	$72,483,206	$72,483,206	$72,483,206	$72,483,206	$72,483,206
Physician UPL	$84,237,473	$84,237,473	$84,237,473	$84,237,473	$84,237,473	$84,237,473
TOTAL	$1,838,370,522	$4,185,251,227	$4,185,251,227	$4,185,251,227	$4,185,251,227	$4,185,251,227

* DY 6 amounts are reduced by 20 percent from the May 2016 temporary extension amount due to redefinition of DY 6 from a 15-month to a 12-month period.

d. The budget neutrality expenditure limit is the Federal share of the combined total of the Annual Targets for all DYs, and is calculated as the sum of the Annual Targets times the Composite Federal Share (defined in (e) below). This limit represents the maximum

amount of FFP that the State may receive for title XIX expenditures during the Demonstration period.

e. **Savings Phase-out.** Each DY, the net variance between the without-waiver cost and actual with-waiver cost will be reduced for selected Medicaid population-based MEGs. The reduced variance will be calculated as a percentage of the total variance, which will then be substituted for the total variance to determine overall budget neutrality for the demonstration. (Equivalently, the difference between the total variance and reduced variance could be subtracted from the without-waiver cost estimate.) The formula for calculating the reduced variance is: reduced variance equals total variance times applicable percentage. The percentages for each MEG and DY are determined based on the amount of time the associated population has been enrolled in managed care subject to this demonstration; lower percentages are for longer established managed care populations will have lower percentages applied to them. The MEGs affected by this provision and the applicable percentages are shown in Table 10 below, except that if the total variance for an MEG in a DY is negative, the applicable percentage is 100 percent.

Table 10 – Savings Phase-Out

MEG	DY 7	DY 8	DY 9	DY 10	DY 11
AMR	86%	83%	76%	68%	60%
Disabled	82%	78%	74%	69%	61%
Adults	52%	48%	44%	41%	37%
Children	60%	55%	49%	43%	38%

f. The Composite Federal Share is the ratio calculated by dividing the sum total of FFP received by the State on actual Demonstration expenditures during the approval period (as reported through the MBES/CBES and summarized on Schedule C) by total computable Demonstration expenditures for the same period as reported on the same forms.

g. CMS policy requires that budget neutral savings cannot be derived from hypothetical populations. In this Demonstration, the STAR+PLUS 217-Like HCBS Eligibility Group is the only hypothetical population. On request from CMS, the State must provide separate expenditure and member month totals by MEG for individuals in the STAR+PLUS 217-Like HCBS Eligibility Group to allow any saving attributable to that group to be netted out of the budget neutrality calculation.

51. Future Adjustments to the Budget Neutrality Expenditure Limit. CMS reserves the right to adjust the budget neutrality expenditure limit to be consistent with enforcement of impermissible provider payments, health care related taxes, new Federal statutes, or policy interpretations implemented through letters, memoranda, or regulations with respect to the provision of services covered under this demonstration. CMS reserves the right to make adjustments to the budget neutrality expenditure limit if any health care-related tax that was in effect during the base year with respect to the provision of services covered under this Demonstration, or provider-related donation that occurred during the base year, is determined by CMS to be in violation of the provider donation and health care-related tax

provisions of section 1903(w) of the Social Security Act. Adjustments to annual budget targets will reflect the phase out of impermissible provider payments by law or regulation, where applicable.

52. Enforcement of Budget Neutrality. CMS shall enforce budget neutrality over the life of the demonstration extension, which for this purpose will be from October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2022 (i.e., DY 7 through DY 11). The budget neutrality test for the demonstration extension may incorporate net savings from the immediately prior demonstration period consisting of DY 2 through DY 6, but not from any earlier approval period. If the State exceeds the calculated cumulative target limit for this approval period by the percentage identified below for any of the DYs, the state shall submit a corrective action plan to CMS for approval.

DY	Cumulative Target Definition	Percentage
DY 7	Cumulative budget neutrality cap plus:	3 percent
DY 8	Cumulative budget neutrality cap plus:	1 percent
DY 9	Cumulative budget neutrality cap plus:	0.5 percent
DY 10	Cumulative budget neutrality cap plus:	0 percent
DY 11	Cumulative budget neutrality cap plus:	0 percent

53. Exceeding Budget Neutrality. If the budget neutrality expenditure limit has been exceeded at the end of this demonstration period, the excess Federal funds shall be returned to CMS. If the demonstration is terminated prior to the end of the budget neutrality agreement, the budget neutrality test shall be based on the time elapsed through the termination date.

54. Budget Neutrality Monitoring Tool. The state and CMS will jointly develop a budget neutrality monitoring tool (using a mutually agreeable spreadsheet program) for the state to use for quarterly budget neutrality status updates and other in situations when an analysis of budget neutrality is required. The state will revise this tool quarterly, and submit it to CMS within 60 days after the end of each quarter. The tool will incorporate the C Report for monitoring actual expenditures subject to budget neutrality. A working version of the monitoring tool will be available in early calendar year 2018. Should CMS issue a standardized budget neutrality monitoring tool, the state will begin providing its quarterly budget neutrality status updates using the standardized tool as directed by CMS.

55. Withholding of Payment of Claims Under the Uncompensated Care Expenditure Authority Based on Failure to Submit Uncompensated Care Pool Reconciliations. Texas must submit to CMS final reconciliations of all uncompensated care pools payments (e.g., identify all overpayments) for the period of DY1 to DY5 by January 30, 2020. If the final reconciliation is not submitted by January 30, 2020, CMS will make a retroactive deferral adjustment to the State's DY5 expenditure authority for the UC Pool by one percent for non-compliance with the final reconciliation requirement for failure to adequately document uncompensated care pool claims through reconciliation of claimed payments with allowable payments. If the final reconciliation has not been submitted within six months of initiation of the withhold, CMS will reduce the UC expenditure

authority by one percent for DY5 and will offset any amount claimed for DY5 in excess of the resulting expenditure authority from the grant award for the second quarter of calendar year 2020.

Texas must submit to CMS reconciliations of all uncompensated care pools payments for DY 6 (October 1, 2016 - September 30, 2017) by January 31, 2021. If the final reconciliation is not submitted by the dates set out above, CMS will withhold FFP (in the manner of a deferral) payable under the grant award for the fourth quarter of 2020, in an amount equal to the federal share of one percent of the state's DY6 expenditure authority for the UC Pool for failure to adequately document uncompensated care pool claims through reconciliation of claimed payments with allowable payments. If the final reconciliation has not been submitted within six months of initiation of the withhold, CMS will reduce the UC expenditure authority by one percent for DY6 and will offset any amount claimed for DY6 in excess of the resulting expenditure authority from the grant award for the third quarter of calendar year 2021. The above provisions will apply in the same manner to reconciliations of uncompensated care pools payments for DYs subsequent to DY 6, with key dates adjusted accordingly.

Texas must also credit the federal government with a share of any provider overpayments that are found in the course of reconciliations in accordance with the requirements of 42 CFR Part 433, Subpart F, or redistribute them as authorized elsewhere in these STCs. Under those regulations, a refund of the Federal share of an overpayment must be made to CMS within one year after the date on which an overpayment is discovered or, if earlier, the date the provider refunded the overpayment. The date of discovery will be the earlier of the date that: the reconciliation is finalized; the provider was notified in writing of the overpayment or acknowledged the overpayment; or the state initiated a formal recoupment action.

Deliverables under this section will not be subject to the deferral indicated in STC 56, but solely the deferrals denoted in this STC.

IX. GENERAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

56. Deferral for Failure to Submit Timely Demonstration Deliverables. CMS may issue deferrals in the amount of $5,000,000 per deliverable (federal share) when items required by these STCs, such as listed in Attachment A, (e.g., required data elements, analyses, reports, design documents, presentations, and other items specified in these STCs (hereafter singly or collectively referred to as "deliverable(s)") are not submitted timely to CMS or found to not be consistent with the requirements approved by CMS. Specifically:

a. Thirty (30) days after the deliverable was due, CMS will issue a written notification to the state providing advance notification of a pending deferral for late or non-compliant submissions of required deliverables.

b. For each deliverable, the state may submit a written request for an extension to submit the required deliverable. Extension requests that extend beyond the current fiscal quarter must include a Corrective Action Plan (CAP).

   i. CMS may decline the extension request.

   ii. Should CMS agree in writing to the state's request, a corresponding extension of the deferral process described below can be provided.

   iii. If the state's request for an extension includes a CAP, CMS may agree to or further negotiate the CAP as an interim step before applying the deferral.

c. The deferral would be issued against the next quarterly expenditure report following the written deferral notification.

d. When the state submits the overdue deliverable(s) that are accepted by CMS, the deferral(s) will be released.

e. As the purpose of a section 1115 demonstration is to test new methods of operation or services, a state's failure to submit all required deliverables may preclude a state from renewing a demonstration or obtaining a new demonstration.

f. CMS will consider with the state an alternative set of operational steps for implementing the intended deferral to align the process with the state's existing deferral process, for example what quarter the deferral applies to, and how the deferral is released.

57. Submission of Post-approval Deliverables. The state must submit all deliverables as stipulated by CMS and within the timeframes outlined within these STCs.

58. Compliance with Federal Systems Updates. As federal systems continue to evolve and incorporate additional 1115 waiver reporting and analytics functions, the state will work with CMS to:

a. Revise the reporting templates and submission processes to accommodate timely compliance with the requirements of the new systems;

b. Ensure all 1115, T-MSIS, and other data elements that have been agreed to for reporting and analytics are provided by the state; and

c. Submit deliverables to the appropriate system as directed by CMS.

59. Cooperation with Federal Evaluators. As required under 42 CFR 431.420(f), the state shall cooperate fully and timely with CMS and its contractors' in any federal evaluation of the demonstration or any component of the demonstration. This includes, but is not limited to, commenting on design and other federal evaluation documents and providing

data and analytic files to CMS, including entering into a data use agreement that explains how the data and data files will be exchanged, and providing a technical point of contact to support specification of the data and files to be disclosed, as well as relevant data dictionaries and record layouts. The state shall include in its contracts with entities who collect, produce or maintain data and files for the demonstration, that they shall make such data available for the federal evaluation as is required under 42 CFR 431.420(f) to support federal evaluation. The state may claim administrative match for these activities. Failure to comply with this STC may result in a deferral being issued as outlined in STC 56.

60. Monitoring Reports. The state must submit one (1) compiled Annual Report each DY. The compiled Annual Report is due no later than 120 days following the end of the DY. The state shall submit one semi-annual report each year. In addition, CMS reserves the right to increase the frequency of reporting as deemed necessary by CMS Officials (e.g., to require quarterly reports). The Annual Report will include all required elements as per 42 CFR 431.428 subpart G, and should not direct readers to links outside the report. Additional links not referenced in the document may be listed in a Reference/Bibliography section. The Monitoring Reports must follow the framework provided by CMS, which is subject to change as monitoring systems are developed/evolve, and be provided in a structured manner that supports federal tracking and analysis.

a. Operational Updates - Per 42 CFR 431.428, the Monitoring Reports must document any policy or administrative difficulties in operating the demonstration. The reports shall provide sufficient information to document key challenges, underlying causes of challenges, how challenges are being addressed, as well as key achievements and to what conditions and efforts successes can be attributed. The discussion should also include any issues or complaints identified by beneficiaries; lawsuits or legal actions; unusual or unanticipated trends; legislative updates; and descriptions of any public forums held. The Monitoring Report should also include a summary of all public comments received through post-award public forums regarding the progress of the demonstration.

b. Performance Metrics – Per 42 CFR 431.428, the Monitoring Reports must document the impact of the demonstration in providing insurance coverage to beneficiaries and the uninsured population, as well as outcomes of care, quality and cost of care, and access to care. This may also include the results of beneficiary satisfaction surveys, if conducted, grievances and appeals. The required monitoring and performance metrics must be included in writing in the Monitoring Reports, and will follow the framework provided by CMS to support federal tracking and analysis.

c. Budget Neutrality and Financial Reporting Requirements – Per 42 CFR 431.428, the Monitoring Reports must document the financial performance of the demonstration. The state must provide an updated budget neutrality workbook with every Monitoring Report that meets all the reporting requirements for monitoring budget neutrality set forth in the General Financial Requirements section of these STCs, including the

submission of corrected budget neutrality data upon request. In addition, the state must report quarterly and annual expenditures associated with the populations affected by this demonstration on the Form CMS-64. Administrative costs should be reported separately.

Evaluation Activities and Interim Findings. Per 42 CFR 431.428, the Monitoring Reports must document any results of the demonstration to date per the evaluation hypotheses. Additionally, the state shall include a summary of the progress of evaluation activities, including key milestones accomplished, as well as challenges encountered and how they were addressed.

61. Close Out Report. Within 120 days prior to the expiration of the demonstration, the state must submit a draft Close Out Report to CMS for comments.

d. The draft final report must comply with the most current guidance from CMS.

e. The state will present to and participate in a discussion with CMS on the Close-Out report.

f. The state must take into consideration CMS' comments for incorporation into the final Close Out Report.

g. The final Close Out Report is due to CMS no later than thirty (30) days after receipt of CMS' comments.

h. A delay in submitting the draft or final version of the Close Out Report may subject the state to penalties described in STC 56.

X. MONITORING CALLS AND DISCUSSIONS

62. Monitoring Calls. CMS will convene periodic conference calls with the state.

i. The purpose of these calls is to discuss ongoing demonstration operation, to include (but not limited to), any significant actual or anticipated developments affecting the demonstration. Examples include implementation activities, enrollment and access, managed care issues, budget neutrality, and progress on evaluation activities.

j. CMS will provide updates on any pending actions, as well as federal policies and issues that may affect any aspect of the demonstration.

k. The state and CMS will jointly develop the agenda for the calls.

63. Post Award Forum. Pursuant to 42 CFR 431.420(c), within six (6) months of the demonstration's implementation, and annually thereafter, the state shall afford the public with an opportunity to provide meaningful comment on the progress of the

demonstration. At least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the planned public forum, the state must publish the date, time and location of the forum in a prominent location on its website. The state must also post the most recent annual report on its website with the public forum announcement. Pursuant to 42 CFR 431.420(c), the state must include a summary of the comments in the Monitoring Report associated with the quarter in which the forum was held, as well as in its compiled Annual Report.

XI. EVALUATION OF THE DEMONSTRATION

64. Independent Evaluator. Upon approval of the demonstration, the state must begin arrangements with an independent party to conduct an evaluation of the demonstration to ensure that the necessary data is collected at the level of detail needed to research the approved hypotheses. The independent party must sign an agreement to conduct the demonstration evaluation in an independent manner in accord with the CMS-approved, draft Evaluation Design. When conducting analyses and developing the evaluation reports, every effort should be made to follow the approved methodology. However, the state may request, and CMS may agree to, changes in the methodology in appropriate circumstances.

65. Evaluation Budget. A budget for the evaluation shall be provided with the draft Evaluation Design. It will include the total estimated cost, as well as a breakdown of estimated staff, administrative and other costs for all aspects of the evaluation such as any survey and measurement development, quantitative and qualitative data collection and cleaning, analyses and report generation. A justification of the costs may be required by CMS if the estimates provided do not appear to sufficiently cover the costs of the design or if CMS finds that the design is not sufficiently developed, or if the estimates appear to be excessive.

66. Draft Evaluation Design. The draft Evaluation Design must be developed in accordance with Attachments O (Developing the Evaluation Plan) of these STCs. The state must submit, for CMS comment and approval, a draft Evaluation Design with implementation timeline, no later than one hundred twenty (120) days after the approval date of these STCs. Any modifications to an existing approved Evaluation Design will not affect previously established requirements and timelines for report submission for the demonstration, if applicable. The state may choose to use the expertise of the independent party in the development of the draft Evaluation Design.

67. Evaluation Design Approval and Updates. The state must submit a revised draft Evaluation Design within sixty (60) days after receipt of CMS' comments. Upon CMS approval of the draft Evaluation Design, the document will be included as an attachment to these STCs. Per 42 CFR 431.424(c), the state will publish the approved Evaluation Design within thirty (30) days of CMS approval. The state must implement the evaluation design and submit a description of its evaluation implementation progress in each of the Monitoring Reports, including any required Rapid Cycle Assessments specified in these SCTs. Once CMS approves the evaluation design, if the state wishes to make changes, the state must submit a revised evaluation design to CMS for approval.

68. Evaluation Questions and Hypotheses. Consistent with Attachments O and P (Developing the Evaluation Plan and Preparing the Evaluation Report) of these STCs, the evaluation documents must include a discussion of the evaluation questions and hypotheses that the state intends to test. There are three main demonstration components: the carve-in of additional populations and services into Medicaid managed care, the UC pool, and DSRIP. Each demonstration component should have at least one evaluation question and hypothesis. The hypothesis testing should include, where possible, assessment of both process and outcome measures. Proposed measures should be selected from nationally-recognized sources and national measures sets, where possible. Measures sets could include CMS's Core Set of Health Care Quality Measures for Children in Medicaid and CHIP (Child Core Set), CMS's Core Set of Health Care Quality Measures for Medicaid-eligible Adults (Adult Core Set), Consumer Assessment of Health Care Providers and Systems (CAHPS), and/or measures endorsed by National Quality Forum (NQF).

69. Interim Evaluation Report. The state must submit an Interim Evaluation Report for the completed years of the demonstration, and for each subsequent renewal or extension of the demonstration, as outlined in 42 CFR 431.412(c)(2)(vi). When submitting an application for renewal, the Evaluation Report should be posted to the state's website with the application for public comment.

l. The interim evaluation report will discuss evaluation progress and present findings to date as per the approved evaluation design.

m. For demonstration authority that expires prior to the overall demonstration's expiration date, the Interim Evaluation Report must include an evaluation of the authority as approved by CMS.

n. If the state is seeking to renew or extend the demonstration, the draft Interim Evaluation Report is due when the application for renewal is submitted. If the state made changes to the demonstration in its application for renewal, the research questions and hypotheses, and how the design was adapted should be included. If the state is not requesting a renewal for a demonstration, an Interim Evaluation report is due one (1) year prior to the end of the demonstration, September 30, 2021. For demonstration phase outs prior to the expiration of the approval period, the draft Interim Evaluation Report is due to CMS on the date that will be specified in the notice of termination or suspension.

o. The state must submit the final Interim Evaluation Report 60 days after receiving CMS comments on the draft Interim Evaluation Report and post the document to the state's website.

p. The Interim Evaluation Report must comply with attachment P (Preparing the Evaluation Report) of these STCs.

70. **Summative Evaluation Report.** The draft Summative Evaluation Report must be developed in accordance with Attachment P (Preparing the Evaluation Report) of these STCs. The state must submit a draft Summative Evaluation Report for the demonstration's current approval period within 18 months of the end of the approval period represented by these STCs (March 30, 2024). The Summative Evaluation Report must include the information in the approved Evaluation Design.

    q. Unless otherwise agreed upon in writing by CMS, the state shall submit the final Summative Evaluation Report within 60 days of receiving comments from CMS on the draft.

    r. The final Summative Evaluation Report must be posted to the state's Medicaid website within 30 days of approval by CMS.

71. **State Presentations for CMS.** CMS reserves the right to request that the state present and participate in a discussion with CMS on the Evaluation Design, the interim evaluation, and/or the summative evaluation.

72. **Public Access.** The state shall post the final documents (e.g., Monitoring Reports, Close Out Report, approved Evaluation Design, Interim Evaluation Report, and Summative Evaluation Report) on the state's Medicaid website within 30 days of approval by CMS.

73. **Additional Publications and Presentations.** For a period of twelve (12) months following CMS approval of the final reports, CMS will be notified prior to presentation of these reports or their findings, including in related publications (including, for example, journal articles), by the state, contractor, or any other third party directly connected to the demonstration. Prior to release of these reports, articles or other publications, CMS will be provided a copy including any associated press materials. CMS will be given ten (10) business days to review and comment on publications before they are released. CMS may choose to decline to comment or review some or all of these notifications and reviews. This requirement does not apply to the release or presentation of these materials to state or local government officials, or if otherwise required by law.