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State/Territory Name: Texas

State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: 24-0033

This file contains the following documents in the order listed:

- 1) Approval Letter
- 2) CMS Form 179
- 3) Approved SPA Pages

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
601 E. 12th St., Room 355
Kansas City, Missouri 64106



Medicaid and CHIP Operations Group

July 1, 2025

Emily Zalkovsky
State Medicaid Director
Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC)
P.O. Box 13247
Austin, TX 78711-3247

Re: Texas State Plan Amendment (SPA) 24-0033

Dear Director Zalkovsky:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) reviewed your Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) submitted under transmittal number (TN) 24-0033. This amendment proposes to add Certified Family Partner Services as a new Texas Medicaid benefit.

We conducted our review of your submittal according to statutory requirements in Title XIX of the Social Security Act and implementing regulations. This letter informs you that Texas' Medicaid SPA TN 24-0033 was approved on July 1, 2025, with an effective date of March 1, 2025.

Enclosed are copies of Form CMS-179 and approved SPA pages to be incorporated into the Texas State Plan.

If you have any questions, please contact Ford Blunt at (214) 767-6381 or via email at Ford.Blunt@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Shantrina Roberts, Acting Director
Division of Program Operations

Enclosures

**TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF
STATE PLAN MATERIAL
FOR: CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES**

1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER

2 4 0 0 3 3

2. STATE

T X

3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL
SECURITY ACTTO: CENTER DIRECTOR
CENTERS FOR MEDICAID & CHIP SERVICES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE
03/01/20255. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION
42 CFR 440.130(d)6. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT (Amounts in WHOLE dollars)
a FFY 2025 \$ 0 (see attachment)
b FFY 2026 \$ 0 (see attachment)

7. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT

See attachment

8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION
OR ATTACHMENT (If Applicable)

See attachment

9. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT

The purpose of the amendment is to update the Texas State Plan to add Certified Family Partner Services as a new Texas Medicaid benefit.

10. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (Check One)

- ☐ GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT
☐ COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED
☐ NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL

☒ OTHER, AS SPECIFIED: Sent to Governor's Office this
date. Comments, if any, will be forwarded upon receipt.

11. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL

12. TYPED NAME

Ricardo Garcia

13. TITLE Deputy Executive Commissioner, Policy and Quality
on behalf of Emily Zalkovsky, State Medicaid Director

14. DATE SUBMITTED

December 20, 2024

15. RETURN TO

Emily Zalkovsky
State Medicaid Director
Post Office Box 13247, MC: H-100
Austin, Texas 78711

FOR CMS USE ONLY

16. DATE RECEIVED

December 20, 2024

17. DATE APPROVED

July 1, 2025

PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED

18. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL

March 1, 2025

19. SIGNATURE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

20. TYPED NAME OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

Shantrina Roberts

21. TITLE OF APPRO

Acting Director, Division of Program Operations

22. REMARKS

Attachment to Blocks 7 & 8 of CMS Form 179

Transmittal Number 24-0033

**Number of the
Plan Section or Attachment**

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

Appendix 1 to Attachment 3.1-A

Page 31u

Page 31v

Page 31w

Page 31x

Page 31y

Appendix 1 to Attachment 3.1-A

New Page

New Page

New Page

New Page

New Page

Appendix 1 to Attachment 3.1-B

Page 31u

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Page 31w

Page 31x

Page 31y

Appendix 1 to Attachment 3.1-B

New Page

New Page

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New Page

13.d Rehabilitative Services, continued**Certified Family Partner Services****(a) Definition:**

Certified Family Partner (CFP) services, also referred to as family partner support services, are provided under Title 42, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 440.130(d) as a rehabilitative services benefit.

These non-clinical services are based on a relationship between the CFP and the parents (birth, foster or adoptive), legally authorized representatives (LARs) or primary caregivers of the Medicaid-eligible child or youth (20 years of age and younger) who is diagnosed with a serious emotional disturbance (SED) or a mental health or substance use condition, as defined in the current edition of the American Psychiatric Association's (APA) Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM).

A CFP uses their lived experience to assist the parent, LAR or primary caregiver of a child or youth with an SED or mental health or substance use condition in skills training, identifying supports, and navigating systems, as well as achieving the goals and objectives in the person- and family-centered and trauma-informed recovery plan (also referred to as the plan of care) of the child or youth.

CFP services are provided directly to the parents, LARs or primary caregivers on behalf of the Medicaid eligible child or youth and the services must be included as a component in the child's or youth's plan of care.

(b) Services:

CFPs who are employed by a Medicaid-enrolled provider that is delivering behavioral health services must deliver CFP services as part of a coordinated, comprehensive and individualized approach to treating a Medicaid eligible child's or youth's SED or mental health or substance use condition. Therefore, providers of CFP services must coordinate with all behavioral health service providers involved in the care of the Medicaid eligible child or youth, and utilize a person- and family-centered, recovery-oriented approach to recovery planning and service delivery.

CFP services may be provided individually or in a group setting and by synchronous audiovisual or synchronous audio-only technology if certain conditions are met. CFP services may include:

13.d Rehabilitative Services, continued

Certified Family Partner Services, Continued

- (1) Introducing parents, LARs or primary caregivers to the mental health and substance use system.
- (2) Modeling advocacy skills.
- (3) Providing education and information.
- (4) Making referrals.
- (5) Providing skills training.
- (6) Assisting in identifying supports.
- (7) Conducting support groups.
- (8) Helping with navigating systems (e.g., juvenile justice, child protective services, independent school districts).

13.d Rehabilitative Services, continued

Certified Family Partner Services, Continued

CFPs who are employed by Medicaid-enrolled providers delivering behavioral health services may deliver CFP services. A CFP may not:

- (1) Deliver family partner support services to a child or adolescent of whom they are a parent (birth, adoptive and foster), LAR or primary caregiver.
- (2) Practice psychotherapy.
- (3) Make clinical or diagnostic assessments or dispense expert opinions.
- (4) Engage in any service that requires a license.
- (5) Falsify any documentation related to application, training, testing, certification, or services provided.

13.d Rehabilitative Services, continued

Certified Family Partner Services, Continued

(c) CFP Qualifications:

A CFP is a parent (birth, adoptive or foster), LAR or primary caregiver with lived experience parenting or raising a child or youth with a SED or mental or substance use condition, and who has received specialized training and passed a certification exam to provide CFP services. A CFP must:

- 1) Be 18 years of age or older.
- 2) Have a high school diploma or high school equivalency certificate issued in accordance with the law of the issuing state.
- 3) Have lived experience navigating a child-service system, such as a mental health, juvenile justice, social security, or special education system, as a parent, LAR or primary caregiver of a child or youth with an SED or mental health or substance use condition.
- 4) Be willing to appropriately share their own recovery story with recipients of CFP services.
- 5) Pass criminal history and registry checks.
- 6) Satisfy and complete all staff credentialing, competency, training, and supervision requirements, prior to delivering CFP services.
- 7) Successfully complete and pass the HHSC approved certification process.

13.d Rehabilitative Services, continued

Certified Family Partner Services, Continued

(d) CFP Certification:

To deliver CFP services, a person must:

- 1) Satisfy and complete all staff credentialing, competency, training, and supervision requirements, prior to delivering family partner support services, as required by the HHSC-approved designated certifying entity in Texas.
- 2) Pass criminal history and registry checks.

A CFP certification is issued for a period of two years. A CFP must renew their certification every two years through the HHSC-approved designated certifying entity in Texas. Certification must be maintained in good standing with the certification entity in Texas. Recertification requires a minimum number of continuing education hours, as required by the HHSC-approved designated certifying entity in Texas.

(e) CFP Supervision:

Providers may be reimbursed for CFP services that are rendered by a CFP under the supervision of one of the following:

- 1) Qualified Credentialed Counselor (QCC).
- 2) Licensed Practitioner of the Healing Arts (LPHA).
- 3) Qualified Mental Health Professional - Community Services (QMHP-CS) with a QCC or LPHA supervising the QMHP-CS.
- 4) Qualified Peer Supervisor (QPS) with a QCC or LPHA supervising the QPS.

Supervision must occur at least once weekly for a CFP with an initial certification; at least once monthly for a CFP with a two-year certification; or more frequently at the request of the CFP. CFP supervisors must document all supervisory sessions and maintain records in the employee personnel file of the CFP.

13.d Rehabilitative Services, continued

Certified Family Partner Services, Continued

A QCC or LPHA who supervises a QMHP-CS or QPS must provide individual or group supervision at least once monthly and conduct an observation of the QMHP-CS or QPS supervising the CFP at a self-determined frequency based on the skill level of the QMHP-CS or QPS.

A supervisor must successfully complete and pass the HHSC approved certification process for supervision of CFP services and the recovery model from a certified training entity before supervising a CFP. After completing training, each candidate must successfully complete a knowledge assessment before receiving approval to supervise a CFP from the HHSC-approved designated certifying entity in Texas.

Supervision of a CFP must focus on the provision of CFP services to include:

- 1) Review of cases and activities
- 2) Skill building
- 3) Problem resolution
- 4) Professional growth

Supervision of CFPs may also include aspects specific to the organization, such as following organizational policy or other administrative matters.

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