



Date: August 1, 2019

To: Community Attendant Service Providers
Consumer Managed Personal Attendant Services Program Providers
Day Activity and Health Services Program Providers
Family Care Providers
Primary Home Care Program Providers
Residential Care Program Providers

Subject: Information Letter 19-16 (REVISED: August 21, 2019)
Required Base Wages of Personal Attendants
Effective September 1, 2019

This revision to Information Letter 19-16, originally published on August 1, 2019, provides additional clarity regarding the date by which providers are required to comply with the requirements outlined in this information letter.

Through Rider 45 of the 2020-21 General Appropriations Act, the Texas Legislature provided funding to the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) for HHSC to require the contractors listed above to pay personal attendants a base wage of at least \$8.11 per hour. Effective September 1, 2019, HHSC will increase the reimbursement rates for personal attendant services so contractors can pay the new base wage as described in this letter.

HHSC is planning to amend rules in Texas Administrative Code to describe the new wage requirement, including the persons who must be paid the base wage. The amended rules will outline an unlicensed employee or contractor of a provider or an unlicensed CDS employee who provides any of the following services to be paid the base wage:

- personal attendant services in the CMPAS Program
- day activity and health services
- primary home care services
- community attendant services
- family care services
- residential care services

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Providers are required to comply with the requirements as outlined in this information letter effective September 1, 2019.

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact the Long Term Services and Supports Policy Unit at LTSS_Policy@hhsc.state.tx.us.

Sincerely,

[signature on file]

Dana Williamson
Director
Policy Development and Support
HHSC Medicaid and CHIP Services