

2026

STAR and CHIP Primary Care Provider Incentive Program



Texas Children’s Health Plan has updated its 2026 STAR and CHIP Primary Care Provider (PCP) Incentive Program in an effort to align with state priorities and quality measures. This year’s program places emphasis on incentivizing PCP groups for Child and Adolescent Well-Care Visits, Follow-Up Care for Children Prescribed ADHD Medication, and Appropriate Testing for Pharyngitis.

How you qualify

To participate in the incentive program each PCP group must meet the following baseline requirements:

- A combined PCP group panel of at least 250 CHIP and STAR members, based on membership as of October 2025.
- A group may have more than one practice location sharing the same Tax ID number

Please note that Texas Children’s Health Plan will monitor eligible PCP groups identified based on membership in October 2025. Qualifying PCP group panels will be monitored to ensure they remain open throughout the 12-month payout cycle. No new PCP groups will be added to the PCP Incentive Program during the 2026 calendar year unless they are associated with a Tax ID already participating in the program.

Program Structure

The program includes HEDIS quality performance measures for which there is one annual payout. Care must be captured administratively through claims or via electronic data feeds. Medical record submissions will not be accepted toward incentive payment calculations. Recommended code classifications include CPT and ICD-10.

- Each payout is proportional to the performance level and number of members assigned to PCP group’s panel, subject to a cap.
- Payout caps:
Level I \$30,000
Level II \$15,000
- Effective Q1, each quarter, PCPs have the opportunity to earn an additional \$250 payout by accessing gaps in care reports via Inovalon Tool.
- PCPs can earn an incentive for each separate measure included in the 2026 program.
- Providers are eligible for \$8 incentive per member for Level I performance and \$4 incentive per member for Level II performance.

Payout schedule

Measure	Performance period	Payout date
WCV Total (STAR and CHIP)	Jan. 1, 2026–Dec. 31, 2026	June 2027
ADD-E (STAR and CHIP)	Mar. 1, 2025–Feb. 29, 2026	June 2027
CWP (STAR and CHIP)	July 1, 2025–June 30, 2026	June 2027
Well-Child Visits (First 15 Months) (STAR and CHIP)	Jan. 1, 2026–Dec. 31, 2026	June 2027
Inovalon Tool Usage	Jan. 1, 2026–Mar. 1, 2026 Apr. 1, 2026–June 30, 2026 July 1, 2026–Sep. 30, 2026 Oct. 1, 2026–Dec. 31, 2026	July 2026 July 2026 Oct. 2026 Jan. 2027



Performance Measures

Child and Adolescent Well-Care Visits (WCV Total)

Assesses children 3–21 years of age who received one or more well-care visit with a primary care practitioner or an OB/GYN practitioner during the measurement year.

WCV Total Performance Criteria

Performance level	Performance range
Level I	≥76
Level II	≥73–<76

Follow-Up Care for Children Prescribed ADHD Medication (ADD-E)

Assesses children between 6 and 12 years of age who had a prescription for ADHD medication and remained on the medication for at least 210 days, and had at least two follow-up visits with a practitioner in the 9 months after the Initiation Phase.

ADD-E Performance Criteria

Performance	Performance range
Level I	≥64
Level II	≥51–<64

Appropriate Testing for Pharyngitis (CWP):

Assesses the percentage of episodes for members 3 years of age and older with a diagnosis of pharyngitis, dispensed an antibiotic and received a group A streptococcus test for the episode.

CWP Performance Criteria

Performance	Performance range
Level I	≥89
Level II	≥84–<89

Well-Child Visits (First 15 Months)

The percentage of persons who had the following number of well-child visits with a PCP during the last 15 months. The following rates are reported: Well-Child Visits in the First 15 Months. Persons who turned 15 months old during the measurement period: Six or more well-child visits.

W30 Performance Criteria

Performance	Performance range
Level I	≥77
Level II	≥72–<77



Program changes and continuation

Texas Children's Health Plan reserves the right to evaluate the program and modify the program in its sole discretion at any time. Texas Children's Health Plan further reserves the right to terminate this program at any time.

Payment administration

Payment will be made to the entity associated with the Tax ID number to which the PCP group(s) are affiliated for claims payment.

- Each PCP group must be actively contracted with Texas Children's Health Plan CHIP and STAR lines of business at the time of payment to be eligible for payout.
- Quarterly Performance Status reports will be distributed quarterly to reflect progress toward performance measures, and an annual Explanation of Payment (EOP) statement will be issued to summarize total incentive payments earned for the program year.

- Payments are consolidated for multiple groups and PCPs who practice within the same Tax ID number.
- Texas Children's Health Plan will communicate the performance and payout results to the PCP group. The individual PCP scores will be listed on the EOP.
- Providers or groups subject to payment review or a corrective action plan by Texas Children's Health Plan, under a payment hold or similar order from a regulating agency or not in good standing for participation in the federal or state healthcare programs at the time of payout will not be eligible for incentive payouts and will remain ineligible until any of the above-referenced matters is resolved and the provider or group resumes to be in good standing.

If you have any questions please contact the alternative payment model team via email at **AlternativePaymentModels@texaschildrens.org**

Texas Children's Health Plan's Division of Continuing Medical Education provides continuing medical education activities designed to enhance physician competence, skills, medical knowledge and patient care. Texas Children's Health Plan's 2026 CME activities aim to address topics that align and support improved quality performance practices. Please visit the web address below for more information: www.texaschildrenshealthplan.org/cme



Did you know? Texas Children's Health Plan members can receive a \$100 reward card for completing 6 well-child checkups by the age of 15 months and an additional \$50 reward card when completing 2 additional well-child checkups by the age of 30 months.

Please visit the [Healthy Rewards Program](http://HealthyRewardsProgram) website for more information.

