

HHSC Requests Approval from CMS to Delay EVV Start Date for PCS

Background

The 21st Century Cures Act is a federal law requiring all states to use Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) for Medicaid personal care services (PCS) and home health care services. States must implement EVV or risk a loss of federal Medicaid matching dollars.

- [Personal care services](#) must start by Jan. 1, 2020.
- Home health care services must start by Jan. 1, 2023.

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) allows states to request a one-year exemption from loss of federal matching dollars if certain criteria are met. On August 2, 2019, HHSC requested this exemption for PCS.

HHSC is committed to working with program providers, financial management services agencies (FMSAs), Consumer Directed Services employers, members, and other stakeholders to ensure they are prepared for the use of EVV before it becomes mandatory.

Next steps

- All implementation activities will continue as planned until further notice.
- CMS should notify HHSC of the outcome of the exemption request within one month.
- HHSC is exploring other options to address implementation concerns if the exemption request is not approved.
- HHSC will communicate a new timeline for EVV PCS implementation activities once CMS's decision is made.

Providers currently required to use EVV must continue to use EVV in accordance with state law and HHSC policy.

Stay up to date

To receive EVV updates, monitor the HHSC [EVV website](#) and sign up for [EVV GovDelivery notices](#).

Questions? Contact electronic_visit_verification@hhsc.state.tx.us.