



**BlueCross BlueShield
of Texas**

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COVID-19: Existing Prior Authorizations 90-day Extension for Texas Medicaid End Dates Extended

What is changing?

Effective June 26, in response to COVID-19, the [Texas Health and Human Services Commission \(HHSC\)](#) is extending existing prior authorizations by 90 days for authorizations that are due for recertification and will expire between March 1, 2020 through July 31, 2020 (previously June 30, 2020).

We are continuing to evaluate the evolving state and federal legislative and regulatory landscape relating to COVID-19 and will continue to update our practices accordingly.

How does this impact authorizations?

No action is required by the provider. BCBSTX will automatically extend the authorizations that fit the noted HHSC requirements. You will receive additional communication once the impacted prior authorizations have been extended. The services delivered may still be subject to retrospective review for medical necessity. Exceptions will be reviewed on a provider or recipient-specific basis and need.

How will this change the authorization?

It only changes the date. The extended authorizations will have the same proportional amount and frequency as was authorized in the original authorization.

Does this extension apply to all authorizations?

No. It does not apply to current authorizations for one-time services or new requests for authorization or pharmacy prior authorizations. For example, a single non-emergency ambulance trip would not be extended, but a recurring non-emergency ambulance authorization for dialysis would be extended.

Which authorizations apply?

This extension applies to all state plan services that require recertification. This includes acute care and long-term services and supports such as personal assistance services, personal care services, community first choice, private duty nursing, physical, occupational and speech therapies, and day activity and health services.

Have questions?

Contact BCBSTX Medicaid provider call center at 1-877-560-8055 or contact your BCBSTX Medicaid Provider Network Representative at 1-855-212-1615.

For more information about this notice and other changes to Texas Medicaid due to COVID-19, go to:

<http://www.tmhp.com/Pages/COVID-19/COVID-19-HOME.aspx>

By clicking this link, you will go to a new website/app ("site"). This new site may be offered by a vendor or an independent third party. The site may also contain non-Medicaid related information. In addition, some sites may require you to agree to their terms of use and privacy policy.

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