



**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?

In response to COVID-19, the [Texas Health and Human Services Commission \(HHSC\)](#) is extending existing prior authorization requests that are set to expire through December 31, 2020, after which time the 90-day prior authorization extensions will come to an end. The extended authorizations must contain the same information as in the original authorization.

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?

Providers must submit an amended request to an existing, extended prior authorization and Texas Medicaid and Healthcare Partnership (TMHP) will process the request and override the 90-day extension with required documentation. TMHP may request additional information if it is deemed necessary, if providers are unavailable or unable to provide required documentation on a timely basis prior authorization will not be denied. This extension does not apply to current authorizations for one-time services or pharmacy prior authorizations.

## What is required of provider?

A provider must obtain the required documents for inclusion in the member's file before reimbursement is requested. A retrospective review of services delivered for medical necessity may be required. Exceptions will be reviewed on a provider or recipient-specific basis and need.

## How long is the extension?

HHSC has issued an extension for existing 90-day prior authorization requests that expire through December 31, 2020.

## Additional information for Fee-for-Service


Providers can contact TMHP Contact Center at 1-800-925-9126 for questions or additional information.

## 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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