

Dear Hospital Contact,

HHSC is planning to implement the Uniform Hospital Rate Increase Program (UHRIP) with an effective date of March 1, 2018. In order to do so, a number of steps need to be undertaken. These steps are outlined below. The first item, identifying the primary liaison for each SDA is to be **completed by July 18, 2017**.

Each SDA is to nominate one governmental entity, which is also a source of IGT, to act as the primary conduit of communications between HHSC and the hospitals and MCOs in each SDA. The liaison is responsible for disseminating information on the program to all stakeholders in the SDA, in concert with HHSC as necessary. Each SDA must nominate its governmental entity by close of business on July 18, 2017, to the HHSC UHRIP mailbox ([RAD-UHRIP@hhsc.state.tx.us](mailto:RAD-UHRIP@hhsc.state.tx.us)).

This governmental entity will be the primary point of contact between HHSC and the hospitals and the MCOs in that SDA. The governmental entity should identify two corporate officers within the entity that will act as the liaison in UHRIP-related interactions with HHSC.

	<b>SDA Name:</b>	
	Corporate Officer One	Corporate Officer Two
Name		
Title		
Hospital Name		
Email Address		
Phone Number		
Street Address		

**Anticipated Steps**

<b>Steps</b>	<b>Anticipated Date</b>	<b>Comments</b>
1. Identify primary	July 18, 2017	During the first attempt at implementing UHRIP, HHSC found

<p>SDA Liaison</p>		<p>that there had been significant miscommunication among stakeholders. Among these were that not every eligible hospital in an SDA was informed of its role among the various hospitals in the UHRIP program and HHSC was not kept fully apprised of whether hospitals and MCOs were in agreement over the terms of participation in UHRIP in their SDA.</p> <p>The primary SDA liaison will be a governmental IGT entity within the SDA and will be the principal interlocutor between HHSC and the stakeholders in each SDA. Among the main responsibilities of the SDA liaison will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• assisting HHSC in identifying and coordinating communication with other Medicaid hospitals in the SDA. Such communication would include ensuring that each UHRIP participating hospital understands: its roles and responsibilities; its relationship with MCOs under the UHRIP program; and the expected enhanced payment percentages it would receive under the program.</li> <li>• Where HHSC does not have uncompensated cost of care information for one or more hospitals in the SDA (i.e., hospitals in the SDA that do not participate in the DSH or UC programs), the liaison is expected to work with the hospital to obtain such data using S-10 data in accordance with HHSC guidance in performing calculations.</li> <li>• Coordinating with MCOs to ensure that they are system ready to implement UHRIP in the SDA.</li> </ul>
<p>2. HHSC will conduct webinars on how to submit applications to participate in UHRIP.</p>	<p>Week of July 31</p>	<p>HHSC anticipates that at least two webinars will be helpful. The webinars will be open to all stakeholders and will include a question and answer sessions.</p> <p>The webinars will include an explanation on how to submit an application</p>

3. Invitation for UHRIP applications from SDA liaisons	Week of July 31	HHSC will work closely with SDA liaisons and will share information on hospitals known to HHSC in each SDA and their Medicaid shortfalls.
4. Application Processing	August 7 - August 25	During this process, HHSC will work closely with SDA liaisons in providing preliminary results on the processing of applications.  SDA liaisons are expected to work with other IGT entities and hospitals in the SDA to provide timely feedback to HHSC on the results of application processing. HHSC's decisions on the percentage increase in enhanced directed payments are final.
5. Communicate preliminary percentage increases and IGT requirements to stakeholders	September 8	
6. Communicate final percentage increases and IGT requirements to stakeholders.	Expected by September 22	
7. Receipt of IGT from governmental entities from each SDA	November 1	The amount to be transferred must be sufficient to support an estimated six-month operation of the UHRIP program from March 1, 2018 - August 31, 2018.

Thanks,

**HHSC Hospital Rate Analysis**

Texas Health and Human Services Commission  
P.O. Box 149030, Mail Code H-400

Brown-Heatly Building  
4900 N. Lamar Blvd.  
Austin, TX 78714-9030