

07/05/2024

Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care Center (PPECC) Updates Effective September 1, 2024

Background:

HHSC implemented state plan amendment changes that will go into effect September 1, 2024, related to Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care Centers (PPECC) transportation services, documentation requirements and nursing director qualifications.

Key Details:

Effective September 1, 2024, PPECC providers must provide transportation to a PPECC client when:

- The client's prescribing physician has documented the client is stable to receive PPECC transportation services and
- The client's parent or legal guardian wants the client to receive PPECC transportation services.

When a PPECC provides transportation services to a PPECC client, the client must be accompanied by a PPECC nurse or direct care staff member, as identified by the client's prescribing physician on the plan of care, during transport to and from the PPECC.

In March 2023, HHSC removed the requirement that a PPECC nursing director and alternate nursing director must have a baccalaureate degree in nursing. The state plan has been updated to reflect this change.

Action:

MCOs must ensure that PPECC providers obtain and maintain the following documentation in the plan of care:

- The prescribing physician's determination documenting whether the client is stable to receive PPECC transportation services and
- If the client is determined stable, the prescribing physician must indicate whether a nurse or direct care staff member must accompany the client on the PPECC transport vehicle to and from the PPECC.

Additional Information

The PPECC draft policy is currently posted for public comments on the [Medicaid Medical and Dental Policies](#) website. The revised PPECC policy is slated to become effective December 2024.

The Texas Administrative Code (TAC) will be updated with an anticipated effective date of January 2025.

Resources:

Long-Term Care Regulation Provider Letter issued on March 27, 2023: [Adoption of Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care Center Updated Rules](#)

Contact:

For questions, please contact the Medicaid and Dental Benefits general mailbox at:
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Type: Informational

To: CHIP; STAR; STAR+PLUS; STARHEALTH; STAR_KIDS

From: Policy