

HHSC Requests Exemption to Delay EVV Start Date Per Federal Law

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The 21st Century Cures Act is a federal law that requires all states to use electronic visit verification (EVV) for Medicaid [personal care services](#) by January 1, 2020, and home health care services by January 1, 2023.

States must implement EVV or risk a loss of federal Medicaid matching dollars. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) allows states to request a one-year exemption from funding losses.

On August 2, 2019, the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) requested this exemption for personal care services.

Next steps

HHSC is committed to working with program providers, Financial Management Services Agencies, Consumer Directed Services employers, members, and other stakeholders to ensure they are prepared for the use of EVV before it becomes mandatory.

- 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 personal care services 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, sign up for [EVV GovDelivery](#) notices and visit the HHSC [EVV website](#).

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