

## Prior Authorization for Clients Transitioning to STAR Kids Managed Care Program

Information posted September 30, 2016

Beginning November 1, 2016, STAR Kids, a new managed care program, will provide services to Texas Medicaid clients with disabilities who are 20 years of age and younger. The STAR Kids program provides services for clients who previously received disability-related Medicaid through STAR+PLUS or fee-for-service (FFS).

To ensure continuity of care for eligible clients as they transition into STAR Kids, some existing prior authorizations that were to end in October or November 2016 will be extended for the following services:

- Personal care services (PCS)
- Private duty nursing (PDN)
- Durable medical equipment (DME) supplies (PDN related)
- Community First Choice (CFC) services
- Physical, occupational, and speech therapies
- PDN (Dual eligible clients)
- Comprehensive Care Program (CCP) physical, occupational, and speech therapies (Dual eligible clients)

FFS Medicaid will honor some existing prior authorizations scheduled to end during October 2016 until October 31, 2016, for specific services previously authorized through FFS and covered by the STAR Kids program. After November 1, 2016, Star Kids managed care organizations (MCOs) will honor existing prior authorizations, including those extended, for:

- Long term services and supports (including PDN, PCS, and CFC) for six months or until the STAR Kids MCO completes a new assessment.
- Acute care services (like therapies and supplies) for six months, until the authorization expires, or until the MCO completes a new authorization.

Letters extending these authorizations will be mailed beginning the week of October 25, 2016.

Providers do not need to submit further documentation for the authorization of these services for clients transitioning to STAR Kids during this period. Providers must include the expired authorization number for the same previously authorized procedure code(s) on claims submitted during this time. Impacted providers and clients will receive notification of prior authorization extensions during the last full week in October 2016.

The list of prior authorization procedure codes that will be extended while clients transition to STAR Kids is located on the [Prior Authorization home page of this website](#).

*Note: While the majority of providers will not be impacted, if a denial is issued for a service that was previously authorized through FFS and is included in the STAR Kids prior authorization transition list, TMHP will manually reprocess the claim without any additional action required from the provider.*

For more information about STAR Kids, refer to the article titled "[STAR Kids Managed Care Program to Begin November 1, 2016](#)" on this website.

For more information, call the TMHP Contact Center at 1-800-925-9126.