

# Nursing Facility Minimum Payment Amounts Program (MPAP) Frequently Asked Questions



Minimum Payments Amounts Program (MPAP)	
What is MPAP?	<p>Minimum Payments Amounts Program (MPAP) is a program which will provide a supplemental payment to eligible Nursing Facilities (NFs). Superior will be making the payment. This program replaces the upper payment limit (UPL) which was established in 2012.</p> <p>Through the MPAP, non-state government-owned nursing facilities, whom have applied and have been approved to participate by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), could receive supplemental payments.</p> <p>Supplemental payments will be based on the difference between the amount paid through fee-for service Medicaid and the amount Medicare would have paid for those same services.</p> <p>Non-state government-owned NFs will need to transfer funds, in advance, via Intergovernmental Transfers (IGTs) for three months at a time. These funds will become public and the HHSC will use them for their share of payments. Funds could be federally matched and together with the IGT will be used to issue the supplemental payments.</p>
Why does the MPAP exist?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage linkages between hospitals and NFs to enable better continuity of care as recipients move between hospitals and NFs;</li> <li>• Increase funding available to NFs for improvements to:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Capital plant (average Texas NF is over 30 years old) to modernize facilities and enable culture change, including transition to small-house model;</li> <li>○ Staffing levels and training; and</li> <li>○ Other systems that could improve the quality of care and life for Texas Medicaid NF residents.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
What defines a non-state government-owned NF?	<p>A non-state government-owned entity is defined as a hospital authority, hospital district, health district city or county.</p>
How does a NF participate?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be a non-state government-owned entity.</li> <li>• Must have applied by February 28, 2015.</li> <li>• Must have been approved by HHSC by the effective date (outlined below).</li> <li>• Must have entered into an IGT responsibility agreement with HHSC.</li> <li>• Must provide funds through IGT.</li> <li>• Guarantee that supplemental payments will not be used to pay a contingent fee, consulting fee or legal fee associated with receipt of MPAP funds.</li> <li>• Submit clean claims no later than 60 calendar days after the end of each calculation period</li> </ul>
What are the eligibility periods and cut-off dates for CHOW?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For March 1 – August 31, 2015 (Eligibility Period One), the cut-off for change of ownership (CHOW) effective date was October 1, 2014.</li> <li>• For September 1, 2015 – August 31, 2016 (Eligibility Period Two), the cut-off for the CHOW effective date is March 1, 2015.</li> <li>• For December 1, 2015 – August 31, 2016 (Eligibility Period Two-A), the cut-off for the CHOW effective date is June 1, 2015.</li> </ul>

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Are there any restrictions for CHOW NF participation?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For Eligibility Period One, NFs with CHOW effective dates on or after October 1, 2014, must be located in the same Regional Healthcare Partnership (RHP) as their non-state governmental entity.</li> <li>For Eligibility Periods Two and Two-A, NFs with CHOW effective dates on or after October 1, 2014, must either be located in the same RHP as their non-state governmental entity or within 150 miles of their non-state governmental entity (as the crow flies).</li> </ul>
Who is determining the NF's supplemental payment?	<p>HHSC will determine the total payment amount based on the funds provided by the Nursing Facility and what was federally matched.</p> <p>HHSC will breakdown the total payment amount by Superior membership, submitted claims by the NF and matching MCO submitted encounters.</p>
How many payments will the NF receive? Who will issue them?	<p>NFs could receive two payments from Superior.</p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> Payment: Issued 10 calendar days after a qualified MPAP NF submits a clean claim for a NF unit rate payment from Superior.</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> Payment: Issued 10 calendar days after being notified of the second payment amount by HHSC.</p>
How is the 2 <sup>nd</sup> payment determined?	<p>The second payment will be calculated on a monthly basis.</p> <p>Calculations will be performed after HHSC receives encounters data for that month.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First, a claim must be filed by a qualified NF no later than 60 calendar days after the end of the calculation period (month).</li> <li>Then, Superior has 60 days to submit an encounter for the claim.</li> <li>After the encounters submission deadline for a calculation period, HHSC will calculate the second payment amount for the month and transmit the amount detail to Superior.</li> <li>Timing Example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Calculation Period: March 2015</li> <li>Clean Claims Submission Deadline: May 31</li> <li>Encounters Submission Deadline: July 31</li> <li>Deadline for HHSC to Calculate Payment: August 31</li> <li>2nd payment amounts transmitted to Superior: September 2015</li> <li>Payment issued by Superior: 10 calendar days after receipt of amount</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Can Superior tell the NF the amount of their 2 <sup>nd</sup> payment before the HHSC notification?	<p>No, Superior will not be able to tell the MPAP NF what their payment will be. Superior will not know what the payment amount is until HHSC sends their file.</p> <p>HHSC can provide estimates of the 2<sup>nd</sup> payment based on historical data.</p>
What can Superior tell the NF?	<p>Superior can let the NF know if they are the list of eligible NFs for an eligibility period. This list is provided by HHSC and can be found on their website. Once it is finalized no further changes to the list are allowed for that period.</p>

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Can the NF supplemental payment be recouped?	<p>Yes, HHSC may direct Superior to recoup funds from the MPAP NF in the following situations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If MPAP payments result in an overpayment to a NF, or in the event of a disallowance by CMS of federal participation related to a nursing facility's receipt of or use of MPAP payments.</li> <li>• Adjustments for payments made in error, including, without limitation, adjustments made under the Texas Administrative Code, the Code of Federal Regulations and state and federal statutes.</li> <li>• If HHSC determines that part of any payment made under the MPAP was used to pay a contingent fee, consulting fee, or legal fee associated with the nursing facility's receipt of the MPAP funds.</li> <li>• If HHSC determines that an ownership change to a non-state governmental entity was based on fraudulent or misleading statements on a nursing facility CHOW application or during the CHOW process.</li> </ul>
Does the MPAP have an end date?	<p>Due to pre-existing limitations, this version will end on August 31, 2016. On September 1, 2016, HHSC will replace it with a new program that will have payments tied more directly to specific achievements and/or expenditures. Details about the new version will be released by HHSC at a later date.</p>
Where can NFs find out more information about the MPAP?	<p><a href="http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/rad/Long-term-svcs/nursing-facility/mpa.shtml">http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/rad/Long-term-svcs/nursing-facility/mpa.shtml</a> This website contains at least the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IGT Responsibility Agreement</li> <li>• MPAP Period 1 Eligibility List</li> <li>• MPAP Period 2 and 2A Eligibility List</li> </ul>
Who can NFs contact at HH SC for questions?	<p>HHSC Contact: Aaron Jones Email: <a href="mailto:Aaron.Jones@hhsc.state.tx.us">Aaron.Jones@hhsc.state.tx.us</a> Phone: 512-707-6067 General Information: <a href="mailto:costinformation@hhsc.state.tx.us">costinformation@hhsc.state.tx.us</a></p>