



Home Delivered Meals (HDM) Waiver
(Waivers are in effect Oct. 1, 2021 to Sept. 30, 2023)

Name of Legal Entity County of El Paso	Signature Authority Ricardo A. Samaniego		
Mailing Address 500 E. San Antonio, Suite 301	City El Paso	State TX	ZIP 79901

HDM Waiver Request:

- ☒ Each individual included in an approved HDM waiver must be contacted in person or by telephone at least three times per week.

Meal Delivery Pattern: Using the drop-down menu, select the number of hot, frozen and/or chilled meals delivered to individuals each week.

Hot meals 2 Frozen meals 2 Chilled meals 2

Waiver Area: What areas or locations will the waiver cover?
El Paso County

Alternate Meals:

Estimated number of individuals who will receive alternate meals under this waiver each week. 1,300
Shortest distance (number of miles) from the meal preparation site to an individual served under this waiver. 0.5

Add Waiver Request:

Select all circumstances necessitating the HDM waiver:

- ☐ Insufficient number of volunteers to deliver meals daily ☐ Need to reduce meal preparation costs
☒ Transportation costs are too high ☐ Personnel costs
☐ Other: Provide details in the space below.

The County's home delivered meal program serves individuals, county-wide, covering a large geographic area. A distribution system that allows for the delivery of a meal for same day consumption along with frozen meals for consumption of the following days, allows for cost effective service. This makes the program financially manageable and allows the County to add individuals to the home delivered meals program to meet the needs of the senior adult community in the El Paso county.

Assurances

In submitting this waiver description to the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), the entity requesting this waiver assures continuing compliance under the waiver with the following requirements.

- The home-delivered meals provider has established policies and procedures to ensure:
 - The provider does not deny services to an individual eligible for home-delivered meals on the basis of the individual's inability to safely store and prepare a frozen or shelf-stable meal.
 - Significant changes in an individual's physical or mental condition or environment are reported per Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Title 40, Part 1, Chapter 55, §55.29.
 - The provider and every individual affected by the waiver has sanitary and safe conditions for storage, thawing and preparation of the meal [40 TAC §55.21(1)].
 - The meal can be safely handled by an individual affected by the waiver, or by another available person if the individual is unable to do so [40 TAC §55.21(2)].

- e. The provider safely packages and transports all frozen meals [40 TAC §55.23].
 - f. The provider complies with Texas Department of State Health Services rules under TAC, Title 25, Part 1, Chapter 228, Subchapter C Food, to ensure all potentially hazardous foods are: properly frozen and stored [25 TAC §228.75 (a) and (f)]; prepared, stored and clearly marked using calendar dates [25 TAC §228.75 (f) and (g)]; cooled quickly within two hours to 70 degrees Fahrenheit, and to 41 degrees Fahrenheit in an additional four hours, not to exceed a total of six hours [25 TAC §228.75 (d)(1)(A) and (B)]; and remain frozen until ready for the thawing or cooking process [25 TAC §228.75 (a)].
2. In the event an individual becomes ineligible for the Home-Delivered Meals program for any reason (that is, loss of eligibility, relocation, nursing home placement, death) and the provider has requested payment for meals delivered past the date of the individual's ineligibility, the provider will reimburse HHSC for all such meals for which the provider has received payment.

Signature — Signature Authority

Date