Module Restructuring Streamlines RFP Component Composition

The Department of Human Services’ MMIS 2020 Platform is a modular system. The system design features 14 distinct program modules—far more than any other state’s design to date. All the modules are autonomous, but must work together for the MMIS 2020 Platform to perform the functions necessary to meet the diverse needs of almost 3-million citizens receiving Medical Assistance services in the Commonwealth.

In March 2018, department leadership approved a RFP restructuring of the MMIS 2020 Platform modules. This change will streamline the delivery of project Requests for Proposal (RFP). The modules will not change in scope or purpose, the change is based solely in how the module RFPs are bundled and released.

New Four-Lot RFP

The restructuring resulted in a new four-lot RFP composed of the Managed Care Administration, Financial, Fee-for-Service and Provider Management modules. In the original RFP design, Managed Care and Financial composed one lot. Because of the importance and complexity of both components, each will be a distinct component or “lot.” The new Four-Lot RFP is scheduled for release in summer 2018.

Outpatient Drug Stands Alone

Initially included in an earlier multi-lot RFP, the Outpatient Drug Solution will now be released as a single RFP in summer 2018.

Two New Two-Lot RFPs Complete the Restructuring

Third-Party Liability (TPL) and Program Integrity Management Services (PIMS) will become a Two-Lot RFP. Prior Authorization (PA) and Outbound Mail (OBM) will create another new Two-Lot RFP. The TPL-PIMS Two Lot-RFP will be released in late summer 2018 and the PA-OBM Two-Lot RFP is scheduled for release in fall 2018.

The department discussed the changes with the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) prior to the RFP restructuring.

Multiple lot RFP are designed to streamline the procurement cycle and expedite service delivery. Interested parties may bid on one, all or any combination of the packaged modules. Responses to each constituent lot will be evaluated independently.

MMIS 2020 Platform Upcoming RFP Release Schedule

The release of any RFP is a fluid progression. Within the framework of a highly modular system, release timelines are subject to change. The present release schedule follows. Any date modifications will be conveyed in future newsletters and other department communication vehicles.

- Information Technology Consulting and Quality Assurance (ITC/QA): Spring 2018
- System Integrator-Data Hub (SI-DH): Spring 2018
- Electronic Data Interchange (EDI): Spring 2018
- Managed Care Administration, Financial, Fee for Service, Provider Management “Four-Lot” RFP: Spring 2018
- Outpatient Drug: Summer 2018
- Third-Party Liability and Program Integrity Management Services “Two-Lot” RFP: Late summer 2018
- Prior Authorization and Outbound Mail “Two-Lot RFP”: Fall 2018
The release of an MMIS 2020 Platform RFP is the culmination of a complex process. The “chapel sessions,” or the initial discussions that broadly identified the functional requirements that would form the backbone of the module RFPs, occurred in 2016. From that time, platform team members have been busy working on refining requirements and developing clear and concise language that lets contractors know what each module is designed to do.

After an RFP is developed, it is reviewed thoroughly by subject matter experts (SMEs) and project leadership. This is only the first stage of the review process. After the internal assessment, the RFP is sent to the DHS Procurement Team to assure that it meets all requisite conditions for a department release. After completion of this step, the RFP is sent for a review by DHS Legal to ensure compliance to state and federal standards and regulations. In addition to the extensive internal review, the RFP is reviewed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Independent Validation and Verification (IV&V) contractor.

This important work is occurring or has occurred for all MMIS 2020 Platform modules; three RFPs are in final preparation for release. IT Consulting and Quality Assurance (ITC/QA), System Integrator-Data Hub (SI-DH), and Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) are targeted to be released during the second quarter of 2018. All three modules fulfill vital functions within the system design.

- The ITC/QA contractor will be an extension of the project team and assist in project management, IT consulting and quality management. The ITC-QA contractor will help review future requirements, develop project plans, facilitate JAD sessions and will coordinate testing and training functions for the MMIS 2020 Platform.
- The SI-DH scope of work will provide the IT framework, develop and implement the master integration plan, and facilitate migration efforts from the legacy system (PROMSeTM) to the new MMIS 2020 Platform.
- The EDI contractor will act as the gatekeeper for all electronically transmitted files.

The Q2 release, while significant, is only the beginning. RFPs for the remaining modules will be released throughout 2018.

**CMS Certification as Easy as R1, R2, R3**

All MMIS 2020 Platform modules must be certified by CMS. Certification attests that the module works as designed and allows states to receive federally enhanced funding. The Medicaid Enterprise Certification Life Cycle (MECL) outlines the steps needed to gain CMS certification and features three gateway reviews: R1, R2 and R3.

- **R1 reviews** focus on initiation and planning efforts. They are designed to determine if states are on the right track with their early implementation efforts. The MMIS 2020 Platform will begin the R1 reviews this year. The work will consist primarily of a review of project and planning documents and interviews with project team members and stakeholders.
- **R2 reviews** occur prior to a module’s go-live implementation and focus on requirements, design, development, integration, testing, and implementation. At this stage, the module has been configured or built. The R2 ensures that the technical architecture infrastructure is in place and operational.
- **R3 reviews** occur after a module goes live for a set period of time (usually 6 to 10 months). CMS representatives focus on maintenance and operations functions in conducting the R3 final review prior to CMS MMIS Certification.

**MMIS 2020 Platform Leadership Team**

- **Leesa Allen**: Executive Governance
- **Sally Kozak**: Executive Governance
- **Sandy Patterson**: Executive Governance
- **Lucia Roberto**: Executive Governance
- **Jill Reeder**: OA/OIT Oversight of IV&V Contractor
- **Dory McGuire**: Director, Bureau of Data and Claims Management
- **Tina Dorsey**: Director, Division of HIT and Program Support
- **Dan Sorge**: Program Support Unit Supervisor
- **Sam Moore**: MMIS 2020 Platform Senior Project Manager