

# The Platform

Quarter Two, 2019



## Understanding the MMIS 2020 Platform Certification Process

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) developed the Medicaid Enterprise Certification Toolkit (MECT) in 2007 to assist states as they plan, develop, test, and implement their Medicaid Management Information Systems (MMIS). In August 2018, CMS issued version 2.3 which updated criteria to reflect the latest regulations and guidance (CMS, 2018). In addition, CMS provided templates and tools to assist states and their contractors in the certification process (CMS, 2018).

A cornerstone of the toolkit is the Medicaid Enterprise Certification Life Cycle (MECL). The MECL includes milestone reviews throughout the MMIS project life cycle so the Commonwealth receives early feedback about issues that may impede certification (CMS, 2018). The MECL and certification checklists ensure alignment with Medicaid Information Technology and Architecture (MITA), and the standards and conditions for Medicaid IT (CMS, 2018).

The toolkit consists of five core checklists: Information Architecture, Standards and Conditions for Medicaid IT, Technical Architecture (TA) Access & Delivery, TA Intermediary & Interface, and TA Integration & Utility. The toolkit also includes ten targeted checklists by business module of which the MMIS 2020 Platform project will be required to complete eight: Care Management, Decision Support, Fee for Service Claims and Adjudication, Pharmacy, Program Integrity, Provider Management, Reference Data Management, Third Party Liability, Member Enrollment and Registries. Member Enrollment and Registries are out of scope for this project. In total, there are 671 individual checklist items to be completed including preparing individual artifact documents for each checklist item.

The certification process consists of three distinct reviews: R1-Initiation Milestone Review, the R2-Operational Milestone Review, and the R3-Certification Final Milestone Review. SLI Government Solutions, Pennsylvania's Independent Verification and Validation (IV&V) contractor, reviews the completed checklists and supporting documents, evaluating them against the MECL checklist criteria.

The Project Initiation Milestone Review (R1) includes mapping and documenting MMIS 2020 Platform Request for Proposal (RFP) requirements with the checklist items to ensure all required items have been captured.

The Operational Milestone Review (R2) is held when a state has one or more MMIS modules ready for deployment. It includes providing test case documentation, screenshots, reports, notices or outputs for each checklist item. A list of outstanding defects must also be provided for this review.

The Certification Final Milestone Review (R3) is held between 6-10 months post implementation. It includes evidence of correctly executed use cases and associated operational transactions from the production system(s) as well as database queries or reports showing correct results for each case.

CMS will issue a certification decision upon successful implementation of all modules and approval of the R3 checklists and artifacts (CMS, 2018, p.43). In addition to helping ensure we implement a fully functioning MMIS, certification allows the commonwealth to receive enhanced federal Medicaid funding at a 75% level instead of 50%.

CMS may also leverage pre-certified modules and approved RFPs and contracts for use by other states with minimal changes in a re-use and cost savings initiative.

For more information about the MECL, please see the diagram on page 3.

## Upcoming Event:

June 4, 2019 - Information Technology Consulting & Quality Assurance (ITC/QA) Contract Kickoff Meeting for Stakeholders

## MMIS 2020 Platform RFP Releases

Since the first quarter 2019 edition of The Platform was issued, the RFPs listed below are in various stages of procurement or pre-release status.

- **IT Consulting & Quality Assurance (ITC/QA):** Contract is being finalized.
- **Electronic Data Interchange (EDI):** The RFP was released June 29, 2018, and proposal evaluations are complete. Selection is completed. Negotiations are ongoing.
- **System Integrator / Data Hub (SI/DH):** The RFP was released October 18, 2018, with responses due January 4, 2019. Following evaluations and negotiations we expect the contract to be in place by mid-2019.
- **Outpatient Drug (OPD):** The targeted RFP release date is second calendar quarter 2019.
- **Multi-Lot RFP: Managed Care Administration (MCA), Financial (FIN), Fee-for-Service (FFS):** The targeted release date is second calendar quarter 2019.
- **Multi-Lot RFP: Prior Authorization (PA) and Outbound Mail (OBM):** The targeted release date is second calendar quarter 2019.
- **Multi-Lot RFP: Third Party Liability (TPL) and Program Integrity Management Services (PIMS):** The targeted release date is third calendar quarter 2019.
- **Provider Management (PM):** RFP direction is being reevaluated.

## Electronic Visit Verification (EVV)

The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) is implementing an Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) system for personal care services to comply with the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act (ACT). The ACT requires all state Medicaid agencies to implement an EVV solution to manage personal care services by January 1, 2020. The DHS EVV system is required by the ACT to collect and verify the following six data elements to confirm that personal care services are delivered:

- Type of service performed
- The individual receiving the service
- The individual providing the service
- Date of the service
- Location of service delivery
- Time the service begins and ends

The DHS EVV system will have a soft launch date of September 2019. The soft launch will include outreach from Spring 2019 through Fall 2019 via listserv communications from program offices and an EVV resource account providing guidance and EVV updates, as well as training from Summer 2019 through Fall 2019. As training occurs, providers will begin using the system in their business process. DHS will update stakeholders with the training information as soon as details are finalized. DHS is using an open EVV system model, which allows providers to use their own EVV vendor/system if it captures the six required items and can submit EVV data into the state's system. Third party EVV systems will need to meet DHS' EVV technical specifications and DHS' Addendum, both of which will be made available once finalized. The DHS EVV system will collect this information using multiple technologies, including telephony, a mobile app, and provider agency portals.

Personal care providers serving participants covered under one of our Community HealthChoices Managed Care Organizations (CHC-MCOs) will be able to use the MCO's EVV system, HHAExchange. If a provider participating in CHC already has their own internal EVV system, they must work with the CHC-MCO to ensure their system is able to send visit information to HHAExchange. For participant-directed programs in the Office of Long-Term Living waivers, the vendor fiscal agent, Public Partnerships LLC (PPL), will be utilizing their EVV system, Time4Care, to satisfy EVV requirements.

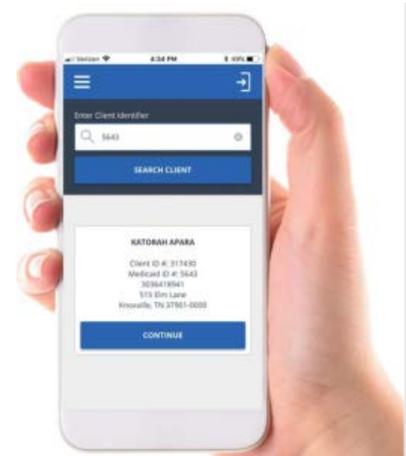
DHS is pursuing CMS certification of the EVV system, to seek enhanced federal Medicaid funding to support Design, Development, and Implementation (DDI) as well as Maintenance and Operations (M&O). SLI Government Solutions, Pennsylvania's Independent Verification and Validation (IV&V) contractor, will be involved in the EVV certification process as described in the *Understanding the MMIS 2020 Platform Certification Process*.

DHS has established an EVV webpage, which will continue to provide guidance and updates as we move through this process. The webpage is accessible at: <http://www.dhs.pa.gov/provider/billinginformation/electronicvisitverification/index.htm>.

Any questions or comments regarding EVV may be submitted at [RA-PWEVVNotice@pa.gov](mailto:RA-PWEVVNotice@pa.gov).

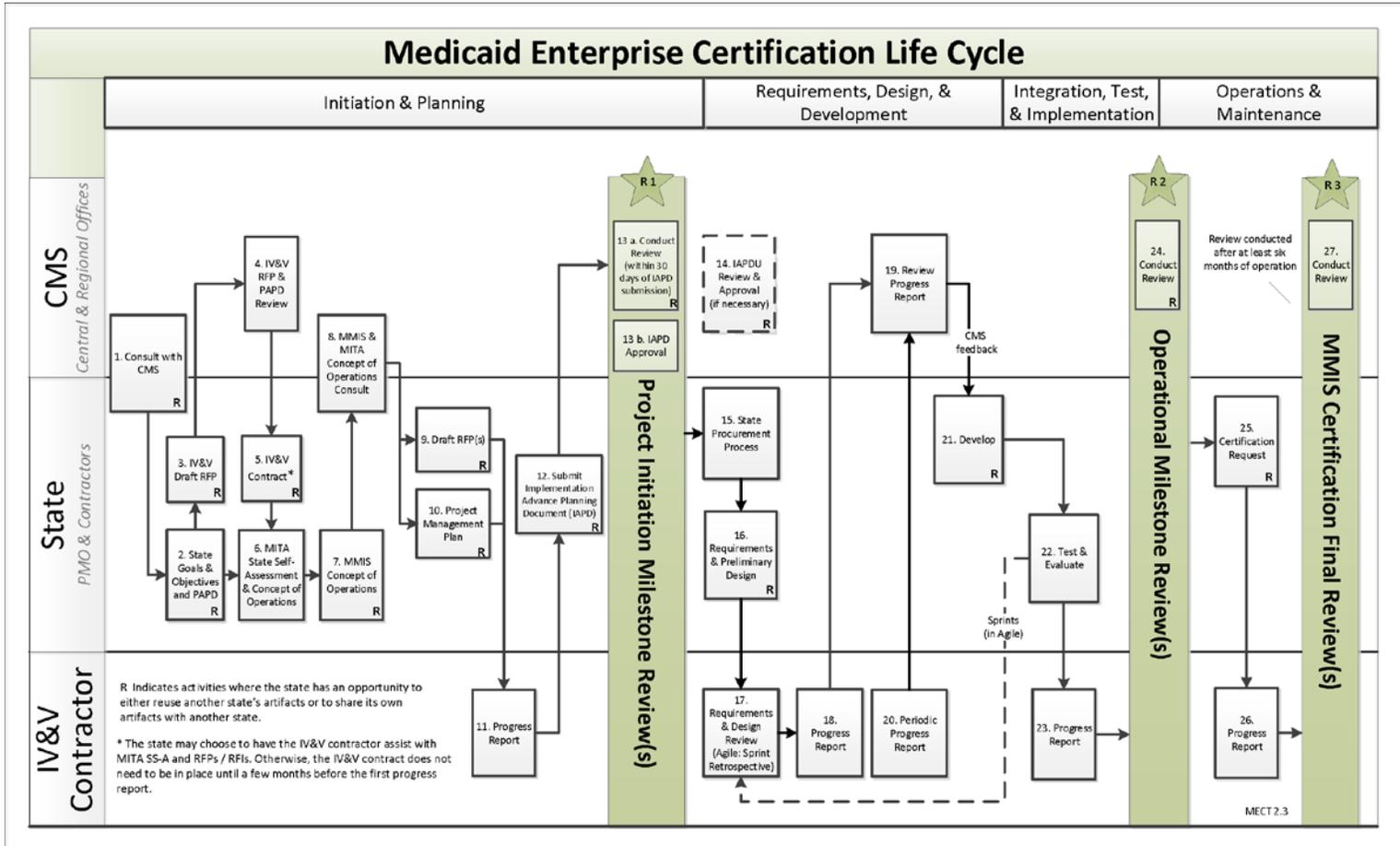
“Through meaningful and strategic collaboration with our Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) vendor, we look forward to harnessing advancements made in technology to gain efficiencies by automating a formerly paper-based process and reduce the potential for human error.”

Jenelle Oberholtzer, MMIS 2020 Platform, EVV System Implementation Lead



The MECL is composed of the following four phases:

- Initiation and planning
- Requirements, design, and development
- Integration, test, and implementation, and
- Operations and maintenance.



Click [here](#) for the Medicaid Enterprise Certification Toolkit.

<https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/data-and-systems/mect/index.html>

“SLI’s IV&V team is proud of its contribution to the quality of the MMIS 2020 effort. We look forward to working with the commonwealth and CMS as the agency pursues module and system certification.”

- Steve Esposito, President and CEO of SLI Government Solutions