

HIT Policy and Standards Committees

State Perspectives on Implementation of Initial 1561 Standards

November 10, 2010

Background

Please provide high-level information to the workgroup for understanding how your state agencies and programs are structured.

1. Who administers your Medicaid, CHIP, SNAP and/or TANF programs?
 - a. Are these programs administered at the State or County level?
 - b. Does the same agency administer each of these programs? If not, how is administration divided among state and/or county agencies?
 - c. Does the same agency that administers the program perform eligibility determinations? If not, how is this responsibility divided?
 - d. What role, if any, do community-based organizations play in the eligibility determination and enrollment processes?
2. Please discuss the level of system integration your state currently has for the Medicaid, CHIP, SNAP and TANF programs.
 - a. Is there a state repository of information that provides information on a consumers' enrollment in programs (e.g., master client index)?
 - b. Can consumers apply statewide to any single or multiple programs online? If so, does the online process include submission of documentation? E-signatures? If all application data and documentation is submitted, is the applicant required to come in to an office? If yes, for what purpose and for which specific programs?
3. Please tell of us of any *recent* innovations in enrollment in your state and/or of any *early* preparations you have made for enrollment under the Affordable Care Act.

Core Data Elements

- Does your state currently use the National Information Exchange Model (NIEM) guidelines to exchange data elements between health care programs?
 - If no, do you use NIEM to exchange data elements in any other domains? What alternatives do you use to ensure consistent, efficient and transparent exchange of information between programs?
- What is the biggest current barrier(s) to exchanging eligibility and enrollment data between health and human services programs (e.g., Medicaid, CHIP, SNAP and TANF)?

Verification Interfaces

- Does your system currently use a real time (Web services) approach to obtain verifications from Federal and/or State data sources?
 - If not, what would it take to do so? Have you ever encountered a situation where a Web service would not be the preferred approach?
- ACA Section 1561 Standard 2.2 states that future iterations of the Federal reference software model should include additional interfaces to Federal, State or other widely-available data sources including the National Directory of New Hires, the Electronic Verification of Vital Events Record

(EVVE) system, State Income and Eligibility Verification (IEVS) systems, Public Assistance Reporting Information System (PARIS) and the U.S. Postal Service Address Standardization API.

- Real-time, web services access to which of these interfaces is most critical for your state and why?
- Are there any additional interfaces that are critical for your state?

Business Rules

- How does your state currently incorporate business rules in your transaction systems?
 - What standard do you use for consistently expressing rules?
 - If so, what benefits have you seen from doing so? What challenges did you encounter?
 - If not, what (if any) challenges has this presented? What strategies do your systems currently employ to ensure the capacity and flexibility to change and/or modify rules as needed?
- How could eligibility determinations made from these business rules be presented to consumers in a more clear, concise and unambiguous manner?
- Is additional standardization of business rules necessary to make the business rules repository proposed in Recommendation 3.2 a valuable resource?
 - What strategies would you suggest for contributing to and/or maintaining such a resource?

Transmission of Enrollment and Eligibility Information

- Does your system currently use existing HIPAA standards to transmit eligibility and enrollment information to other entities?

Privacy and Security

- How, if at all, does the consumer interact with your system(s)?
 - How difficult would it be to modify your system to offer consumer access to and control over eligibility and enrollment information?
 - Where is the greatest opportunity to do so? What is the greatest challenge? Legal or statutory barriers?
- The initial 1561 standards recommend that all entities involved in health information exchange follow the full complement of fair information practices (FIPs) when handling personally identifiable health information. How does your state incorporate the fair information practices into your eligibility and enrollment systems for Medicaid, CHIP, SNAP and TANF?
- Do your systems currently include the security safeguards recommended in the initial 1561 standards?
 - If not, what are the barriers to inclusion of such safeguards?
 - Do you systems include any additional security safeguards? If so, what?