Division of Medicaid & Long-Term Care

Nebraska Medicaid Expansion Report
May 2020

June 30, 2020

Prepared in Accordance with LB 294 (2019)
June 30, 2020

Clerk of the Legislature  
Legislative Fiscal Office  
P.O. Box 94604  
Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Clerk of the Legislature and Legislative Fiscal Office:

In accordance with LB 294 (2019) please find attached a report on Medicaid Expansion Administrative and Aid policy decisions for the calendar month of May 2020.

If you have any questions, please contact Nate Watson, JD and Cert Legis Prac, Deputy Director for Policy and Regulations, at nate.watson@nebraska.gov.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Brunssen, Interim Director  
Division of Medicaid and Long-Term Care  
Department of Health and Human Services

Attachments: 2
The Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Medicaid and Long-Term Care (MLTC), provides the following update regarding Medicaid Expansion Administrative and Aid policy decisions for the calendar month of May 2020:

MLTC completed its contract amendments with its contracted managed care entities (MCEs) to include the coverage of the new adult expansion population. The contract amendments also contain new payment rates to the MCEs as well as MCE operational and program requirements. The amendments are currently with the MCEs for their signature.

Medicaid continues to hire and train additional eligibility staff, who will be tasked with processing Medicaid applications, including the additional applications expected to be submitted by expansion-eligible individuals. Eligibility staff received online training modules related to Medicaid expansion in May; training will continue over the next few months. Among the upcoming training activities is classroom-style training, which will be delivered in June and July. MLTC adjusted its initial plans for timing, location, and delivery style of the training to take into account COVID-19 restrictions.

Business processes continue to be finalized for eligibility staff, to ensure staff are ready to begin accepting applications on August 1, 2020. Of note is the medically frail process, which will ensure those individuals (because of their particular needs) receive Prime benefits.

The technology build for expansion continues. Coding and unit testing for all the IT systems has been completed. Integration testing between two of DHHS’s main IT systems, MMIS and N-FOCUS, is underway. User acceptance testing of the new systems is also underway.

The project communications team began to develop informational materials for the public related to expansion, including a beneficiary FAQ, a fact sheet, and fliers. These materials will be finalized by July. Presentation sessions with key stakeholders across the state also began to be scheduled in May; most of these sessions will occur in July.

Discussions continue and are ongoing with our federal and Nebraska partners. Implementation remains on track for October 1, 2020.

For the latest project schedule, please refer to the attached timeline.
Heritage Health Adult Alternative Implementation Plan Timeline

5/1/2020
Formally Approve Alternative Implementation Plan

5/1/2020
Begin Accepting HHA Applications

8/5/2020
HHA Implementation

Quarter 2 2020

Track 1
- CMS Review and Approval of ABP SPAs
- 1 – Alternative Benefits Plan
- 2 – State Plan Amendment

Track 2
- CMS Drafting Special Terms and Conditions
- 1115 Demonstration Waiver – CMS Negotiations

Track 3
- 1915(b) Tribal Notice
- CMS Review and Approval of 1915(b) Renewal
- 1915(c) Waiver Updates
- CMS Review and Approval of 1915(c) Waivers
- SUD Waiver Amendment
- Tribal & Public Comment
- CMS Review and Approval of SUD Waiver
- Revise MCE/EF Amendments – DAS Review

Track 4
- Develop MCE and EB Operational Readiness Plans
- Conduct MCE and EB Operational Readiness Reviews

Track 5
- Coding & Unit Testing
- System, Integration, Regression, & Performance Test
- UAT & Vendor Testing
- Eligibility and Medically Frail BPR
- Develop Process and Job Aid Documentation

Track 6
- Incorporate Rates in MCE Contracts
- Eligibility Team HHA Training
- Process HHA Applications

Track 7
- Public Hearing
- Attorney General Review
- GPRO Final Approval & Governor Signature
- SOS Filing

Track 8
- Prepare Advanced Planning Document Update
- CMS Review and Approval of Advanced Planning Document Update

Track 9
- MCO KPI Definition
- MCO KPI Development
- MCO KPI Reporting

Track 10
- Operational Metric Definition
- Operational Metric Development & Training
- Operational Metric Reporting

Phase I – Communication Development

Phase II – Communication Development

Figure 1: HHA Alternative Implementation Timeline – Draft Projection