



# DSRIP Update

## DSRIP Program Update

CMS gave final approval of the DSRIP Transition Plan on September 2, 2020. The approved plan included changes to milestone deliverable deadlines due to Texas' focus on the COVID-19 response. The CMS approved [DSRIP Transition Plan](#) is available publicly on the 1115 Waiver website.

Transition Plan Goal and Milestones	Original Deadline	Revised Deadline
<p><b>Advance APMs to Promote Healthcare Quality</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Milestone: HHSC advances Alternative Payment Models (APMs) in the Medicaid program and delivery system by updating the Texas Medicaid Quality Strategy and Texas Value-Based Payment (VBP) Roadmap to address program and stakeholder goals.</li> </ul>	12/31/20	3/31/21
<p><b>Support Further Delivery System Reform</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Milestone: HHSC identifies and submits to CMS any proposals for new programs, including state-directed payment programs, to sustain key DSRIP initiative areas. This would include programs that require an amendment to the Waiver to begin in DY 11.</li> </ul>	9/30/20	12/31/20
<p><b>Explore Innovative Financing Models</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Milestone: HHSC assesses Texas' current financial incentives for Medicaid MCOs and providers to enter into meaningful quality-based alternative payment models and identifies potential opportunities to strengthen or align incentives. This work includes providing additional guidance to Medicaid MCOs and</li> </ul>	3/31/21	6/30/21

providers for allowable Quality Improvement costs to help sustain certain successful DSRIP strategies.		
<p><b>Strengthen Supporting Infrastructure to Improve Health</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Milestone: HHSC assesses the current capacity and use of telemedicine and telehealth, particularly in rural areas of Texas, to inform next steps to address access gaps.</li> </ul>	12/31/20	6/30/21
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Milestone: HHSC identifies options for the Regional Healthcare Partnership structure post-DSRIP.</li> </ul>	3/31/21	6/30/21

## Partner Engagement

### Quarterly Meetings

The last Partner Engagement Quarterly Meeting was held on August 28, 2020. The slides from the webinar are available for viewing [here](#).

HHSC will hold its next quarterly DSRIP Partner Engagement meeting via webinar on November 16, 2020 at 2:30 PM. Please use [this link](#) to register for the webinar. Once registered, a meeting link will be sent to join the webinar.

### Best Practices Workgroup (BPW)

Based on the top ten key measures and practices prioritized by the Workgroup, a third survey was distributed to BPW members with the goals of 1) better understanding whether Medicaid and Low Income/Uninsured (MLIU) data on identified key measures and practices may be stratified by additional characteristics and 2) exploring various factors influencing an organization’s decision to adopt the identified key measures and practices. The responses will assist HHSC in development of additional options for sustaining DSRIP success.

*Survey 3: Key Measures and Practices – Stratifying MLIU Population Data and Exploring Organizational Factors* was completed between August 13, 2020 and September 9, 2020 with a survey response rate of 62% (52/84 members). HHSC is currently analyzing the results.

## DSRIP Transition Milestone Progress

HHSC continues progress on all DSRIP Transition milestones. Teams are researching various programs in other states, reviewing policy developments and health literature, and conducting analyses to inform potential new policies and program options for Demonstration Years 11, 12, and beyond.

Analyses in progress:

- Academic Health Science Centers (AHSCs): The milestone team is collaborating with the HHSC Provider Finance Department (PFD) and stakeholders regarding a potential directed payment program (DPP) for physician practices to replace the Network Access Improvement Program (NAIP) and align with DSRIP transition. Stakeholder workgroup meetings began September 17, 2020 to determine the options for financing/eligibility and quality components. The goal is to develop a concept paper by November 1, 2020.
- Hospitals: The DSRIP team and PFD began work September 9, 2020 with a hospital-specific stakeholder workgroup to develop options for changes to the Uniform Hospital Rate Increase Program (UHRIP) DPP to be effective in Demonstration Year (DY) 11 (October 1, 2021). CMS has indicated that the UHRIP program should better connect to the Texas Quality Strategy, and HHSC is working to align UHRIP with DSRIP Transition. The DSRIP team is leading the Quality subcommittee of stakeholders to develop recommendations for quality changes to UHRIP that advance the Quality Strategy and further the best practices identified in DSRIP.
- The University of Texas School of Public Health and the Texas Medicaid External Quality Review Organization conducted a focus study report for HHSC that evaluates the impact of a set of social determinants of health (SDOH) variables on health care quality measures in the Texas Medicaid Managed Care and CHIP populations. The first two components of the study, focused on Texas children in Medicaid and CHIP and Medicaid pregnant women, are complete. The final and third component, focused on the Texas Medicaid STAR+PLUS adult population, will be complete later this fall. The assessment, a Transition Plan milestone deliverable, is due to CMS March 31, 2021.
- The Center for Health Care Strategies (CHCS), with support from the Episcopal Health Foundation (EHF), is convening and facilitating a series of four monthly calls with a panel of national and local SDOH subject matter experts to help provide input on priority areas identified by HHSC as key for informing possible new program proposals, policy changes, and strategies for quality improvement in Texas Medicaid related to SDOH.

- HHSC worked with the Texas Organization of Rural & Community Hospitals (TORCH), the Texas Association of Rural Health Clinics (TARHC), the e-Health Advisory Committee (e-HAC), and staff from the Institute of Child Health Policy (ICHP) to develop a survey to assess the participation of Texas rural hospitals and rural health clinics (RHCs) in telemedicine and telehealth services prior to COVID-19 and during COVID-19, as well as barriers to their participation in these services. The survey closed September 23. HHSC plans to release a summary of the survey results by December 2020.
- HHSC sent DSRIP Performing Providers a survey on Alternative Payment Models. The survey closed September 28, 2020. Results will inform the VBP Roadmap and Milestone 7 report on financial incentives for APMs.