



February 19, 2020

The Honorable Seema Verma, Administrator
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Hubert H. Humphrey Building, Room 445-G
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20201

Re: Request to extend the Medicare-Medicaid Plan (MMP) Dual Demonstration Project (Dual Demonstration)

Dear Ms. Verma,

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) entered into a federal-state partnership in 2014 under the authority of §1115A of the Social Security Act, with a goal of better serving Texans eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid benefits (dual eligible) through the Dual Demonstration.


The current Dual Demonstration contract terminates on December 31, 2020. HHSC is formally requesting to extend the Dual Demonstration contract for three additional years.

HHSC determined the best way to serve the dual eligible population is to extend the Dual Demonstration and enhance the current Medicare Advantage Plan Dual-Eligible Special Needs Plans (MAP D-SNP) and State of Texas Access Reform Plus Long-Term Care (STAR+PLUS) programs to align with new federal regulations published in April 2019 under the Code of Federal Regulations at 42 C.F.R. §422.107. Extending the Dual Demonstration provides HHSC the opportunity to continue to analyze the cost effectiveness, quality, and utilization of the program in Texas.

Seema Verma
February 19, 2020
Page 2

HHSC welcomes the opportunity to further discuss this extension request, as well as the state's continued commitment to integrated, patient-centered care, and its partnership with the CMS Medicare-Medicaid Coordination Office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephanie Muth", written in a cursive style.

Stephanie Muth
State Medicaid Director