



AFFORDABLE CARE ACT MASSACHUSETTS IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

January 20, 2015

Quick Links

[MA-ACA Website](#)



These Updates, published by the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) in consultation with the other state agencies involved in ACA implementation, will bring you news related to the implementation of provisions of the ACA here in Massachusetts.

Grants and Demonstrations

The ACA provides funding opportunities to transform how health care is delivered, expand access to care and support healthcare workforce training.

Grant Activity

For information about ACA grants awarded to and grant proposals submitted by the Commonwealth, visit the Grants page of the **Massachusetts National Health Care Reform website** at: www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/commissions-and-initiatives/healthcare-reform/national-health-care-reform-plan/grants-and-demonstrations.html

Guidance

Prior guidance can be found at: www.hhs.gov/healthcare/index.html.

Commonwealth of MA News

CMS awarded the Massachusetts Health Connector over \$13 million in funding to finalize the setup of their health care exchanges. This funding is authorized under ACA §2793.

These awards are the final instalment of CMS's grant award program for state exchange establishment purposes. Through this program the Health Connector received a Level 1E award of \$9,718,991 on December 17, 2014 and a Level 1F award of \$3,289,882 on December 22, 2014.

The Level 1E funding will go towards assisting the Health Connector in support of promoting their ACA-compliant SHOP for small businesses and payment processing solutions in hCentive, and CMS-required and new critical functionality in the MA HIX in order to retain current members and attract new members. This funding will allow the Health Connector to invest in efforts to achieve ACA compliance and build on the success of the state's initial health reform efforts and coverage gains.

The Level 1F award will assist the Health Connector in attracting new and retaining existing members, both individuals and small employers, as well as enhancing the new eligibility determination system in CY2015 to enable a more user friendly experience and support back office operations. Proposed new enhancements include functionality for program determination, plan management, shopping and plan selection, enrollment, noticing and back office support.

Overall CMS awarded nearly \$300 million in final exchange grant awards to ten states and Washington, D.C. The final funds were distributed on January 5, 2015.

Read the Level 1E grant narratives at: www.mass.gov/eohhs/docs/eohhs/healthcare-reform/grants/141217-sec-2793-level-1e-establishment-abstract.pdf

Read the Level 1F grant narrative at: www.mass.gov/eohhs/docs/eohhs/healthcare-reform/grants/141222-sec-2793-level-1f-establishment-abstract.pdf

Upcoming Events

Integrating Medicare and Medicaid for Dual Eligible Individuals (also known as One Care) Implementation Council Meetings

Friday, February 13, 2015, 1:00 pm-3:00 pm
State Transportation Building
10 Park Plaza, Conference Rooms 2 & 3
Boston, MA

Friday, March 13, 2015, 1:00 pm-3:00 pm
State Transportation Building
10 Park Plaza, Conference Rooms 2 & 3
Boston, MA

Bookmark the **Massachusetts National Health Care Reform website** at: [National Health Care Reform](http://NationalHealthCareReform.com) to read updates on ACA implementation in Massachusetts.

Remember to check the Mass.Gov website at: [Dual Eligibles](http://DualEligibles.com) for information on the "**Integrating Medicare and Medicaid for Dual Eligible Individuals**" initiative.



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