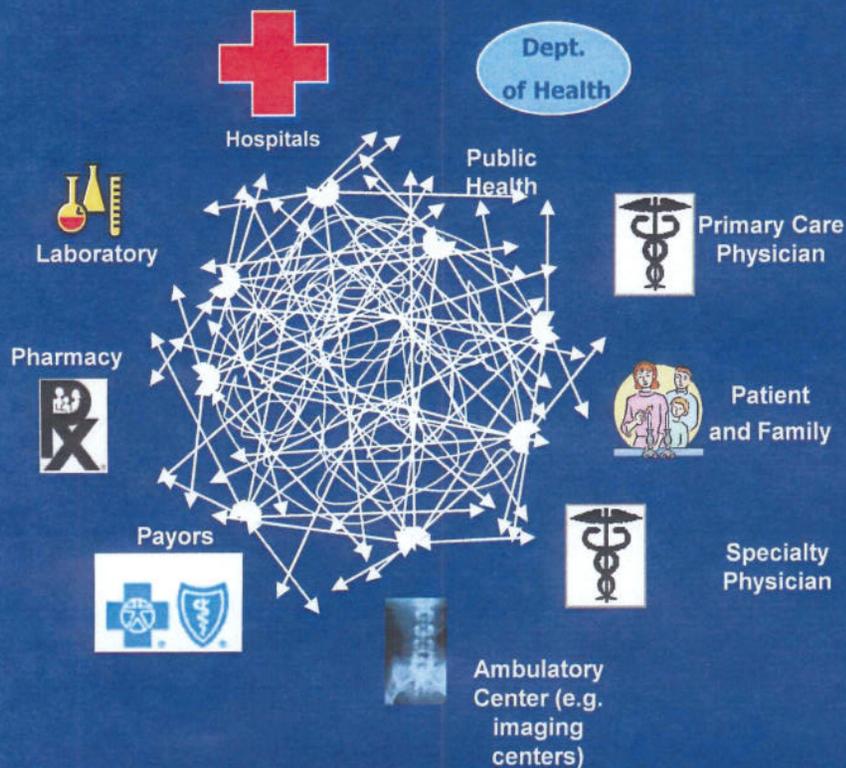


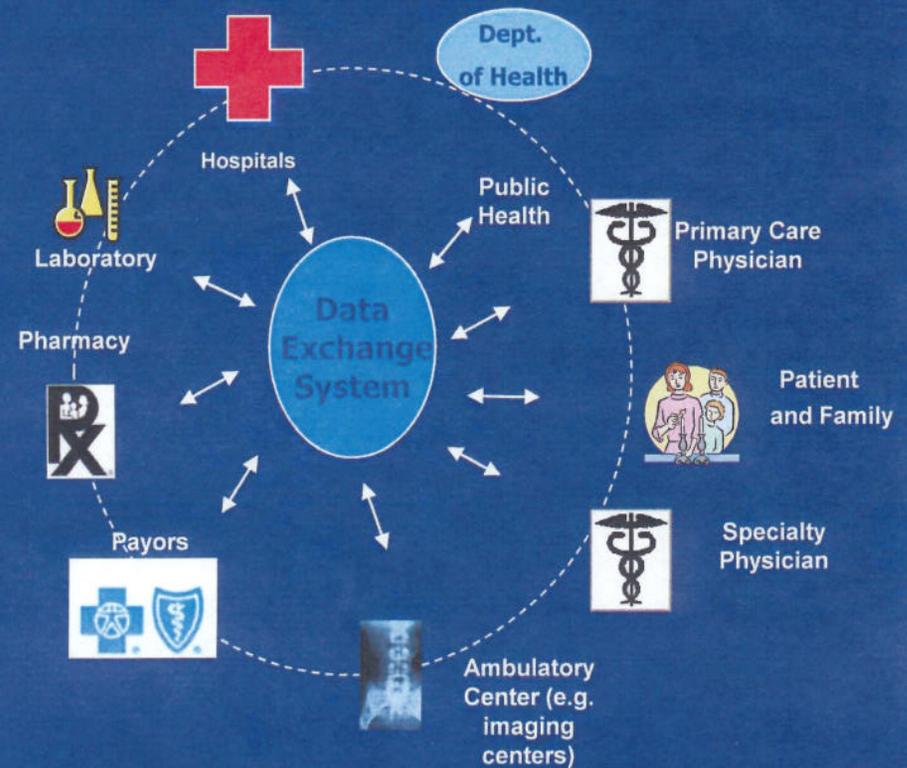


Statewide/Regional Health Information Exchange (HIE)

Current system fragments patient information and creates redundant, inefficient efforts



The HIE consolidates information and provide a foundation safer, higher-quality care



MEDICAID MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (MMIS) DESIGN DEVELOPMENT IMPLEMENTATION (DDI) REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Objectives/History

The Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) is rebuilding the state's Medicaid claims processing and payment system. The state's current system — commonly called the Medicaid Management Information System or MMIS — is about 20 years old and needs to be replaced with more modern technology. Federal law requires all states participating in the Medicaid program to operate an automated claims processing system which must be certified by the federal government as a MMIS. Federal rules also require these fiscal agent contracts be competitively bid.

In September 2007 the department awarded a contract to Affiliated Computer Services (ACS) for a new MMIS. The contract includes: design, development and implementation of a new claims payment system; a claims data warehouse information system; and operations of the new system for five years. The Division of Health Care Services (DHCS) administers the Medicaid program and has the vision to maintain access to health care and provide health coverage for Alaskans in need. ACS has the experience to fulfill this vision, combining the latest program innovations and technological advancements.

The new MMIS, known as Alaska Medicaid Health Enterprise, is scheduled to be in operation summer 2010. The system will be available to providers and recipients who participate in the medical assistance programs as well as the fiscal agent and state staff. Alaska Medicaid Health Enterprise is a sophisticated, Web-enabled solution for administering all Medicaid programs. It will have self-service features so users can access the system through a user-friendly Web portal. This progressive MMIS system will incorporate innovative features and advancements that provide the foundation for future growth.

A priority goal for the division is to transition to the new Alaska Medicaid Health Enterprise with minimum disruption to state employees, providers and recipients, while overcoming the challenges of provider enrollment and provider/recipient training.

Current Status

Alaska Medicaid Health Enterprise, the new MMIS, is on schedule to go live summer 2010. The project is on time and on budget. The Requirements Phase completed March 2009. This is a major project milestone that resulted in clarification of over 4,600 system requirements. During fiscal year 2009 the project will complete the majority of the design and start construction. During fiscal year 2010 the project will complete construction and user acceptance testing. At the beginning of fiscal year 2011 the new MMIS will go live and commence the certification process.

Measures

The project is using standard project management processes as defined in the Project Management Book of Knowledge, published by the Project Management Institute. The project

reports the schedule performance index (SPI) measure to the project governance committee monthly. The current SPI as of 31 May 2009 is 0.99.

Contact Information

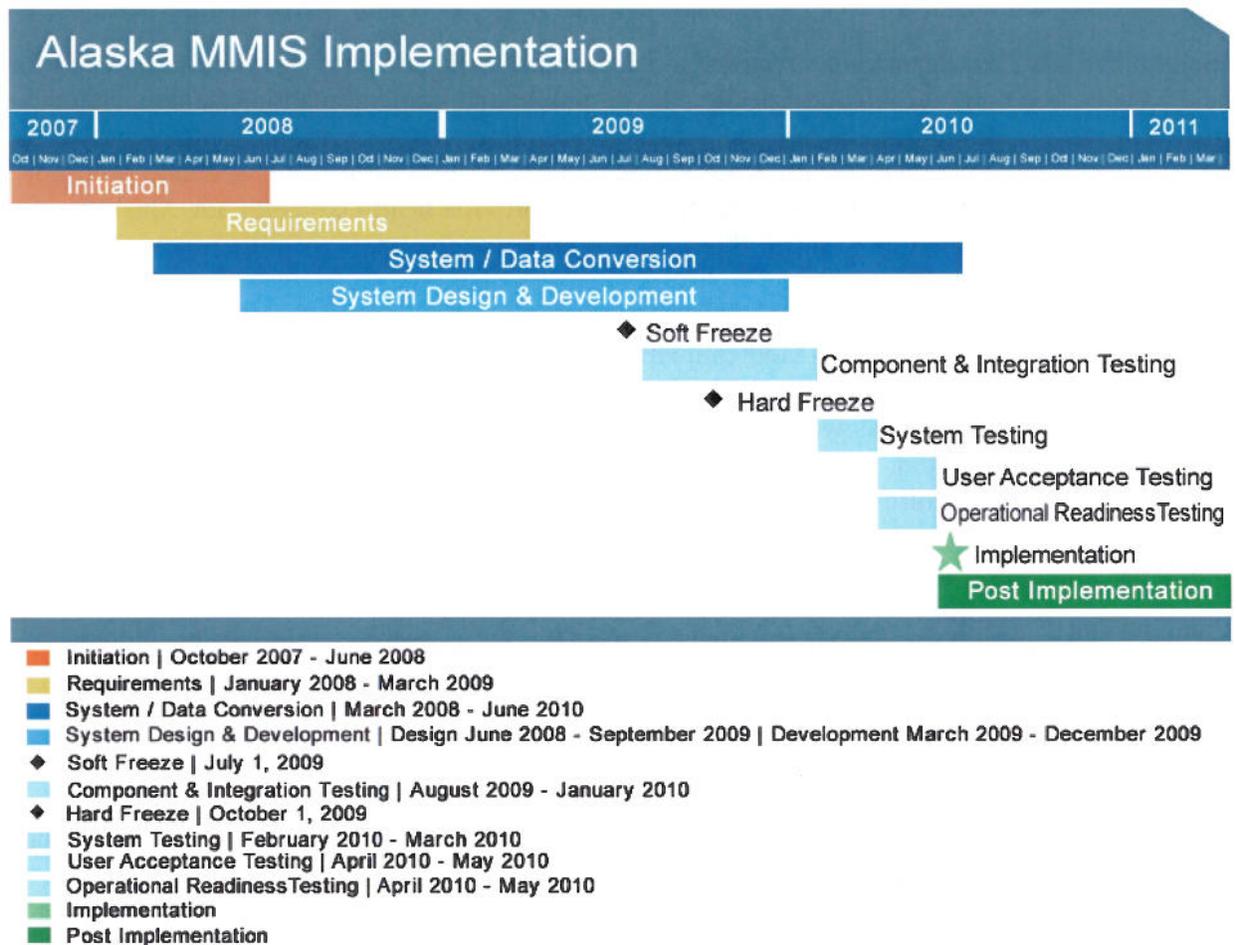
William Streur, Deputy Commissioner for Medicaid and Health Care Policy, e-mail:

william.streur@alaska.gov

Paul Cartland, Project Manager, e-mail: paul.cartland@alaska.gov

Donna Underhill-Noel, Deputy Project Manager, e-mail: donna.underhill-noel@alaska.gov

Project Timeline¹



¹ Alaska Medicaid Health Enterprise, Project Timeline: http://www.internal.hss.state.ak.us/mmis/project_status.html retrieved 08/13/2009.

RFLOI – Electronic Health Information Exchange

BACKGROUND

The State of Alaska, Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) is seeking letters of interest from a qualified entity or a combination of qualified entities in the State of Alaska to create a statewide electronic health information exchange (HIE) as a clinical information-sharing system designed to share medical records in an effort to improve health care quality and efficiency through the authorized and secure electronic exchange and use of health information.

The designee may be a private for-profit or nonprofit entity or entities under contract with the state. The designee will take such actions as are necessary to create, operate, and promote the sustainable use of a statewide HIE. The designee will operate subject to the approval of the Commissioner of the Department of Health and Social Services or his designated representative. The designee must meet the requirements for "Qualified State Designated Entities" as outlined in American Recovery & Reinvestment Act, Public Law 111-5, sec. 301(f) and sec. 4, ch. 24, SLA 2009 (AS 18.23.300(b)(1)(A) including the Alaska specific requirements to have an advisory or governing body that must include:

1. The Commissioner of the Department of Health and Social Services;
2. Eight other individuals, each of whom represents one of the following interests:
 - a. Hospitals and nursing home facilities;
 - b. Private and medical care providers;
 - c. Community-based primary care providers;
 - d. Federal health care providers;
 - e. Alaska tribal health organizations;
 - f. Health insurers;
 - g. Health care consumers;
 - h. Employers or businesses; and
3. Two non-voting liaison members who shall serve to enhance communication and collaboration between the designee and both the Board of Regents of the University of Alaska and the commission established in the governor's office to review health care policy.

DELIVERABLES

The qualified entity or entities will potentially provide (but not limited to) the following deliverables:

- Apply for federal and state funding for planning implementation of a health information exchange (HIE) system.

- Submit an annual budget to the commissioner of DHSS.
- Provide cost and cost savings data for the development and use of the HIE.
- Develop a statewide infrastructure to support and connect the HIE records to the infrastructure.
- Develop a statewide technology plan to promote implementation and sustained use of the HIE.
- Ensure interoperability of the HIE with government, public and private health information reporting systems.
- Develop privacy and security standards including nationally recognized standards for the HIE consistent with all applicable federal and state laws to safeguard the privacy and security of health information.
- Develop training and workforce development plans for the implementation and operation of the HIE.
- Estimate hardware, software and service costs for the implementation and ongoing support of the HIE infrastructure.
- Provide for HIE installation and training.
- Provide a plan for encouraging health care provider, payor, and patient use of electronic health records.
- Provide support to providers for workflow redesign, quality improvement and care management services.
- Include all identified stakeholders in planning and implementation.
- Provide for periodic evaluation and improvement of the HIE.

This is not a solicitation for services; it is merely an attempt to determine interest and availability of entities that are willing and able to perform the deliverables. Explanation of an entity's specific ability, staffing resources and dedicated availability to provide the deliverables identified in this request must be addressed in your letter. If only one response is received, the department may pursue a single source contract.

To be eligible for consideration, Letters of Interest must be received by August 18, 2009, 4:00 p.m. Alaska Standard Time at:

Department of Health and Social Services
Finance and Management Services
Attn: Lois Blastick
3601 C Street, Suite 578
Anchorage, AK 99503

Emailed responses are acceptable and can be sent to: lois.blastick@alaska.gov

Any technical or procedural questions regarding this RFLOI should be addressed to the person listed above in this document. All questions shall be received in writing and must be received before August 12, 2009. No further questions will be allowed after that date.



Provider Re-Enrollment Project



Re-Enrollment

Alaska Medicaid Health Enterprise

The Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) is replacing its Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS) with a web-based MMIS, Alaska Medicaid Health Enterprise, that will incorporate innovative features and technological advancements. The new features will allow providers to perform Medicaid transactions real time, online. Alaska Medicaid Health Enterprise is scheduled to go live in summer 2010.

Alaska Medicaid Health Enterprise will not require providers to change the way they submit claims. As a web-based system, Alaska Medicaid Health Enterprise will use the Internet to offer more options for submitting and correcting claims in "real time" and allow electronic payments directly into the provider's bank account. Providers can choose to log into the secure and interactive web site to enroll in the program online, change enrollment information online, submit claims online and check the status of their claims over the Internet.

Required Provider Re-enrollment

DHSS is striving to make transition as easy as possible for providers. Because accurate information is a critical component for the successful implementation of Enterprise, DHSS is conducting a re-enrollment of all providers. The purpose of this required re-enrollment is to ensure current provider contact and billing information, validate existing information and obtain additional data needed in the new system.

Re-enrollment Workshops

Provider re-enrollment activities begin in August 2009 with a general notice from DHSS to all active providers notifying them of the requirement to re-enroll in the Alaska Medical Assistance program. The August notice will encourage providers to attend one of the re-enrollment workshops conducted throughout the State in September and October 2009. The workshop schedule and registration will be posted on www.medicaidalaska.com.

Personal Re-enrollment Letter

Providers will receive a personal re-enrollment letter beginning in late September 2009 with re-enrollment instructions and a unique PIN to re-enroll on the new enrollment website. Providers may contact the Re-enrollment Helpline if they do not have Internet access.

All providers are encouraged to take advantage of the re-enrollment workshops offered in fall 2009 and complete the required validation process, preferably on the new secure enrollment website, as early as possible.

For additional information about the re-enrollment project, go to www.medicaidalaska.com or call the Re-enrollment Helpline at 1-888-944-6877 or 907-644-5993