

Good Life. Great Mission.

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Division of Medicaid & Long-Term Care

Nebraska Medicaid Expansion Report May 2020

June 30, 2020

Prepared in Accordance with LB 294 (2019)



DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



Pete Ricketts, Governor

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 <u>nate.watson@nebraska.gov.</u>

Sincerely,

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

Attachments: 2

Medicaid Expansion Programs 249 (Administration) & 349 (Aid)

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.

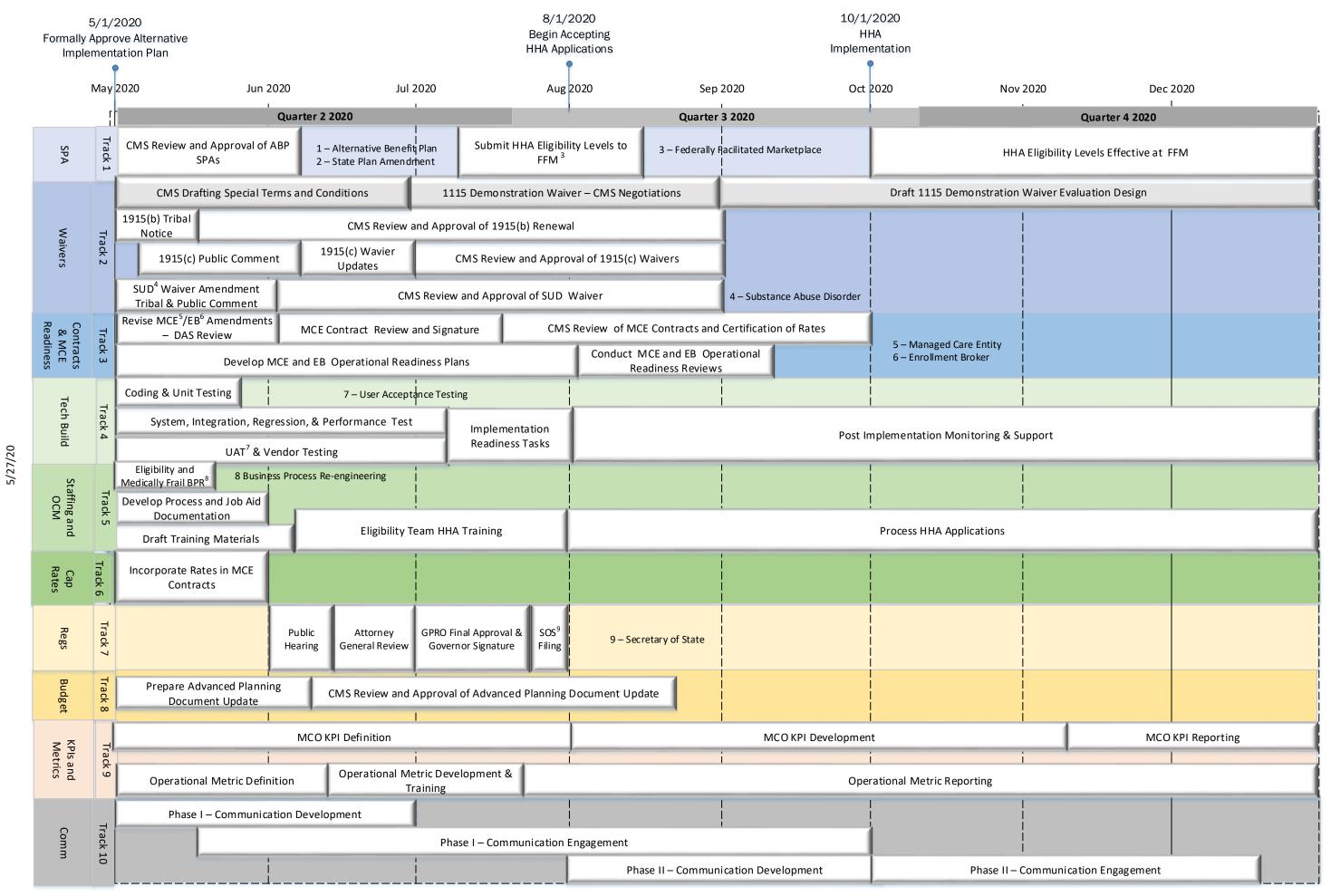


Figure 1: HHA Alternative Implementation Timeline – Draft Projection