1115 Medicaid Transformation Demonstration Project

Glossary of key terms

This document provides key terms used with the Medicaid Transformation Demonstration Project. It will be updated as needed.

Additional information on the demonstration can be found in the FAQ, fact sheets and other resources posted on the online communications library.

- General terms -

**Designated State Health Programs (DSHP):** Health programs funded entirely by the state that provide safety-net health care services for low-income or uninsured individuals. Under an 1115 demonstration, spending on these programs can sometimes be used to draw down a federal funding match without affecting the operations of the program itself. Federal matching of DSHP expenditures will make up a portion of the resources supporting Washington State’s Medicaid Transformation project initiatives.

**Inter-Governmental Transfers (IGT):** Under Medicaid, a government entity may transfer public funds to the state Medicaid agency so that the transferred funds can be used to draw down a federal match. Typical government entities involved in IGTs include the counties, public hospitals and tribal governments. In addition to DSHP, federal matching of IGT funds will support initiatives under the Medicaid Transformation demonstration.

**Medicaid Transformation Demonstration:** The demonstration will authorize up to $1.5 billion in federal investment in support of three initiatives:

- Transformation through Accountable Communities of Health,
- Improving Long-Term Services and Supports,
- Addressing the Social Determinants of Health.

**Section 1115 Demonstration:** Refers to Section 1115 of the Social Security Act, which allows the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to approve experimental, pilot, or demonstration projects that promote the objectives of Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Commonly referred to as the “1115 waiver,” this is not an accurate connection as authorities granted under 1115 demonstrations are not the same as Medicaid waivers. Read more about Section 1115 demonstrations.

**Special Terms and Conditions (STCs):** Section 1115 demonstrations are established by a contract between the federal government and the state. This contract includes Special Terms and Conditions that establish the base expectations for how the demonstration will be implemented, evaluated, and financed. Once final STCs are signed, the five-year demonstration period begins.

**STC Protocols:** Also referred to as “Attachments,” protocols are added to the STCs after they have been approved. These provide a higher level of detail on programmatic expectations under the demonstration. Topics covered by STC protocols include, but are not limited to, the final Transformation
Project Toolkit for Initiative 1, reporting requirements for drawing down federal investment, and expectations for new services authorized by the demonstration. These are typically added in the weeks and months after approval of STCs.

- Initiative 1 -

Transformation through Accountable Communities of Health (ACH)

Accountable Communities of Health (ACH): An Accountable Community of Health is a group of people and organizations from a variety of sectors in a given region with a common interest in improving health. With support from the state, they are voluntarily organizing to make community-based decisions on health needs and priorities without duplicating services. ACHs develop, implement and monitor transformation projects under Initiative 1 of the demonstration.

Delivery System Reform Incentive Program/Payment/Pool (DSRIP): This term refers to the type of funds available under Initiative 1 of the demonstration. DSRIP funds are unique to 1115 Medicaid demonstrations in that they are meant to incentivize providers to achieve specific milestones and outcomes related to improving care for Medicaid enrollees. DSRIP funds are not grants, providers must demonstrate specific milestones have been met before receipt. Read more about DSRIP.

Transformation Projects: Transformation projects define the objectives, strategies and metrics for Initiative 1 incentive payments. Projects will be developed by each ACH and approved by the state.

Transformation Project Toolkit: The toolkit provides the guidance and structure for ACHs to develop their transformation project applications, which, once approved, will dictate how DSRIP funds can be earned. The toolkit is comprised of three distinct domains: Health Systems and Community Capacity Building, Care Delivery Redesign, and Prevention and Health Promotion.

These domains, and projects within them, were informed by research-based best-practices, similar approaches in other states, and over 180 transformation project ideas submitted by partners and stakeholders in January of 2016. Read the draft Transformation Project Toolkit.

- Initiative 2 -

Family care giver supports

Long-term Services and Supports: This initiative tests new services that support unpaid family caregivers and provides targeted supports to people who may or may not qualify for Medicaid.

- Initiative 3 -

Social determinants of health

Supportive Housing Services: This refers to a set of wraparound services intended to help individuals with significant barriers get and keep stable housing. Under the demonstration, these services will be a Medicaid benefit available to target populations with a medical need for housing support. These services
cannot pay for room and board related expenses. Read more on providing supportive housing services through Medicaid.

**Supported Employment Services**: Supported employment services are individualized to enable the participant to be successful in integrating into the job setting. Services provide ongoing intensive support for eligible individuals to obtain and maintain an individual job in competitive or customized employment, or self-employment. Read more on providing supported employment services through Medicaid.