

D-SNP Contracting for MLTSS

The DMAS Team appreciates provider attention to the following message:

As many of you are now aware, the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS), with support from the Governor and the General Assembly, is currently working to move the majority of beneficiaries remaining in Medicaid fee-for-service into a coordinated managed care model by July 2017. The remaining populations include duals (those individuals receiving both Medicare and Medicaid) as well as Medicaid-only individuals who receive long-term services and supports (LTSS) either through an institution or through one of DMAS' six home and community based services waivers. Most of you will recognize this new program as the Managed Long Term Services and Supports (MLTSS) program. It is anticipated the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the MLTSS Program will be released in the Spring of 2016.

Please be aware that as part of this program the selected vendors that are not currently operating a Medicare special needs plan (D-SNP) will be required to obtain D-SNP certification within two years of MLTSS contract award. A D-SNP is a Medicare Advantage Plan that will be used by the MLTSS health plans to coordinate their dually eligible enrollees' Medicare and Medicaid benefits. The process to become a D-SNP, which is controlled by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), begins in November of each year, and takes at least one year to complete the certification process. **This means the health plans that do not have an operating D-SNP in Virginia and are hoping to be awarded a MLTSS contract may have been, or will be, reaching out to providers to contract for this line of business.** As part of the D-SNP application process, CMS requires the applicant seeking an operational D-SNP by January 2017 to have fully executed provider contracts in hand prior to certification by February of this year.

DMAS is not requiring vendors to have signed contracts to submit proposals for the RFP, only letters of intent. However, providers may wish to contract with vendors that are seeking D-SNP certification.

Additional information about MLTSS is available for viewing on the DMAS website:

http://www.dmas.virginia.gov/Content_pgs/mltss-home.aspx

Specific questions regarding this message can be sent to vamltss@dmas.virginia.gov