

Policy Committee Minutes
January 24, 2021
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Board Members Present: Christy Blakely, Claire Brockbank, Adela Flores-Brennan, and Patrick Gordon

Staff Present: Brian Braun, Bailey Dvorak, Jessalyn Hampton, Danny O’Neil, Emma Oppenheim, Carolyn Pickton, Ilana Rivera, Alan Schmitz, Nina Schwartz, Monica VanBuskirk, and Ezra Watland

I. Welcome and Introduction

Adela Flores-Brennan chaired the Policy Committee Meeting and called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m., welcoming those in attendance.

The November Committee minutes were reviewed and approved.

II. HCPF Update

Staff from the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy & Financing (HCPF) provided an update to the Committee:

- The public health emergency (PHE) has been extended through April 16, 2022
- The PHE can be extended for up to 90 days at a time
- HCPF continues to work through planning and strategies regarding the end of the PHE
- HCPF will begin their renewal revamp project next month which will be critical during the COVID-19 unwind
- HCPF has begun collaboration with community partners for an “Update Address” campaign

III. DOI Update

Staff from the Division of Insurance (DOI) provided an update to the Committee:

- The following emergency regulations have been adopted by the Commissioner without going through the rulemaking process:
 - Emergency regulation 22-E-03 – Concerning establishing a special enrollment period for enrollment in an individual health benefit plan – effective 1/15/22
 - Emergency regulation 22-E-02 – Concerning prior authorizations for durable medical equipment and prescription refills – effective 1/11/22

- [Emergency regulation 22-E-04](#) – Concerning coverage and reimbursement for COVID-19 vaccines during the COVID-19 recovery – effective 1/19/22
- Links to all emergency regulations can be found [here](#)
- Current draft regulations and bulletins for informal public comment can be found [here](#)
- The following regulation has been through the public hearing process and has been adopted by the Insurance Commissioner but is not yet effective:
 - [Regulations 4-2-80](#) – Concerning network adequacy standards and reporting requirements for Colorado Option Standardized Health Benefit Plans – Effective 3/2/22
- Two Colorado Option Standardized plan stakeholder meetings took place December 15, 2021, and January 3, 2022, to discuss the draft methodology for the premium rate reduction requirements for the 2021 plan year
 - All meeting materials and registration can be found [here](#)
 - Colorado option standardized plan – frequently asked questions can be found [here](#)
- The next Colorado Prescription Drug Affordability Board (PDAB) meeting will be held February 2, 2022. Information on the PDAB can be found [here](#)

IV. 2022 Legislative Session

Members of the Connect for Health Colorado contract lobby team, Mariah Cook and Arlene Miles, provided the Committee with a high-level update on the current legislative session.

- Legislative session began January 12, 2022
- 222 bills have been introduced so far
- March 2, 2022 is the deadline for final passage of Senate bills in the Senate and House bills in the House
- March 28, 2022 is the deadline for introduction of the budget in the House. The budget must be completed by April 8, 2022
- Senate bill SB22-081, sponsored by Senator Jim Smallwood, regarding consumer outreach – introduced 1/20/22, effects Connect for Health Colorado.
- The 2021 final approved redistricting maps can be found [here](#)

As a reminder, Connect for Health Colorado only takes position on Legislation that directly impacts the operation of the Exchange and its customers.

Connect for Health Colorado will be presenting at the 2022 State Measurement for Accountable, Responsive, and Transparent Government (SMART) act hearing on January 27, 2022. Audio and video can be found [here](#).

V. Notice of Benefit and Payment Parameters

Staff presented [proposed rulemaking](#) of the Payment Notice or Notice of Benefit & Payment Parameters. The presentation provided details on context, current timelines, and proposed rules for the 2023 benefit year.

VI. Policy Agenda: Auto-Enrollment Continued

The Committee reviewed a presentation on Auto-enrollment. Staff recapped the auto-enrollment experience in Massachusetts including benefits and challenges presented, discussed customer trust considerations, and burden reduction activities to-date.

Staff facilitated a preliminary discussion regarding guiding principles for burden reduction activities and how objectives (increase enrollments, reduce administrative burden, potential for tax reconciliation claw-backs, customer privacy and trust, and customer autonomy and choice) should be weighed when evaluating burden reduction activities. Further discussion will be forthcoming.

VII. Public Comment

Comment given by Bethany Pray, Colorado Center on Law and Policy

Meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Adela Flores-Brennan
Policy Committee Chair