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New ICRC Resources: Sample Language for State Medicaid Agency Contracts with Dual Eligible Special Needs Plans

To operate in a state, a Dual Eligible Special Needs Plan (D-SNP) must hold a contract with the state Medicaid agency. Those state Medicaid agency contracts (SMACs) must have at least certain minimum elements, and states can add additional requirements to further coordination or integration of Medicare and Medicaid benefits for D-SNP enrollees.

To help states develop their SMACs, the Integrated Care Resource Center (ICRC) created four technical assistance tools that provide sample contract language to meet federal requirements and advance state goals regarding care coordination, eligibility and enrollment, data reporting, marketing and enrollee communications, or other D-SNP activities. As a reminder, states should lead the development of their SMACs to ensure that contract requirements align with the states' goals for advancing integration for their dually eligible populations.

The four tools include:

- Sample SMAC Language – Required Elements for All D-SNPs

  Provides sample contract language for minimum SMAC elements that are *required* for all types of D-SNPs. For example, all D-SNP SMACs must identify the categories of dually eligible individuals who are eligible to enroll in the D-SNP.

- Sample SMAC Language – Required Elements for Certain D-SNPs

  Provides sample contract language for minimum SMAC elements that are *required* for certain types of D-SNPs. For example, Coordination-only (CO) D-SNPs are required to notify the state (or the state's designee) of hospital and skilled nursing facility admissions for a designated group of high-risk, full-benefit dually eligible individuals, highly integrated D-SNPs (HIDE SNPs) and fully integrated D-DNPs (FIDE SNPs) must cover certain Medicaid benefits, and Applicable Integrated Plans (AIPs) must use integrated appeal and grievance processes.

- Sample SMAC Language – Optional Elements for All D-SNPs

  Provides sample contract language for *optional* elements that states can use in SMACs with all types of D-SNPs to advance care coordination, eligibility and enrollment, data reporting, and communication and marketing goals. For example, states can require all types of D-SNPs to meet state Model of Care (MOC) expectations.

- Sample SMAC Language – Optional Elements for Certain D-SNPs

  Provides sample contract language for *optional* elements that states can use in SMACs with certain types of D-SNPs to advance care coordination, enrollment, communication materials, and data reporting goals. For example, states can require AIPs to submit unified appeal and grievance data to the state.

For questions about how to use these tools or for other assistance in developing D-SNP contracting strategies, state Medicaid agency staff can contact ICRC at ICRC@chcs.org.