

Spotlight: Implementing Exclusively Aligned Enrollment

Exclusively aligned enrollment (EAE) occurs when a state limits enrollment in its Dual Eligible Special Needs Plans (D-SNPs) to full-benefit dually eligible individuals who receive their Medicaid benefits from the D-SNP, or an affiliated Medicaid managed care plan offered by the same parent organization as the D-SNP.

Requiring D-SNPs to operate with EAE ensures that D-SNP enrollees receive a comprehensive package of benefits and coordinates several important processes for D-SNP enrollees, providers, and states. ICRC has compiled several resources to help states understand options for achieving EAE in a variety of state circumstances, relevant considerations and policy decisions, and key steps involved in implementing EAE.

2024 Spotlight Series

In 2024, ICRC will send Spotlight e-alerts highlighting resources on select topics from the [Integrated Care Resource Center website](#). These Spotlights and all other ICRC e-alerts are archived on the website. [Sign up for ICRC e-alerts](#).

ICRC Resources

- For more background information on EAE and how it works, as well as a summary of the benefits of EAE for D-SNP enrollees, providers, and states, see ICRC's tip sheet: [Tools for States on Exclusively Aligned Enrollment in Dual Eligible Special Needs Plans: Introduction to Exclusively Aligned Enrollment](#).
- For a description of the different models that states can use to achieve EAE in D-SNPs, see ICRC's webinar: [Using Exclusively Aligned Enrollment to Integrate Medicare and Medicaid Benefits for Dually Eligible Individuals](#).
- For more detail on the key policy decisions that states will need to make in preparing to implement EAE, as well as factors that states may wish to consider when making those policy decisions, see ICRC's tip sheet: [Tools for States on Exclusively Aligned Enrollment in Dual Eligible Special Needs Plans: Key Policy Decisions and Considerations for States Preparing for Exclusively Aligned Enrollment](#)
- Each month, ICRC publishes a table [Monthly Integrated Care Exclusively Aligned Enrollment Report: Dually Eligible Individuals Enrolled in Medicare-Medicaid Plans, Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly, and Applicable Integrated Plans \(AIPs\)](#) that provides the number of people enrolled in AIPs by plan and by state. Because all AIPs operate with EAE, these data also represent the number of D-SNP enrollees with EAE.

Related CMS Resources

- States that require D-SNPs to operate with EAE can also require them to: (a) establish contracts that only include one or more D-SNPs within a state, and (b) integrate certain materials and notices for enrollees. For CMS guidance to states on how to establish D-SNP only contracts, see CMS' August 22, 2023 memo: [Guidance for States Seeking to Leverage New Opportunities for Integrated Care Programs](#).

- CMS defines Applicable Integrated Plans (AIPs) as D-SNPs that operate with EAE and cover at least some Medicaid benefits through the D-SNP or through an affiliated Medicaid managed care plan operated by the same parent organization as the D-SNP. CMS publishes a spreadsheet [Integration Status for Contract Year 2024 D-SNPs](#) that lists all D-SNPs along with the state in which they operate, their integration status, and whether they are an AIP.

Next Steps

States that are interested in implementing EAE or want to know more about strategies for aligning Medicare and Medicaid enrollment can contact ICRC at ICRC@chcs.org.

ABOUT THE INTEGRATED CARE RESOURCE CENTER

The Integrated Care Resource Center is a national initiative of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to help states improve the quality and cost-effectiveness of care for individuals dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid. The state technical assistance activities are coordinated by Mathematica and the Center for Health Care Strategies. For more information, visit www.integratedcareresourcecenter.com.

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