

## **CMS Updates Processes for D-SNPs Implementing CY 2021 Medicare-Medicaid Integration and Unified Appeals and Grievance Requirements in Response to COVID-19: Clarification on Direct Contracts with States**

Today the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a [memo detailing important updates on CMS processes](#) for review and approval of state Medicaid agency contracts (SMACs) for contract year 2021. These updates acknowledge the unique circumstances resulting from Dual Eligible Special Needs Plans' (D-SNPs') and states' priority focus on the COVID-19 public health emergency.

D-SNPs and states will have more time to finalize contract language to comply with the requirements for D-SNP Medicare-Medicaid integration and unified appeals and grievance processes CMS codified in regulations that implemented new statutory provisions added by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018.

The **July 6, 2021 SMAC submission deadline for D-SNPs will not change**, but D-SNPs will have flexibility in terms of what they must submit on that date, as well as additional opportunities to correct contract deficiencies extending to **November 2, 2020**.

CMS welcomes the opportunity to review draft contract language on an informal basis prior to the July 6, 2020 SMAC submission deadline. D-SNPs and states are encouraged to carefully review the guidance (soon to be posted at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare-Medicaid-Coordination/Medicare-and-Medicaid-Coordination/Medicare-Medicaid-Coordination-Office/D-SNPs>). Please contact Paul Precht ([Paul.Precht@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Paul.Precht@cms.hhs.gov)) in CMS' Medicare-Medicaid Coordination Office with questions or to request review of draft contract language.

### **ABOUT THE INTEGRATED CARE RESOURCE CENTER**

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