

Cooperative Agreements to Support Establishment of State-Operated Health Insurance Exchanges:
State of Maine Level One Establishment Grant submitted by Dirigo Health Agency
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Project Abstract

The Dirigo Health Agency (DHA), on behalf of the State of Maine, requests a \$5,877,676 grant to support continued progress toward the planning and establishment of a Maine Health Insurance Exchange. Maine will use its funding to build upon its progress to date in establishing a state-wide Health Insurance Exchange. The goals of Maine's Health Insurance Exchange are to:

- Meet the minimum requirements of an Exchange as defined in the ACA;
- Support and expand Maine's private insurance market;
- Operate as a competitive marketplace open to all licensed/qualified insurers;
- Align with the private and public sectors to support and promote Value Based Purchasing; and
- Build upon, reallocate, and/or streamline existing private and public resources (where cost-effective and appropriate).

Maine will use funding to:

- Identify opportunities to leverage existing services, functions, and resources;
- Continue stakeholder consultation;
- Design and begin to build the business operations and systems for the Exchange and Medicaid, including the integration of existing Medicaid eligibility systems with new Exchange eligibility systems;
- Develop consumer assistance capabilities;
- Examine opportunities to modify existing programs in light of the coverage consolidations available to the state;
- Secure expert resources to support the state's Exchange planning and implementation process; and
- Engage in all other activities required to develop an Exchange that meets federal minimum requirements.

Level One funding will provide the support for Maine to collect and analyze data, consider options, and establish the framework for its potential submission of a Level Two Exchange grant in 2012.