

Drug Medi-Cal (DMC) State Plan Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) With Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans (MCP) Informational Webinar

The Drug Medi-Cal (DMC) State Plan Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with Managed Care Plans (MCPs) Informational Webinar was held on May 16, 2024. The webinar provided an overview of Behavioral Health Information Notice (BHIN) 24-016, focusing on the policy guidance, bespoke DMC/MCP MOU template, and implementation requirements.

In total, 54 participants from 33 counties/organizations attended the webinar. Participants had an opportunity to ask questions during the webinar, but no questions were posed. The presenters answered pre-determined questions which are outlined below.

Pre-Determined Questions

1. What if we cannot meet the July 1st deadline?

If counties and MCPs can demonstrate a good faith effort, they may submit quarterly reports in lieu of a final MOU until the MOU is executed. The first report is due October 30, 2024. Please notify your county liaison ASAP if you do not think you will meet the July 1, 2024, deadline.

2. Who is required to sign the MOU?

DMC State Plan County representatives will need to sign the MOU. MCPs that delegate risk to other parties will need to include signatures of those other parties. DMC State Plan contracted providers are not expected to sign the MOUs.

3. Why are Drug Medi-Cal (DMC) State Plan counties required to sign Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans (MCPs)?

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) requires MOUs between MCPs and Third-Party Entities, including DMC State Plan counties, in order to promote system transparency and accountability and ensure compliance with existing requirements. If an MCP or DMC State Plan County delegates risk for an assigned portion of its membership to a Subcontractor health care service plan, the signatories of the MOU must include the MCP, the Subcontractor, as well as the DMC State Plan County. In addition, to minimize administrative burden on counties, DHCS encourages multi-party MOUs, which may include more than one signatory entering into

agreement with one county. Lastly, DHCS requires MCPs to collaborate with DMC State Plan counties and develop MOU language that is mutually agreeable to clarify roles and responsibilities among parties, support local engagement, and facilitate the exchange of information necessary to improve care coordination and referral processes.