

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight
200 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20201



May 7, 2012

Rita Landgraf
Secretary of Health and Social Services
Delaware Department of Health and Social Services
1901 N. DuPont Highway
New Castle, Delaware 19720-1160

Re: Delaware Partnership Marketplace Conditional Approval Decision

Dear Ms. Landgraf:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) thanks you for your team's continued collaboration in developing a State Partnership Marketplace (SPM) in Delaware.

We are writing to congratulate Delaware on the many achievements recently made, including significant progress in selecting Marketplace assisters and beginning the process of qualified health plan submission review.

We also wish to inform you that CMS has removed a condition that was previously requested of all partnership states, namely to sign a memorandum of understanding outlining specific roles and responsibilities of CMS and the state. Notwithstanding removal of this condition, CMS expects Delaware to perform in accordance with the attestations in its Marketplace (Exchange) Blueprint Application submission. CMS also has removed the condition that Delaware maintain a federal funding source throughout the operations of plan year 2014.

Conditional approval will continue so long as Delaware continues to meet expected progress milestones and successfully demonstrates its ability to perform all required SPM activities. This decision is contingent upon the following conditions:

1. Delaware must demonstrate the ability to perform all required Marketplace activities in line with the attestations Delaware has made in its Marketplace (Exchange) Blueprint Application submission;
2. Delaware must comply with applicable regulations and expected progress milestones. During the first year of the program (plan year 2014), approval of SPMs will take into consideration a state's need for guidance from CMS and other federal agencies and the time necessary for infrastructure development; and

3. Delaware must obtain the appropriate authorities to enforce all Affordable Care Act health insurance market reforms.

We look forward to our continued work with Delaware's Marketplace team and welcome the prospect of continued collaboration to provide health insurance access to Delawareans through the Marketplace beginning in 2014.

Sincerely,

Gary Cohen
Director
Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight