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AHCA Announces the Award of Dental Contracts under the Statewide Medicaid Managed Care Program

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Today, the Agency for Health Care Administration (Agency) announced its intent to award contracts to three plans to provide dental services under the Statewide Medicaid Managed Care (SMMC) program. Florida law mandates that the Agency implement a statewide Medicaid prepaid dental program for children and adults as part of the SMMC program. The dental plans will each provide services statewide.

The Agency's negotiation team, made up of experts in the field of Medicaid, managed care, and dental services, have negotiated the broadest dental package ever available to Florida Medicaid recipients. As a result of the negotiation, the plans have committed to provide an array of added dental benefits to all adult Medicaid dental plan enrollees, children will continue to receive all medically necessary dental services. This includes additional dental benefits equivalent to those negotiated earlier this year with the Managed Medical Assistance (MMA) plans, **plus** additional diagnostic, preventive, and periodontics services, and other benefits specifically targeted for pregnant women, all provided **at no additional cost to the state**. The dental plans awarded today will take lead on the provision of dental services, including the dental expanded benefits, when the new plans roll-out according to the schedule below.

In the Invitations to Negotiate for this procurement the Agency laid out quality related goals for the program, including reducing potentially preventable dental related hospitalizations and visits to the emergency department. The Agency has negotiated commitments from each of the awarded plans to achieved measurable reductions in these potentially preventable dental-related events. The Agency also negotiated enhanced performance targets for these plans to increase access to preventive dental services like cleanings and check-ups for children.

In addition, the dental plans have committed to allowing individuals transitioning to their plan to be able to keep their current dental provider for longer if this new program causes them to have to switch to a different dental provider. The plans have also agreed to enter into agreements with all of the other SMMC plans (MMA and LTC) to ensure coordination of benefits between all plans participating in the SMMC program to ensure recipients can smoothly navigate between the different program components.

The contracts awarded earlier this year to health plans to provide MMA and Long-Term Care (LTC) services and the contracts awarded today for dental services will be implemented concurrently using a phased schedule beginning on December 1, 2018. The phased roll out schedule is below.

	<i>Transition Date</i>	<i>Regions</i>	<i>Counties</i>
Phase 1	December 1, 2018	9	Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee, Palm Beach, St. Lucie
		10	Broward
		11	Miami-Dade, Monroe
Phase 2	January 1, 2019	5	Pasco, Pinellas
		6	Hardee, Highlands, Hillsborough, Manatee, Polk
		7	Brevard, Orange, Osceola, Seminole
		8	Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Glades, Hendry, Lee, Sarasota
Phase 3	February 1, 2019	1	Escambia, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Walton
		2	Bay, Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Taylor, Wakulla, Washington
		3	Alachua, Bradford, Citrus, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Hernando, Lafayette, Lake, Levy, Marion, Putnam, Sumter, Suwannee, Union
		4	Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, St. Johns, Volusia

A chart including plans currently scheduled to be part of the phased implementation can be found [here](#).

Upon posting the dental plan awards, the Agency will remain in a blackout period for the next 72 hours. Florida law provides an opportunity for respondents to the solicitation who did not receive an award to challenge the result.

All information regarding the Agency's solicitation is posted via the Vendor Bid System at the following link: http://www.myflorida.com/apps/vbs/vbs_main_menu

The solicitation number for the Statewide Medicaid Prepaid Dental Health Program is AHCA ITN 012-17/18.

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