



CHAPTER 2 – ACCOUNTABLE COMMUNITIES OF HEALTH

Section 2: What are ACH Transformation Projects?

Accountable Communities of Health (ACHs) will implement projects aimed at transforming the Medicaid delivery system. These projects will be funded through federal dollars referred to as “Delivery System Reform Incentive Payments” (DSRIP). DSRIP initiatives in Washington are part of the State’s Medicaid Transformation Waiver that will provide funding to support providers in changing how they provide care to Medicaid beneficiaries.¹ The Health Care Authority (HCA) has developed a transformation project toolkit to provide guidance on projects eligible for funding.² Once the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approves the project toolkit, ACHs will begin developing Medicaid transformation project plans. Tribes, urban Indian health programs (UIHPs), and tribal organizations may pursue transformation projects collaboratively with or independently from ACHs. HCA is developing a separate framework for Tribal transformation projects independent of ACHs. See Section 4.1.

Requirements for ACH Transformation Project Funding

To receive this funding, eligible ACHs must select from the State-provided project list and implement these projects utilizing State-specific guidelines as follows:

1. **Implement three focus areas** across the ACH’s delivery system (DOMAIN 1) which include each of the following:
 - a. Financial sustainability through Value-Based Payment³
 - b. Workforce
 - c. Systems for Population Health Management
2. **Implement at least two of the following projects** (DOMAIN 2):
 - a. Bi-Directional Integration of Care and Primary Care Transformation -REQUIRED
 - b. Community-based Care Coordination - Optional
 - c. Transitional Care – Optional
3. **Implement at least two of the following projects** (DOMAIN 3):
 - a. Addressing the Opioid Use Public Health Crisis -REQUIRED
 - b. Maternal and Child Health – Optional
 - c. Access to Oral Health Services – Optional
 - d. Chronic Disease Prevention and control-Optional

Funding for Transformation Projects

Transformation projects are not grants. ACHs and their partners will receive funds only upon meeting project goals. In the early years, payments will be made for meeting process milestones. Later, funding will be in the form of “incentive payments” which will be based on improvements in outcome measures.

More details regarding the framework for these projects and ACH requirements for transformation projects can be found at <http://www.hca.wa.gov/about-hca/healthier-washington/transformation-projects>.

¹ See <http://kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/an-overview-of-delivery-system-reform-incentive-payment-waivers>.

² See <http://www.hca.wa.gov/assets/program/waiverfactsheet-i1.pdf>.

³ Value Based Purchasing refers to a payment strategy where providers are paid based on the value (cost, efficacy, quality) of care they deliver (value-based care), instead of the number of visits and tests they order (fee-for-service).