The Office of eHealth Innovation

Frequently Asked Questions- December 2016

What is the Office of eHealth Innovation and why was it created?

The Office of eHealth Innovation was created under Governor Hickenlooper by Executive Order B 2015-008, in November of 2015. OeHI and the eHealth Commission were formed as a State Designated Entity (SDE) in order to govern Colorado's Health IT needs, achieve significant technological advances and support transformational health programs throughout the state.

Through coordinated efforts, the foundation of Health IT in Colorado will be strong and sustainable. The Office of eHealth Innovation will provide an open and transparent statewide collaborative effort to develop common policies, procedures, and technical approaches aimed to enhance Colorado's Health IT network. OeHI helps support innovation and transformation by reducing and removing barriers to enhance the state's Health IT infrastructure.

Does the Office of eHealth Innovation build and own the Health IT infrastructure?

No, the Office of eHealth Innovation is not designed to build or host the Colorado Health IT Infrastructure, but to support the state initiatives and guide future Health IT interoperability. OeHI defines minimum criteria for qualified organizations that provide state-level technical services support. The office is led by a Director, Mary Anne Leach, along with the State Health IT Coordinator, Carrie Paykoc.

How is the Office of eHealth Innovation funded?

The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing is the administrative fiscal agent for OeHI. The Office of eHealth Innovation is funded through existing resources provided through American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) and previously secured state appropriations related to ARRA and HITECH projects. In addition, future investments in Health IT projects will be funded through

existing funding made through ARRA HITECH, other grant awards and partnerships with organizations that support Colorado's Health IT infrastructure.

What is the eHealth Commission and what is its role?

The eHealth Commission provides advice and guidance to the Office of eHealth Innovation on advancing Health IT in Colorado. The eHealth Commission is made up of thirteen members appointed by the Governor. The Commission members include individuals with knowledge and experience in primary health care delivery, behavioral health care delivery, health insurance, non-profit Health IT-related community organizations, interoperability and data exchange, consumer engagement in health care and health care quality measures. The eHealth Commission will include private sector and consumer representation along with the public sector ensuring a holistic approach to the future of Health IT in Colorado.

For more information on applying for eHealth Commission membership, visit:

https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/governor/boards-and-commissions-0

Applications for the eHealth Commission are being accepted by the Governor's Office of Board and Commissions at https://www.tfaforms.com/290254.

How do workgroups and consultants help inform the eHealth Commission?

Workgroups that report to the eHealth Commission will be established and will assess various policies, procedures, and technical approaches that are reviewed by the eHealth Commission for final adoption. Consultants are used to minimize the workload impact on the individuals who volunteer to serve on the eHealth Commission and workgroups. These consultants will help research and organize successful Health IT programs from other states and identify the industry's best practices to help inform the eHealth Commission through workgroups. In addition, the workgroup will help review proposals from organizations who invest in Health IT.

What is the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing's (HCPF) role with the eHealth Commission?

HCPF serves as the fiscal agent leveraging the state's procurement, contracting, and accounting established processes to manage solicitations, contracts, and payments to vendors and organizations on behalf of the Office of eHealth Innovation.

"Our mission is to improve health care access and outcomes for the people we serve while demonstrating sound stewardship of financial resources."

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