Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act
Massachusetts Implementation Tasks for Calendar 2014

1st Quarter (January 1st – March 31st)

Insurance Market Reforms

- Fair health insurance premiums (1201§2701) (DOI) (*IRWG EWG*)
- Guaranteed availability of coverage (1201§2702) (DOI) (*IRWG EWG*)
- Guaranteed availability of coverage (1201§2703) (DOI) (*IRWG EWG*)
- Prohibition of preexisting condition exclusions or other discrimination based on health status (1201§2704) (DOI) (*IRWG EWG*)
- Prohibiting discrimination against individual participants and beneficiaries based on health status. Wellness grants 7/1 (1201§2705) (DOI) (*IRWG EWG*)
- Non-discrimination in health care (1201§2706) (DOI) (*IRWG EWG*)
- Comprehensive health insurance coverage (1201§2707) (DOI, GIC, CCA) (*IRWG, EWG*)
- Prohibition on excessive waiting periods (1201§2708) (DOI) (*IRWG EWG*)
- Coverage for individuals participating in approved clinical trials (1201§2709) (DOI) (*IRWG EWG*)
- Preservation of right to maintain existing coverage (§1251) (DOI)
- Rating reforms must apply uniformly to all health insurance issuers and group health plans (§1252) (DOI)
- Qualified health plan defined (§1301) (CCA, DOI) (*IR WG*)
- Essential health benefits requirements (§1302) (CCA, DOI , DPH, GIC) (*IR WG)*
- Special rules related to payment for abortion service (§1303) (CCA, DOI, MassHealth, GIC) (*IR WG*)
- Level playing field (§1324) (DOI, CCA) (*IR WG*)
- State flexibility to establish basic health programs for low -income individuals not eligible for Medicaid (§1331) (CCA, MassHealth) (*MHCCA WG*)
- Transitional Reinsurance program for individuals and small group markets in each state (§1341) (DOI) (*IR WG*)
- Establishment of risk corridors for plans in individual and small group markets (§1342) (DOI, CCA) (*IR WG*)
- States to assess charges on health plans with enrollees of lower than average risk and provide payments to health plans with enrollees of higher than average risk. (§1343) (DOI, CCA) (*IR WG*)
- Refundable tax credit providing premium assistance for coverage under a qualified health plan. Subsidies, coverage for legal immigrants (§1401) (CCA, MassHealth) (*MHCCA WG*)
- Reduced cost-sharing for individuals enrolling in qualified health plans (§1402) (CCA, MassHealth) (*MHCCA WG*)
- Procedures for determining eligibility for Exchange participation, premium tax credi ts and reduced cost-sharing, and individual responsibility exemptions (§1411) (CCA, MassHealth, DOR) (*MHCCA WG*)
- Advance determination and payment of premium tax credits and costsharing reductions (§1412) (CCA, MassHealth) (*MHCCA WG*)
- Streamlining of procedures for enrollment through an exchange and State Medicaid, CHIP, and health subsidy programs (§1413) (MassHealth, CCA) (*MHCCA WG*)

- Disclosures to carry out eligibility requirements for certain programs (§1414) (CCA, MassHealth) (*MHCCA WG*)
- Premium tax credit and cost-sharing reduction payments disregarded for Federal and Federally-assisted programs (§1415) (CCA, MassHealth) (*MHCCA WG*)
- Requirement to maintain minimum essential coverage (§1501) (DOR, CCA) (*IRWG)*
- Reporting of health insurance coverage (§1502) (DOI, DOR, CCA) (*EWG*)

Employer Responsibility
- Employer fair share obligations (§1513) (DHCFP)(*IRWG, EWG)*
- Reporting of employer health insurance coverage (§1514) (DHCFP) (*EWG*)
- Offering of Exchange-participating qualified health plans through cafeteria plans (§1515) (CCA, DHCFP, DOR) (*EWG*)
- Employers that offer coverage and make a contribution to make free choice vouchers available to qualified employees for purchase of qualified health plan through Exchanges. (§10108) (CCA, EOLWD) (*EWG*)

Insurance Coverage Expansions
- Expansion to 133% - increased FMAP for newly eligible (§2001a) (MassHealth)
- Limited to benchmark coverage (§2001c) (MassHealth, CCA) (*MHCCA WG*)
- Income eligibility for nonelderly determined using modified gross income (§2002) (MassHealth, CCA) (*MHCCA WG*)
- Requirement to offer premium assistance for employer -sponsored insurance (§2003) (MassHealth)
- Permitting hospitals to make presumptive eligibility determinations for all Medicaid eligible populations (§2202) (MassHealth)
- Protection for recipients of home and community-based services against spousal impoverishment (§2404) (MassHealth, ELD, DisbPol) (*LTC/BH WG)*
- Elimination of exclusion of coverage of certain drugs (§2502) (MassHealth)
- Extension for specialized MA plans for special needs individuals (§ 3205) (MassHealth, ELD) (*LTC/BH WG)*

Quality Improvements
- Quality reporting for long-term care hospitals, inpatient rehabilitation hospitals, and hospice programs (§3004) (DPH)
- Quality reporting for PPS-exempt cancer hospitals (§3005) (DPH)
- Imposition of annual fee on health insurance providers (§9010) (DOI)
- Development of standards for financial and administrative transactions (§10109) (MassHealth, MeHI)

2nd Quarter (April 1st – June 30th)

- Enrollment Simplification and coordination with State Health Ins urance Exchanges (§2201) (MassHealth, CCA) (*MHCCA WG*)

3rd Quarter (July 1st – September 30th)

- Demonstration project concerning individualized wellness plan (§4206) (DPH)

Federal Fiscal Year 2014

- Extension of funding for CHIP through fiscal year 2015 an d other CHIP-related provisions (§10203) (MassHealth)

Agency Key:
CCA – Health Connector
DHCFP – Division of Health Care Finance and Policy
DisbPol – Agencies under the Assistant Secretary for Disability Policies & Programs
    (Department of Developmental Services, Rehab Commission, Commission for the
    Blind, Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Soldiers' Homes)
DMH – Department of Mental Health
DOI – Division of Insurance
DPH – Department of Public Health
ELD – Executive Office of Elder Affairs
EOLWD – Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development
GIC – Group Insurance Commission
HED – Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development
HCQCC – Health Care Quality and Cost Council

Working Group Key:
IR WG = Insurance Reform Working Group
EWG = Employer Working Group
MHCCA WG = MassHealth Connector Working Group
LTC/BH WG = Long-Term Care/Behavioral Health Working Group