

FAQs from Web-broker Entity Call - 5/21/14

Q. Will Direct Enrollment (API Connection) be available for the Open Enrollment period for the 2015 coverage year?

A. We fully expect that direct enrollment will be available for the 2015 coverage year open enrollment season, which kicks off on November 15th.

Q. What is the status of Eligibility Verifications as a Service (EVaaS)?

A. Earlier this year, CMS had considered the potential for a new set of web-services called “Eligibility Verifications as a Service” or EVaaS.

After an extensive review of the Marketplace’s development priorities, CMS will not be able to implement “Eligibility Verifications as a Service” (EVaaS) in advance of the annual open enrollment period for the 2015 coverage year, which commences on November 15th. In concept, this approach would have supplemented the current direct enrollment process, permitting direct enrollment partners to collect application information on their websites, and submit the application data to the FFM via web services for eligibility determination. While EVaaS might be accommodated in the future, because of other pressing development priorities, CMS will not be able to accommodate the implementation of EVaaS for this fall.

We are implementing some important changes to the Marketplace website, which may have an indirect impact on direct enrollment and the consumer experience. One such change is the implementation of “Marketplace Lite”; please refer to accompanying documentation for an overview of this process.

Q. Will Direct Enrollment be provisioned to support Special Enrollment Period (SEP) processing and reporting of Changes in Circumstances (CiCs)?

A. As of today, we do not expect that Direct Enrollment will be provisioned to process SEPs and changes in circumstance reporting prior to November 15th.

Direct enrollment partners can still assist consumers in reporting CiCs and obtaining SEPs if they qualify by conducting 3-way calls with the Marketplace help desk, or by assisting the consumer using the side-by-side model as the consumer enters information onto the Marketplace website.

We note that direct enrollment partners can also test parts of the direct enrollment process in the IMP1A environment, including the redirect and fetch eligibility steps. However the submit enrollment transaction cannot be tested at this time.