VT CHIP SPA 11-02

TEMPLATE FOR CHILD HEALTH PLAN UNDER TITLE XXI OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM

(Required under 4901 of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (New section 2101(b)))

State/Territory: *Vermont*

(Name of State/Territory)

As a condition for receipt of Federal funds under Title XXI of the Social Security Act, (42 CFR, 457.40(b))

Douglas A. Racine, Secretary — Date
Agency of Human Services

submits the following Child Health Plan for the Children's Health Insurance Program and hereby agrees to administer the program in accordance with the provisions of the approved Child Health Plan, the requirements of Title XXI and XIX of the Act (as appropriate) and all applicable Federal regulations and other official issuances of the Department.

The following State officials are responsible for program administration and financial oversight (42 CFR 457.40(c)):

Name: Mark Larson, Commissioner, Department of Vermont Health Access

Name: Russell Frank — Position/Title: CHIP Director
Name: — Position/Title:

***Disclosure. According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 09380707. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 160 hours per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, write to: CMS, 7500 Security Blvd., Attn: PRA Reports Clearance Officer, Mail Stop C4-26-05, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.**

Introduction: Section 4901 of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (BBA), public law 1005-33 amended the Social Security Act (the Act) by adding a new title XXI, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). In February 2009, the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act (CHIPRA) renewed the program. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 further modified the program.

This template outlines the information that must be included in the state plans and the state plan amendments (SPAs). It reflects the regulatory requirements at 42 CFR Part 457 as well as the previously approved SPA templates that accompanied guidance issued to States through State Health Official (SHO) letters. Where applicable, we indicate the SHO number and the date it was issued for your reference. The CHIP SPA template includes the following changes:

- Combined the instruction document with the CHIP SPA template to have a single document. Any modifications to previous instructions are for clarification only and do not reflect new policy guidance.
- Incorporated the previously issued guidance and templates (see the Key following the template for information on the newly added templates), including:
  - Prenatal care and associated health care services (SHO #02-004, issued November 12, 2002)
  - Coverage of pregnant women (CHIPRA #2, SHO # 09-006, issued May 11, 2009)
  - Tribal consultation requirements (ARRA #2, CHIPRA #3, issued May 28, 2009)
  - Dental and supplemental dental benefits (CHIPRA # 7, SHO # #09-012, issued October 7, 2009)
  - Premium assistance (CHIPRA # 13, SHO # 10-002, issued February 2, 2010)
  - Express lane eligibility (CHIPRA # 14, SHO # 10-003, issued February 4, 2010)
  - Lawfully Residing requirements (CHIPRA # 17, SHO # 10-006, issued July 1, 2010)
- Moved sections 2.2 and 2.3 into section 5 to eliminate redundancies between sections 2 and 5.
- Removed crowd-out language that had been added by the August 17 letter that later was repealed.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is developing regulations to implement the CHIPRA requirements. When final regulations are published in the Federal Register, this template will be modified to reflect those rules and States will be required to submit SPAs illustrating compliance with the new regulations. States are not required to resubmit their State plans based on the updated template. However, States must use the updated template when submitting a State Plan Amendment.

Federal Requirements for Submission and Review of a Proposed SPA. (42 CFR Part 457 Subpart A) In order to be eligible for payment under this statute, each State must submit a Title XXI plan for approval by the Secretary that details how the State intends to use the funds and fulfill other requirements under the law and regulations at 42 CFR Part 457. A SPA is approved in 90 days unless the Secretary notifies the State in writing that the plan is disapproved or that specified additional information is needed. Unlike Medicaid SPAs, there is only one 90 day review period, or clock for CHIP SPAs, that may be stopped by a request for additional information and restarted after a complete response is received. More information on the SPA review process is found at 42 CFR 457 Subpart A.

When submitting a State plan amendment, states should redline the changes that are being made to the existing State plan and provide a "clean" copy including changes that are being made to the existing

state plan.

The template includes the following sections:

1. **General Description and Purpose of the Children's Health Insurance Plans and the Requirements**- This section should describe how the State has designed their program. It also is the place in the template that a State updates to insert a short description and the proposed effective date of the SPA, and the proposed implementation date(s) if different from the effective date. (Section 2101); (42 CFR, 457.70)
2. **General Background and Description of State Approach to Child Health Coverage and Coordination**- This section should provide general information related to the special characteristics of each state's program. The information should include the extent and manner to which children in the State currently have creditable health coverage, current State efforts to provide or obtain creditable health coverage for uninsured children and how the plan is designed to be coordinated with current health insurance, public health efforts, or other enrollment initiatives. This information provides a health insurance baseline in terms of the status of the children in a given State and the State programs currently in place. (Section 2103); (42 CFR 457.410(A))
3. **Methods of Delivery and Utilization Controls**- This section requires a description that must include both proposed methods of delivery and proposed utilization control systems. This section should fully describe the delivery system of the Title XXI program including the proposed contracting standards, the proposed delivery systems and the plans for enrolling providers. (Section 2103); (42 CFR 457.410(A))
4. **Eligibility Standards and Methodology**- The plan must include a description of the standards used to determine the eligibility of targeted low-income children for child health assistance under the plan. This section includes a list of potential eligibility standards the State can check off and provide a short description of how those standards will be applied. All eligibility standards must be consistent with the provisions of Title XXI and may not discriminate on the basis of diagnosis. In addition, if the standards vary within the state, the State should describe how they will be applied and under what circumstances they will be applied. In addition, this section provides information on income eligibility for Medicaid expansion programs (which are exempt from Section 4 of the State plan template) if applicable. (Section 2102(b)); (42 CFR 457.305 and 457.320)
5. **Outreach-** This section is designed for the State to fully explain its outreach activities. Outreach is defined in law as outreach to families of children likely to be eligible for child health assistance under the plan or under other public or private health coverage programs. The purpose is to inform these families of the availability of, and to assist them in enrolling their children in, such a program. (Section 2102(c)(1)); (42CFR, 457.90)
6. **Coverage Requirements for Children's Health Insurance**- Regarding the required scope of health insurance coverage in a State plan, the child health assistance provided must consist of any of the four types of coverage outlined in Section 2103(a) (specifically, benchmark coverage; benchmark-equivalent coverage; existing comprehensive state-based coverage; and/or Secretary-approved coverage). In this section States identify the scope of coverage and benefits offered under the plan including the categories under which that coverage is offered. The amount, scope, and duration of each offered service should be fully explained, as well as any corresponding limitations or exclusions. (Section 2103); (42 CFR 457.410(A))

7. **Quality and Appropriateness of Care-** This section includes a description of the methods (including monitoring) to be used to assure the quality and appropriateness of care and to assure access to covered services. A variety of methods are available for State's use in monitoring and evaluating the quality and appropriateness of care in its child health assistance program. The section lists some of the methods which states may consider using. In addition to methods, there are a variety of tools available for State adaptation and use with this program. The section lists some of these tools. States also have the option to choose who will conduct these activities. As an alternative to using staff of the State agency administering the program, states have the option to contract out with other organizations for this quality of care function. (Section 2107); (42 CFR 457.495)
8. **Cost Sharing and Payment-** This section addresses the requirement of a State child health plan to include a description of its proposed cost sharing for enrollees. Cost sharing is the amount (if any) of premiums, deductibles, coinsurance and other cost sharing imposed. The cost-sharing requirements provide protection for lower income children, ban cost sharing for preventive services, address the limitations on premiums and cost-sharing and address the treatment of pre-existing medical conditions. (Section 2103(e)); (42 CFR 457, Subpart E)
9. **Strategic Objectives and Performance Goals and Plan Administration-** The section addresses the strategic objectives, the performance goals, and the performance measures the State has established for providing child health assistance to targeted low income children under the plan for maximizing health benefits coverage for other low income children and children generally in the state. (Section 2107); (42 CFR 457.710)
10. **Annual Reports and Evaluations-** Section 2108(a) requires the State to assess the operation of the Children's Health Insurance Program plan and submit to the Secretary an annual report which includes the progress made in reducing the number of uninsured low income children. The report is due by January 1, following the end of the Federal fiscal year and should cover that Federal Fiscal Year. In this section, states are asked to assure that they will comply with these requirements, indicated by checking the box. (Section 2108); (42 CFR 457.750)
11. **Program Integrity**- In this section, the State assures that services are provided in an effective and efficient manner through free and open competition or through basing rates on other public and private rates that are actuarially sound. (Sections 2101(a) and 2107(e); (42 CFR 457, subpart I)
12. **Applicant and Enrollee Protections-** This section addresses the review process for eligibility and enrollment matters, health services matters (i.e., grievances), and for states that use premium assistance a description of how it will assure that applicants and enrollees are given the opportunity at initial enrollment and at each redetermination of eligibility to obtain health benefits coverage other than through that group health plan. (Section 2101(a)); (42 CFR 457.1120)

Program Options. As mentioned above, the law allows States to expand coverage for children through a separate child health insurance program, through a Medicaid expansion program, or through a combination of these programs. These options are described further below:

- **Option to Create a Separate Program-** States may elect to establish a separate child health program that are in compliance with title XXI and applicable rules. These states must establish enrollment systems that are coordinated with Medicaid and other sources of health coverage for children and also must screen children during the application process to

determine if they are eligible for Medicaid and, if they are, enroll these children promptly in Medicaid.

- **Option to Expand Medicaid-** States may elect to expand coverage through Medicaid. This option for states would be available for children who do not qualify for Medicaid under State rules in effect as of March 31, 1997. Under this option, current Medicaid rules would apply.

Medicaid Expansion- CHIP SPA Requirements

In order to expedite the SPA process, states choosing to expand coverage only through an expansion of Medicaid eligibility would be required to complete sections:

- 1 (General Description)
- 2 (General Background)

They will also be required to complete the appropriate program sections, including:

- 4 (Eligibility Standards and Methodology)
- 5 (Outreach)
- 9 (Strategic Objectives and Performance Goals and Plan Administration including the budget)
- 10 (Annual Reports and Evaluations).

Medicaid Expansion- Medicaid SPA Requirements

States expanding through Medicaid-only will also be required to submit a Medicaid State Plan Amendment to modify their Title XIX State plans. These states may complete the first check-off and indicate that the description of the requirements for these sections are incorporated by reference through their State Medicaid plans for sections:

- 3 (Methods of Delivery and Utilization Controls)
- 4 (Eligibility Standards and Methodology)
- 6 (Coverage Requirements for Children's Health Insurance)
- 7 (Quality and Appropriateness of Care)
- 8 (Cost Sharing and Payment)
- 11 (Program Integrity)
- 12 (Applicant and Enrollee Protections) indicating State

- **Combination of Options-** CHIP allows states to elect to use a combination of the Medicaid program and a separate child health program to increase health coverage for children. For example, a State may cover optional targeted-low income children in families with incomes of up to 133 percent of poverty through Medicaid and a targeted group of children above that level through a separate child health program. For the children the State chooses to cover under an expansion of Medicaid, the description provided under "Option to Expand Medicaid" would apply. Similarly, for children the State chooses to cover under a separate program, the provisions outlined above in "Option to Create a Separate Program" would apply. States wishing to use a combination of approaches will be required to complete the Title XXI State plan and the necessary State plan amendment under Title XIX.

Proposed State plan amendments should be submitted electronically and one signed hard copy to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services at the following address:

Name of Project Officer
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Blvd
Baltimore, Maryland 21244
Attn: Children and Adults Health Programs Group
Center for Medicaid, CHIP and Survey & Certification
Mail Stop - S2-01-16

Section 1. General Description and Purpose of the Children's Health Insurance Plans and the Requirements

1.1. The state will use funds provided under Title XXI primarily for (Check appropriate box) (Section 2101)(a)(1)); (42 CFR 457.70):

Guidance: Check below if child health assistance shall be provided primarily through the development of a separate program that meets the requirements of Section 2101, which details coverage requirements and the other applicable requirements of Title XXI.

1.1.1 ☒ Obtaining coverage that meets the requirements for a separate child health program (Sections 2101(a)(1) and 2103); OR

The Vermont Children's Health Insurance Plan (CHIP) is a separate child health program that operates exactly the same as the Medicaid program with the Global Commitment to Health Waiver. In Vermont, the term Dr Dynasaur refers to all children's health care programs.

Guidance: Check below if child health assistance shall be provided primarily through providing expanded eligibility under the State's Medicaid program (Title XIX). Note that if this is selected the State must also submit a corresponding Medicaid SPA to CMS for review and approval.

1.1.2. ☐ Providing expanded benefits under the State's Medicaid plan (Title XIX) (Section 2101(a)(2)); OR

Guidance: Check below if child health assistance shall be provided through a combination of both 1.1. and 1.2. (Coverage that meets the requirements of Title XXI, in conjunction with an expansion in the State's Medicaid program). Note that if this is selected the state must also submit a corresponding Medicaid state plan amendment to CMS for review and approval.

1.1.3. ☐ A combination of both of the above. (Section 2101(a)(2))

1.1-DS ☐ The State will provide dental-only supplemental coverage. Only States operating a separate CHIP program are eligible for this option. States choosing this option must also complete sections 4.1-DS, 4.2-DS, 6.2-DS, 8.2-DS, and 9.10 of this SPA template. (Section 2110(b)(5))

1.2 ☒ Check to provide an assurance that expenditures for child health assistance will not be claimed prior to the time that the State has legislative authority to operate the State plan or plan amendment as approved by CMS. (42 CFR 457.40(d))

Vermont assures that expenditures for CHIP will not be claimed prior to approval by CMS. Vermont has legislative authority to operate its Children's Health Insurance Program.

1.3 ☒ Check to provide an assurance that the State complies with all applicable civil rights requirements, including title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, 45 CFR part 80, part 84, and part 91, and 28 CFR part 35. (42CFR 457.130)

Vermont assures its compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42U.S.C. 2000 [d] et seq.), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (2 U.S.C. 70[b] and the regulations at 45 C.F.R. Parts 80 and 84, and part 91, and 28 CFR part 35. No individual shall be subject to discrimination under this State plan on the grounds of age, sex, race, color, marital status, religion, national origin and handicap.

Guidance: The effective date as specified below is defined as the date on which the State begins to incur costs to implement its State plan or amendment. (42 CFR 457.65) The implementation date is defined as the date the State begins to provide services; or, the date on which the State puts into practice the new policy described in the State plan or amendment. For example, in a State that has increased eligibility, this is the date on which the State begins to provide coverage to enrollees (and not the date the State begins outreach or accepting applications).

1.4 Provide the effective (date costs begin to be incurred) and implementation (date services begin to be provided) dates for this SPA (42 CFR 457.65). A SPA may only have one effective date, but provisions within the SPA may have different implementation dates that must be after the effective date.

Original Plan
Effective Date: *October 1, 1998*
Implementation Date: *October 1, 1998*

SPA #1 (99 – 01)
Increase premiums from $20 to $25.
Effective Date: *January 1, 1999*
Implementation Date: *January 1, 1999*

SPA #2 (99-02)
Permit enrollment in Primary Care Case Management program.
Effective Date: *December 1, 1999*
Implementation Date: *December 1, 1999*

SPA #3 (00-01)
Increase premiums from $25 to $50 per month.
Effective Date: *July 1, 2000*
Implementation Date: *July 1, 2000*

SPA #4 (02-01)

State Plan updated program descriptions and compliance with final regulations.
Effective Date: *June 28, 2002*
Implementation Date: *June 28, 2002*

SPA #5 (03-01)
Increase premiums from $50 to $70 per month.
Effective Date: *July 1, 2003*
Implementation Date: *July 1, 2003*

SPA #6 (05-01)
Increase premiums from $70 to $80 per month.
Effective Date: *July 1, 2005*
Implementation Date: *July 1, 2005*

SPA #7 & 8 (07-01;08-01)
Reduce premiums from $80 to $40 per month for the period July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008; and as amended on June 12, 2008 increased premiums from $40 to $60 per month as of July 1, 2008.
Effective Date: *July 1, 2007*
Implementation Date: *July 1, 2007*

SPA #9 (11-01)
Provide for a premium grace period; cover lawfully residing immigrant children; and offer mental health care using telemedicine.
Proposed effective date: *July 1, 2011*
Proposed implementation date: *July 1, 2011*

SPA #10 (11-02)
Provide for coverage of dependent children of state employees and remove the 30 day waiting period.
Proposed effective date: *October 1, 2011*
Proposed implementation date: *October 1, 2011*

1.4- TC **Tribal Consultation (Section 2107(e)(1)(C))** Describe the consultation process that occurred specifically for the development and submission of this State Plan Amendment, when it occurred and who was involved.

TN No: Approval Date Effective Date _____

Section 2. General Background and Description of Approach to Children's Health Insurance Coverage and Coordination

Guidance: The demographic information requested in 2.1. can be used for State planning and will be used strictly for informational purposes. THESE NUMBERS WILL NOT BE USED AS A BASIS FOR THE ALLOTMENT.

Factors that the State may consider in the provision of this information are age breakouts, income brackets, definitions of insurability, and geographic location, as well as race and ethnicity. The State should describe its information sources and the assumptions it uses for the development of its description.

- Population
- Number of uninsured
- Race demographics
- Age Demographics
- Info per region/Geographic information

2.1. Describe the extent to which, and manner in which, children in the State (including targeted low-income children and other groups of children specified) identified , by income level and other relevant factors, such as race, ethnicity and geographic location, currently have creditable health coverage (as defined in 42 CFR 457.10). To the extent feasible, distinguish between creditable coverage under public health insurance programs and public-private partnerships (See Section 10 for annual report requirements). (Section 2102(a)(1)); (42 CFR 457.80(a))

Vermont has made extensive efforts to ensure access to health care services for its children.. The 2009 Department of Financial Regulation (formerly the Department of Banking, Insurance, Securities, and Health Care Administration) Vermont Household Health Insurance survey reported that 56.2% of Vermont's 130,165 children had private coverage, 39.5% had Medicaid/CHIP coverage, 1.5% had other coverage, and 2.8% were uninsured. Of the uninsured children over 23% are 5 years or under, 43.4% are between 6 and 13 years, and 33.6% are between 14 and 17 years of age. The majority of the uninsured children, or 76.9%, had incomes at or below 300% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) and may be eligible for Medicaid or CHIP. The survey does not ask about race or ethnicity. The U.S. Census Bureau reports that 95.3% of the Vermont population is White, while Asian, Black, or more than one race account for most of the non-white population. At this time there are no public-private partnerships in Vermont.

Guidance: Section 2.2 allows states to request to use the funds available under the 10 percent limit on administrative expenditures in order to fund services not otherwise allowable. The health services initiatives must meet the requirements of 42 CFR 457.1005.

2.2. **Health Services Initiatives-** Describe if the State will use the health services initiative option as allowed at **42 CFR 457.10**. If so, describe what services or programs the State is proposing to cover with administrative funds, including the cost of each program, and how it is currently funded (if applicable), also update the budget accordingly. (Section 2105(a)(1)(D)(ii)); (42 CFR 457.10)

2.3-TC Tribal Consultation Requirements- (Sections 1902(a)(73) and 2107(e)(1)(C)) ; (ARRA #2, CHIPRA #3,

issued May 28, 2009) Section 1902(a)(73) of the Social Security Act (the Act) requires a State in which one or more Indian Health Programs or Urban Indian Organizations furnish health care

services to establish a process for the State Medicaid agency to seek advice on a regular, ongoing basis from designees of Indian health programs, whether operated by the Indian Health Service (IHS), Tribes or Tribal organizations under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA), or Urban Indian Organizations under the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (IHCIA). Section 2107(e)(1)(C) of the Act was also amended to apply these requirements to the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Consultation is required concerning Medicaid and CHIP matters having a direct impact on Indian health programs and Urban Indian organizations.

Describe the process the State uses to seek advice on a regular, ongoing basis from federally-recognized tribes, Indian Health Programs and Urban Indian Organizations on matters related to Medicaid and CHIP programs and for consultation on State Plan Amendments, waiver proposals, waiver extensions, waiver amendments, waiver renewals and proposals for demonstration projects prior to submission to CMS. Include information about the frequency, inclusiveness and process for seeking such advice.

Section 3. Methods of Delivery and Utilization Controls

☐ Check here if the State elects to use funds provided under Title XXI only to provide expanded eligibility under the State's Medicaid plan, and continue on to Section 4.

Guidance: In Section 3.1., discussion may include, but is not limited to: contracts with managed health care plans (including fully and partially capitated plans); contracts with indemnity health insurance plans; and other arrangements for health care delivery. The State should describe any variations based upon geography, as well as the State methods for establishing and defining the delivery systems.
Should the State choose to cover unborn children under the Title XXI State plan, the State must describe how services are paid. For example, some states make a global payment for all unborn children while other states pay for services on fee-for-services basis. The State's payment mechanism and delivery mechanism should be briefly described here.

Section 2103(f)(3) of the Act, as amended by section 403 of CHIPRA, requires separate or combination CHIP programs that operate a managed care delivery system to apply several provisions of section 1932 of the Act in the same manner as these provisions apply under title XIX of the Act. Specific provisions include: section 1932(a)(4), Process for Enrollment and Termination and Change of Enrollment; section 1932(a)(5), Provision of Information; section 1932(b), Beneficiary Protections; section 1932(c), Quality Assurance Standards; section 1932(d), Protections Against Fraud and Abuse; and section 1932(e), Sanctions for Noncompliance. If the State CHIP program operates a managed care delivery system, provide an assurance that the State CHIP managed care contract(s) complies with the relevant sections of section 1932 of the Act. States must submit the managed care contract(s) to CMS' Regional Office servicing them for review and approval.

In addition, states may use up to 10 percent of actual or estimated Federal expenditures

for targeted low-income children to fund other forms of child health assistance, including contracts with providers for a limited range of direct services; other health services initiatives to improve children's health; outreach expenditures; and administrative costs (See 2105(c)(2)(A)). Describe which, if any, of these methods will be used.

Examples of the above may include, but are not limited to: direct contracting with school-based health services; direct contracting to provide enabling services; contracts with health centers receiving funds under section 330 of the Public Health Service Act; contracts with hospitals such as those that receive disproportionate share payment adjustments under section 1886(d)(5)(F) or 1923 of the Act; contracts with other hospitals; and contracts with public health clinics receiving Title V funding.
If applicable, address how the new arrangements under Title XXI will work with existing service delivery methods, such as regional networks for chronic illness and disability; neonatal care units, or early-intervention programs for at-risk infants, in the delivery and utilization of services. (42CFR 457.490(a))

3.1. Delivery Standards Describe the methods of delivery of the child health assistance using Title XXI funds to targeted low-income children. Include a description of the choice of financing and the methods for assuring delivery of the insurance products and delivery of health care services covered by such products to the enrollees, including any variations. (Section 2102)(a)(4) (42CFR 457.490(a))

☐ Check here if the State child health program delivers services using a managed care delivery model. The State provides an assurance that its managed care contract(s) complies with the relevant provisions of section 1932 of the Act, including section 1932(a)(4), Process for Enrollment and Termination and Change of Enrollment; section 1932(a)(5), Provision of Information; section 1932(b), Beneficiary Protections; section 1932(c), Quality Assurance Standards; section 1932(d), Protections Against Fraud and Abuse; and section 1932(e), Sanctions for Noncompliance. The State also assures that it will submit the contract(s) to the CMS' Regional Office for review and approval. (Section 2103(f)(3))

The Vermont CHIP is a separate child health program that operates exactly the same as the Medicaid program. Services under CHIP are delivered using the same delivery systems that are used for Medicaid. Services are delivered through Fee-for-Service or ***Primary Care Plus****.* ***Primary Care Plus*** *is a primary care case management (PCCM) program. In* ***Primary Care Plus*** *the beneficiary selects or is assigned to a primary care provider (PCP) who is responsible for delivering primary care services and authorizing referrals for other necessary care. PCCM programs are intended to increase the physician's role in their patient's care.*

Those who receive their health care in the fee-for-service delivery system include beneficiaries who have an insurance benefit that covers hospital and physician services; or who are receiving specialized care in a Home & Community-Based Waiver Services program or the children's High Tech Program; or are in a nursing home; or those who were receiving hospice care when they became eligible. Of those in CHIP 94% are served in ***Primary Care Plus*** *and 6% are served*

in Fee-for-Service delivery systems

While the CHIP is a separate program, it operates the same as the Medicaid program using the same eligibility system, benefits-counseling firm, provider network, billing, authorizations, and utilization systems, and other infrastructure to deliver health care services to beneficiaries.

Guidance: In Section 3.2., note that utilization control systems are those administrative mechanisms that are designed to ensure that enrollees receiving health care services under the State plan receive only appropriate and medically necessary health care consistent with the benefit package.

Examples of utilization control systems include, but are not limited to: requirements for referrals to specialty care; requirements that clinicians use clinical practice guidelines; or demand management systems (e.g., use of an 800 number for after-hours and urgent care). In addition, the State should describe its plans for review, coordination, and implementation of utilization controls, addressing both procedures and State developed standards for review, in order to assure that necessary care is delivered in a cost-effective and efficient manner. (42CFR, 457.490(b))

3.2. Describe the utilization controls under the child health assistance provided under the plan for targeted low-income children. Describe the systems designed to ensure that enrollees receiving health care services under the State plan receive only appropriate and medically necessary health care consistent with the benefit package described in the approved State plan. (Section 2102)(a)(4) (42CFR 457.490(b))

Utilization controls to ensure that children in CHIP receive only appropriate and medically necessary health care consistent with the benefit package are the same as those used for Medicaid. For the majority of children in CHIP utilization is managed by the PCP and through the use of prior authorization (PA). PA is managed by the DVHA's Clinical Unit and by the DVHA's pharmacy benefit manager. For those in Fee-for-Service utilization is managed by the primary insurer. In addition, the DVHA has a Drug Utilization Review board and a Clinical Utilization Review Board that review criteria, conducts utilization reviews, and make recommendations.

Section 4. Eligibility Standards and Methodology

Guidance: The plan must include a description of the standards used to determine the eligibility of targeted low-income children for child health assistance under the plan. Included on the template is a list of potential eligibility standards. Please check off the standards that will be used by the state and provide a short description of how those standards will be applied. All eligibility standards must be consistent with the provisions of Title XXI and may not discriminate on the basis of diagnosis. In addition, if the standards vary within the state, describe how they will be applied and under what circumstances they will be applied.

States electing to use funds provided under Title XXI only to provide expanded

eligibility under the State's Medicaid plan or combination plan should check the appropriate box and provide the ages and income level for each eligibility group. If the State is electing to take up the option to expand Medicaid eligibility as allowed under section 214 of CHIPRA regarding lawfully residing, complete section 4.1-LR as well as update the budget to reflect the additional costs if the state will claim title XXI match for these children until and if the time comes that the children are eligible for Medicaid.

4.0. ☐ **Medicaid Expansion**

4.0.1. Ages of each eligibility group and the income standard for that group :

4.1. ☒ **Separate Program** Check all standards that will apply to the State plan. (42CFR 457.305(a) and 457.320(a))

4.1.0 ☒ Describe how the State meets the citizenship verification requirements. Include whether or not State has opted to use SSA verification option. *CHIP follows the same verification requirements as Medicaid. All applications for healthcare require a social security number, but DCF/ESD may disregard the requirement for a member of a religious organization that objects to furnishing a social security number. The State has not opted to use the SSA verification option.*

4.1.1 ☐ Geographic area served by the Plan if less than Statewide:

4.1.2 ☒ Ages of each eligibility group, including unborn children and pregnant women (if applicable) and the income standard for that group: *Under18 years of age.*

4.1.2.1-PC ☐ Age: _____ through birth (SHO #02-004, issued November 12, 2002)

4.1.3 ☒ Income of each separate eligibility group (if applicable): *Between 225 – 300% FPL*

4.1.3.1-PC ☐ 0% of the FPL (and not eligible for Medicaid) through _____% of the FPL (SHO #02-004, issued November 12, 2002)

4.1.4 ☐ Resources of each separate eligibility group (including any standards relating to spend downs and disposition of resources):

4.1.5 ☐ Residency (so long as residency requirement is not based on length of time in state):

4.1.6 ☐ Disability Status (so long as any standard relating to disability status does not restrict eligibility):

4.1.7 ☒ Access to or coverage under other health coverage: *Children with health insurance are not covered in CHIP.*

4.1.8 ☒ Duration of eligibility, not to exceed 12 months: *Can be up to 12 months.*

4.1.9 ☐ Other Standards- Identify and describe other standards for or affecting eligibility, including those standards in 457.310 and 457.320 that are not addressed above. For instance:

Guidance: States may only require the SSN of the child who is applying for coverage. If SSNs are required and the State covers unborn children, indicate that the unborn children are exempt from providing a SSN. Other standards

include, but are not limited to presumptive eligibility and deemed newborns.

4.1.9.1 ☐ States should specify whether Social Security Numbers (SSN) are required.

Guidance: States should describe their continuous eligibility process and populations that can be continuously eligible.

4.1.9.2 ☐ Continuous eligibility

4.1-PW ☐ **Pregnant Women Option** (section 2112)- The State includes eligibility for one or more populations of targeted low-income pregnant women under the plan. Describe the population of pregnant women that the State proposes to cover in this section. Include all eligibility criteria, such as those described in the above categories (for instance, income and resources) that will be applied to this population. Use the same reference number system for those criteria (for example, 4.1.1-P for a geographic restriction). Please remember to update sections 8.1.1-PW, 8.1.2-PW, and 9.10 when electing this option.

Guidance: States have the option to cover groups of "lawfully residing" children and/or pregnant women. States may elect to cover (1)"lawfully residing" children described at section 2107(e)(1)(J) of the Act; (2) "lawfully residing" pregnant women described at section 2107(e)(1)(J) of the Act; or (3) both. A state electing to cover children and/or pregnant women who are considered lawfully residing in the U.S. must offer coverage to all such individuals who meet the definition of lawfully residing, and may not cover a subgroup or only certain groups. In other words, a State that chooses to cover pregnant women under this option must otherwise cover pregnant women under their State plan as described in 4.1.11. In addition, states may not cover these new groups only in CHIP, but must also extend the coverage option to Medicaid. States will need to update their budget to reflect the additional costs for coverage of these children. If a State has been covering these children with State only funds, it is helpful to indicate that so CMS understands the basis for the enrollment estimates and the projected cost of providing coverage. Please remember to update section 9.10 when electing this option.

4.1- LR ☒ **Lawfully Residing Option** (Sections 2107(e)(1)(J) and 1993(v)(4)(A); (CHIPRA # 17, SHO # 10-006 issued July 1, 2010) Check if the State is electing the option under section 214 of the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (CHIPRA) regarding lawfully residing to provide coverage to the following otherwise eligible pregnant women and children as specified below who are lawfully residing in the United States including the following:

A child or pregnant woman shall be considered lawfully present if he or she is:

(1) A qualified alien as defined in section 431 of PRWORA (8 U.S.C. §1641);

(2) An alien in nonimmigrant status who has not violated the terms of the status under which he or she was admitted or to which he or she has changed after admission;
(3) An alien who has been paroled into the United States pursuant to section 212(d)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) (8 U.S.C. §1182(d)(5)) for less than 1 year, except for an alien paroled for prosecution, for deferred inspection or pending removal proceedings;
(4) An alien who belongs to one of the following classes:
(i) Aliens currently in temporary resident status pursuant to section 210 or 245A of the INA (8 U.S.C. §§1160 or 1255a, respectively);
(ii) Aliens currently under Temporary Protected Status (TPS) pursuant to section 244 of the INA (8 U.S.C. §1254a), and pending applicants for TPS who have been granted employment authorization;
(iii) Aliens who have been granted employment authorization under 8 CFR 274a.12(c)(9), (10), (16), (18), (20), (22), or (24);
(iv) Family Unity beneficiaries pursuant to section 301 of Pub. L. 101-649, as amended;
(v) Aliens currently under Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) pursuant to a decision made by the President;
(vi) Aliens currently in deferred action status; or
(vii) Aliens whose visa petition has been approved and who have a pending application for adjustment of status;
(5) A pending applicant for asylum under section 208(a) of the INA (8 U.S.C. § 1158) or for withholding of removal under section 241(b)(3) of the INA (8 U.S.C. § 1231) or under the Convention Against Torture who has been granted employment authorization, and such an applicant under the age of 14 who has had an application pending for at least180 days;
(6) An alien who has been granted withholding of removal under the Convention Against Torture;
(7) A child who has a pending application for Special Immigrant Juvenile status as described in section 101(a)(27)(J) of the INA (8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(27)(J));
(8) An alien who is lawfully present in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands under 48 U.S.C. § 1806(e); or
(9) An alien who is lawfully present in American Samoa under the immigration laws of American Samoa.

☐ Elected for pregnant women.
☒ Elected for children under age 18___.

4.1.1-LR ☒ The State provides assurance that for an individual whom it enrolls in Medicaid under the CHIPRA Lawfully Residing option, it has verified, at

the time of the individual's initial eligibility determination and at the time of the eligibility redetermination, that the individual continues to be lawfully residing in the United States. The State must first attempt to verify this status using information provided at the time of initial application. If the State cannot do so from the information readily available, it must require the individual to provide documentation or further evidence to verify satisfactory immigration status in the same manner as it would for anyone else claiming satisfactory immigration status under section 1137(d) of the Act.

4.1-DS ☐ **Supplemental Dental** (Section 2103(c)(5) - A child who is eligible to enroll in dental-only supplemental coverage, effective January 1, 2009. Eligibility is limited to only targeted low-income children who are otherwise eligible for CHIP but for the fact that they are enrolled in a group health plan or health insurance offered through an employer. The State's CHIP plan income eligibility level is at least the highest income eligibility standard under its approved State child health plan (or under a waiver) as of January 1, 2009. All who meet the eligibility standards and apply for dental-only supplemental coverage shall be provided benefits. States choosing this option must report these children separately in SEDS. Please update sections 1.1-DS, 4.2-DS, and 9.10 when electing this option.

4.2. **Assurances** The State assures by checking the box below that it has made the following findings with respect to the eligibility standards in its plan: (Section 2102(b)(1)(B) and 42 CFR 457.320(b))

4.2.1. ☒ These standards do not discriminate on the basis of diagnosis.

4.2.2. ☒ Within a defined group of covered targeted low-income children, these standards do not cover children of higher income families without covering children with a lower family income. This applies to pregnant women included in the State plan as well as targeted low-income children.

4.2.3. ☒ These standards do not deny eligibility based on a child having a pre-existing medical condition. This applies to pregnant women as well as targeted low-income children.

4.2-DS Supplemental Dental Please update sections 1.1-DS, 4.1-DS, and 9.10 when electing this option. For dental-only supplemental coverage, the State assures that it has made the following findings with standards in its plan: (Section 2102(b)(1)(B) and 42 CFR 457.320(b))

4.2.1-DS ☐ These standards do not discriminate on the basis of diagnosis.

4.2.2-DS ☐ Within a defined group of covered targeted low-income children, these standards do not cover children of higher income families without covering children with a lower family income.

4.2.3-DS ☐ These standards do not deny eligibility based on a child having a pre-existing medical condition.

4.3 **Methodology.** Describe the methods of establishing and continuing eligibility and enrollment. The description should address the procedures for applying the eligibility standards, the organization and infrastructure responsible for making and reviewing eligibility determinations,

and the process for enrollment of individuals receiving covered services, and whether the State uses the same application form for Medicaid and/or other public benefit programs. (Section 2102)(b)(2)) (42CFR, 457.350)

The Department for Children and Families (DCF) Economic Services Division (ESD) is responsible for determining, and re-determining eligibility for all medical assistance programs, including eligibility for the Medicaid and CHIP. The process for determining eligibility is essentially the same, requiring an application and evaluation of program requirements. Applications can be submitted online, by mail, or at a local district office. The rules for eligibility are found at http://humanservices.vermont.gov/on-line-rules.. The application process ensures that applications are processed using appropriate program standards and that eligibles can be identified by program and fully integrated into the existing service delivery mechanisms. CHIP are given unique eligibility codes, which allow access to CHIP services, assure appropriate payment to providers, and facilitate expenditure tracking under the State's Medicaid Management Information System.

Vermont uses an automated, integrated eligibility system. Criteria for each of Vermont's medical assistance programs are programmed. Applicant information is entered into the eligibility system. It is reviewed in conjunction with programmed criteria for medical assistance eligibility. If eligibility criteria are not met, an "edit" is created and reported to the eligibility specialist for resolution. Once edits are cleared, the eligibility system produces an eligibility result requiring action by the eligibility specialist. This can be an approval or denial.

A review of eligibility will be completed prior to the end of each certification period to assure uninterrupted coverage if the individual has retained eligibility and complies with review requirements and/or the payment of any premiums. An individual who fails to comply timely with review requirements and the payment of any required premium shall receive a termination notice mailed at least 11 days before the termination date. A failure to comply timely may result in a gap in coverage or termination of coverage.

All Medicaid eligibility requirements will apply to CHIP with the exception of the higher income test. The eligibility system assigns eligibility category codes to children found eligible for coverage. Medicaid/Dr Dynasaur codes are assigned to children found eligible for Medicaid/Dr Dynasaur. CHIP codes are assigned to children with incomes greater than 225% of the FPL who have no other insurance. The eligibility system will not allow the eligibility specialist to change codes for CHIP if income is less than 225% of FPL.

Guidance: The box below should be checked as related to children and pregnant women. Please note: A State providing dental-only supplemental coverage may not have a waiting list or limit eligibility in any way.

4.3.1 Limitation on Enrollment Describe the processes, if any, that a State will use for instituting enrollment caps, establishing waiting lists, and deciding which children will be given priority for enrollment. If this section does not apply to your state, check the box below. (Section 2102(b)(4)) (42CFR, 457.305(b))

☒ Check here if this section does not apply to your State.

Guidance: Note that for purposes of presumptive eligibility, States do not need to verify the citizenship status of the child. States electing this option should indicate so in the State plan. (42 CFR 457.355)

4.3.2. ☐ Check if the State elects to provide presumptive eligibility for children that meets the requirements of section 1920A of the Act. (Section 2107(e)(1)(L)); (42 CFR 457.355)

Guidance: Describe how the State intends to implement the Express Lane option. Include information on the identified Express Lane agency or agencies, and whether the State will be using the Express Lane eligibility option for the initial eligibility determinations, redeterminations, or both.

4.3.3-EL Express Lane Eligibility ☐Check here if the state elects the option to rely on a finding from an Express Lane agency when determining whether a child satisfies one or more components of CHIP eligibility. The state agrees to comply with the requirements of sections 2107(e)(1)(E) and 1902(e)(13) of the Act for this option. Please update sections 4.4-EL, 5.2-EL, 9.10, and 12.1 when electing this option. This authority may not apply to eligibility determinations made before February 4, 2009, or after September 30, 2013. (Section 2107(e)(1)(E))

4.3.3.1-EL Also indicate whether the Express Lane option is applied to (1) initial eligibility determination, (2) redetermination, or (3) both.

4.3.3.2-EL List the public agencies approved by the State as Express Lane agencies.

4.3.3.3-EL List the components/components of CHIP eligibility that are determined under the Express Lane. In this section, specify any differences in budget unit, deeming, income exclusions, income disregards, or other methodology between CHIP eligibility determinations for such children and the determination under the Express Lane option.

4.3.3.3-EL List the component/components of CHIP eligibility that are determined under the Express Lane.

4.3.3.4-EL Describe the option used to satisfy the screen and enrollment requirements before a child may be enrolled under title XXI.

Guidance: States should describe the process they use to screen and enroll children required under section 2102(b)(3)(A) and (B) of the Social Security Act and 42 CFR 457.350(a) and 457.80(c). Describe the screening threshold set as a percentage of the Federal poverty level (FPL) that exceeds the highest Medicaid income threshold applicable to a child by a

minimum of 30 percentage points. (NOTE: The State may set this threshold higher than 30 percentage points to account for any differences between the income calculation methodologies used by an Express Lane agency and those used by the State for its Medicaid program. The State may set one screening threshold for all children, based on the highest Medicaid income threshold, or it may set more than one screening threshold, based on its existing, age-related Medicaid eligibility thresholds.) Include the screening threshold(s) expressed as a percentage of the FPL, and provide an explanation of how this was calculated. Describe whether the State is temporarily enrolling children in CHIP, based on the income finding from an Express Lane agency, pending the completion of the screen and enroll process.

In this section, states should describe their eligibility screening process in a way that addresses the five assurances specified below. The State should consider including important definitions, the relationship with affected Federal, State and local agencies, and other applicable criteria that will describe the State's ability to make assurances. (Sections 2102)(b)(3)(A) and 2110(b)(2)(B)), (42 CFR 457.310(b)(2), 42CFR 457.350(a)(1) and 457.80(c)(3))

4.4 Eligibility screening and coordination with other health coverage programs
States must describe how they will assure that:

4.4.1. ☒ only targeted low-income children who are ineligible for Medicaid or not covered under a group health plan or health insurance (including access to a State health benefits plan) are furnished child health assistance under the plan.
(Sections 2102)(b)(3)(A), 2110(b)(2)(B)) (42 CFR 457.310(b), 42 CFR 457.350(a)(1) and 42 CFR 457.80(c)(3)) Confirm that the State does not apply a waiting period for pregnant women.

Vermont uses an automated, integrated eligibility system. Criteria for CHIP are programmed into the eligibility system. Applications for CHIP are reviewed for determination by the eligibility specialist. Application information is entered into the eligibility system. It is reviewed in conjunction with programmed criteria for CHIP. Children between 225% - 300% FPL with other insurance are not enrolled in CHIP. Pregnant women are not covered.

Children of state employees will be enrolled in CHIP if they meet all other technical eligibility requirements. Vermont is electing to cover children of state employees per authority outlined in Section 10203(6)(C) of the Patient Protection and Affordability Care Act. Vermont has determined that the annual amount of cost sharing (premiums, deductibles, coinsurance, & co-pays) imposed for children of state employees between 225 – 300% FPL exceeds 5% of the family's income, and is not affordable. Vermont will re-assess cost sharing for state employee coverage in relation to 5% of income annually.

Vermont's method for determining hardship.

Family Size	*Monthly Income at 300% FPL*	*5% of monthly income*	*Average Monthly Weighted Premium*	*Maximum Out of Pocket*	*Total Enrollee Share*	*Exceed 5% Allowable*
2	*$3,783*	*$189.15*	*$271.14*	*$196.46*	*$467.60*	*Yes*
3	*$4,773*	*$238.65*	*$372.83*	*$289.38*	*$662.20*	*Yes*
4	*$5,763*	*$288.15*	*$372.83*	*$289.38*	*$662.20*	*Yes*
5	*$6,753*	*$337.65*	*$372.83*	*$289.38*	*$662.20*	*Yes*
6	*$7,743*	*$387.15*	*$372.83*	*$289.38*	*$662.20*	*Yes*
7	*$8,733*	*$436.65*	*$372.83*	*$289.38*	*$662.20*	*Yes*

Average monthly weighted premiums were calculated using a weighted average, based on plan subscription, of the premiums from Total Choice (9%), Healthguard (1%) and SelectCare (90%). The average maximum out of pocket was calculated following the same method as average weighted premiums using combined maximum out of pocket and deductible for each plan.

4.4.2. ☒ children found through the screening process to be potentially eligible for medical assistance under the State Medicaid plan are enrolled for assistance under such plan; (Section 2102)(b)(3)(B)) (42CFR, 457.350(a)(2))

Applications for Medicaid and CHIP are reviewed for determination by the same eligibility specialists. The State assures that children determined to be eligible for Medicaid are not reviewed or determined eligible for CHIP.

4.4.3. ☒ children found through the screening process to be ineligible for Medicaid are enrolled in CHIP; (Sections 2102(a)(1) and (2) and 2102(c)(2)) (42CFR, 431.636(b)(4))

Applications for Medicaid and CHIP are reviewed for determination by the same eligibility specialists. The State assures that children determined not to be eligible for Medicaid are reviewed for eligibility for CHIP. Children found eligible are enrolled in the CHIP.

4.4.4. ☒ the insurance provided under the State child health plan does not substitute for coverage under group health plans; states should check the appropriate box. (Section 2102)(b)(3)(C)) (42CFR, 457.805) (42CFR 457.810(a)-(c))

The goal in Vermont has been to provide health care coverage for all children through a combination of public and private coverage. Vermont has discouraged substitution of private coverage by offering affordable Medicaid secondary coverage to children 225-300% FPL (Underinsured) under the Global Commitment to Health Waiver. Vermont monitors fluctuations in the mix of coverage through the Department of Financial Regulation Household Health Insurance Survey of Vermonters. Results from that survey are used to monitor state level changes in the mix of public and private coverage of children. DVHA monitors shifts by reviewing CHIP enrollment data, underinsured enrollment data, and other data, as required. DVHA reviews its substitution procedures when there are shifts in health insurance coverage.

4.4.4.1. ☐ (formerly 4.4.4.4) If the State provides coverage under a premium assistance program, describe: 1) the minimum period without coverage under a group health plan. This should include any allowable exceptions to the waiting period; 2) the expected minimum level of contribution employers will make; and 3) how cost-effectiveness is determined.

4.4.5 ☒ Child health assistance is provided to targeted low-income children in the State who are American Indian and Alaska Native. (Section 2102)(b)(3)(D)) (42 CFR 457.125(a))

The Vermont CHIP, and all other children's health care programs, provide child health assistance to targeted low-income children in the state, including children who are American Indian and Alaska Native.

Guidance: When the State is using an income finding from an Express Lane agency, the State must still comply with screen and enroll requirements before enrolling children in CHIP. The State may either continue its current screen and enroll process, or elect one of two new options to fulfill these requirements.

4.4-EL The State should designate the option it will be using to carry out screen and enroll requirements:

☐ The State will continue to use the screen and enroll procedures required under section 2102(b)(3)(A) and (B) of the Social Security Act and 42 CFR 457.350(a) and 42 CFR 457.80(c). Describe this process.

☐ The State is establishing a screening threshold set as a percentage of the Federal poverty level (FPL) that exceeds the highest Medicaid income threshold applicable to a child by a minimum of 30 percentage points. (NOTE: The State may set this threshold higher than 30 percentage points to account for any differences between the income calculation methodologies used by the Express Lane agency and those used by the State for its Medicaid program. The State may set one screening threshold for all children, based on the highest Medicaid income threshold, or it may set more than one screening threshold, based on its existing, age-related Medicaid eligibility thresholds.) Include the screening threshold(s) expressed as a percentage of the FPL, and provide an explanation of how this was calculated.

☐ The State is temporarily enrolling children in CHIP, based on the income finding from the Express Lane agency, pending the completion of the screen and enroll process.

Section 5. Outreach and Coordination

5.1. (formerly 2.2) Describe the current State efforts to provide or obtain creditable health coverage for uninsured children by addressing sections 5.1.1 and 5.1.2. (Section 2102)(a)(2) (42CFR 457.80(b))

Guidance: The information below may include whether the state elects express lane eligibility a description of the State's outreach efforts through Medicaid and state-

only programs.

5.1.1. (formerly 2.2.1.) The steps the State is currently taking to identify and enroll all uninsured children who are eligible to participate in public health insurance programs (i.e., Medicaid and state-only child health insurance):

Efforts to identify and continue to enroll children have been ongoing since the early 1990's. The DCF/ESD, the Vermont Department of Health (VDH), the DVHA, and many community partners have worked collaboratively to reach out to those children who are uninsured or underinsured. In the fall of 2007, as a result of healthcare reform in Vermont, new efforts were made to reach out to those uninsured Vermonters. All existing state-sponsored health insurance programs (Medicaid, CHIP, VHAP, Dr Dynasaur, etc) fell under the new umbrella name, Green Mountain Care. A new website (www.GreenMountainCare.org) was developed that provides information on the programs, hosts a high level screening tool which allows people to determine which program they may be eligible for and download the application.

Guidance: The State may address the coordination between the public-private outreach and the public health programs that is occurring statewide. This section will provide a historic record of the steps the State is taking to identify and enroll all uninsured children from the time the State's plan was initially approved. States do not have to rewrite his section but may instead update this section as appropriate.

5.1.2. (formerly 2.2.2.) The steps the State is currently taking to identify and enroll all uninsured children who are eligible to participate in health insurance programs that involve a public-private partnership:

N/A

Guidance: The State should describe below how it's Title XXI program will closely coordinate the enrollment with Medicaid because under Title XXI, children identified as Medicaid-eligible are required to be enrolled in Medicaid. Specific information related to Medicaid screen and enroll procedures is requested in Section 4.4. (42CFR 457.80(c))

5.2. (formerly 2.3) Describe how CHIP coordinates with other public and private health insurance programs, other sources of health benefits coverage for children, other relevant child health programs, (such as title V), that provide health care services for low-income children to increase the number of children with creditable health coverage. Section 2102(a)(3) and 2102(c)(2) and 2102(b)(3)(E))(42CFR 457.80(c)). This item requires a brief overview of how Title XXI efforts -- particularly new enrollment outreach efforts will be coordinated with and improve upon existing State efforts described in Section 5.2.

The State has fully integrated the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) with the current Medicaid Program. DCF/ESD is responsible for determining, and re-determining eligibility for all medical assistance programs, including eligibility for Medicaid and CHIP. The process for determining eligibility is essentially the same for all programs, requiring an application and evaluation of program requirements. The application process ensures that applications are

processed using appropriate program standards and that eligibles can be identified by program and fully integrated into the existing service delivery mechanisms.

The DVHA, DCF/ESD and VDH have worked together to maximize outreach activities to the uninsured, and coordinated those activities with other VDH programs including Title V, EPSDT Maternal Child Health, Children with Special Health Needs (CSHN), WIC, Children's Integrated Services, and refugee resettlement.

5.2-EL The State should include a description of its election of the Express Lane eligibility option to provide a simplified eligibility determination process and expedited enrollment of eligible children into Medicaid or CHIP.

5.3 Strategies

Guidance: Describe the procedures used by the State to accomplish outreach to families of children likely to be eligible for child health assistance or other public or private health coverage to inform them of the availability of the programs, and to assist them in enrolling their children in such a program: (Section 2102(c)(1)) (42CFR 457.90) The description should include information on how the State will inform the target of the availability of the programs, including American Indians and Alaska Natives, and assist them in enrolling in the appropriate program.

Outreach strategies may include, but are not limited to, community outreach workers, outstationed eligibility workers, translation and transportation services, assistance with enrollment forms, case management and other targeting activities to inform families of low-income children of the availability of the health insurance program under the plan or other private or public health coverage.

The State has integrated CHIP outreach efforts with the existing Green Mountain Care outreach and enrollment activities. The State contracts with the benefits counseling firm for a toll-free telephone line individuals can contact for information about health care programs, how to apply, and to request application forms. All outreach materials include information about all health care programs including CHIP.

Outreach efforts include:

- *A multi-media campaign, including print, brochures, and flyers, targeting individuals eligible for enrollment;*
- *Outreach through community groups and organizations;*
- *Educational sessions in community locations such as churches, WIC clinics, health clinics, schools, health fairs, local food banks and the local DCF/ESD and VDH district offices, for eligible and other interested individuals about health insurance programs; and*

- *Education and training sessions on the eligibility standards and current procedures for application with organizations that serve the target populations, such as public schools, community-based service organizations, hospitals, FQHCs and RHCs, etc.*

In addition, there has been a statewide effort to utilize schools as a vehicle to inform families about health insurance.

Section 6. Coverage Requirements for Children's Health Insurance

☐ Check here if the State elects to use funds provided under Title XXI only to provide expanded eligibility under the State's Medicaid plan and proceed to Section 7 since children covered under a Medicaid expansion program will receive all Medicaid covered services including EPSDT.

6.1. The State elects to provide the following forms of coverage to children: (Check all that apply.) (Section 2103(c)); (42CFR 457.410(a))

Guidance: Benchmark coverage is substantially equal to the benefits coverage in a benchmark benefit package (FEHBP-equivalent coverage, State employee coverage, and/or the HMO coverage plan that has the largest insured commercial, non-Medicaid enrollment in the state). If box below is checked, either 6.1.1.1., 6.1.1.2., or 6.1.1.3. must also be checked. (Section 2103(a)(1))

6.1.1. ☐ Benchmark coverage; (Section 2103(a)(1) and 42 CFR 457.420)

Guidance: Check box below if the benchmark benefit package to be offered by the State is the standard Blue Cross/Blue Shield preferred provider option service benefit plan, as described in and offered under Section 8903(1) of Title 5, United States Code. (Section 2103(b)(1) (42 CFR 457.420(b))

6.1.1.1. ☐ FEHBP-equivalent coverage; (Section 2103(b)(1) (42 CFR 457.420(a)) (If checked, attach copy of the plan.)

Guidance: Check box below if the benchmark benefit package to be offered by the State is State employee coverage, meaning a coverage plan that is offered and generally available to State employees in the state. (Section 2103(b)(2))

6.1.1.2. ☐ State employee coverage; (Section 2103(b)(2)) (If checked, identify the plan and attach a copy of the benefits description.)

Guidance: Check box below if the benchmark benefit package to be offered by the State is offered by a health maintenance organization (as defined in Section 2791(b)(3) of the Public Health Services Act) and has the largest insured commercial, non-Medicaid enrollment of covered lives of such

coverage plans offered by an HMO in the state. (Section 2103(b)(3) (42 CFR 457.420(c)))

6.1.1.3. ☐ HMO with largest insured commercial enrollment (Section 2103(b)(3)) (If checked, identify the plan and attach a copy of the benefits description.)

Guidance: States choosing Benchmark-equivalent coverage must check the box below and ensure that the coverage meets the following requirements:

- the coverage includes benefits for items and services within each of the categories of basic services described in 42 CFR 457.430:
  - dental services
  - inpatient and outpatient hospital services,
  - physicians' services,
  - surgical and medical services,
  - laboratory and x-ray services,
  - well-baby and well-child care, including age-appropriate immunizations, and
  - emergency services;
- the coverage has an aggregate actuarial value that is at least actuarially equivalent to one of the benchmark benefit packages (FEHBP-equivalent coverage, State employee coverage, or coverage offered through an HMO coverage plan that has the largest insured commercial enrollment in the state); and
- the coverage has an actuarial value that is equal to at least 75 percent of the actuarial value of the additional categories in such package, if offered, as described in 42 CFR 457.430:
  - coverage of prescription drugs,
  - mental health services,
  - vision services and
  - hearing services.

If 6.1.2. is checked, a signed actuarial memorandum must be attached. The actuary who prepares the opinion must select and specify the standardized set and population to be used under paragraphs (b)(3) and (b)(4) of 42 CFR 457.431. The State must provide sufficient detail to explain the basis of the methodologies used to estimate the actuarial value or, if requested by CMS, to replicate the State results.

The actuarial report must be prepared by an individual who is a member of the American Academy of Actuaries. This report must be prepared in accordance with the principles and standards of the American Academy of Actuaries. In preparing the report, the actuary must use generally accepted actuarial principles and methodologies, use a standardized set of utilization and price factors, use a standardized population that is representative of privately insured children of the age of children who are expected to be covered under the State child health plan,

apply the same principles and factors in comparing the value of different coverage (or categories of services), without taking into account any differences in coverage based on the method of delivery or means of cost control or utilization used, and take into account the ability of a State to reduce benefits by taking into account the increase in actuarial value of benefits coverage offered under the State child health plan that results from the limitations on cost sharing under such coverage. (Section 2103(a)(2))

6.1.2. ☐ Benchmark-equivalent coverage; (Section 2103(a)(2) and 42 CFR 457.430) Specify the coverage, including the amount, scope and duration of each service, as well as any exclusions or limitations. Attach a signed actuarial report that meets the requirements specified in 42 CFR 457.431.

Guidance: A State approved under the provision below, may modify its program from time to time so long as it continues to provide coverage at least equal to the lower of the actuarial value of the coverage under the program as of August 5, 1997, or one of the benchmark programs. If "existing comprehensive state-based coverage" is modified, an actuarial opinion documenting that the actuarial value of the modification is greater than the value as of August 5, 1997, or one of the benchmark plans must be attached. Also, the fiscal year 1996 State expenditures for "existing comprehensive state-based coverage" must be described in the space provided for all states. (Section 2103(a)(3))

6.1.3. ☐ Existing Comprehensive State-Based Coverage; (Section 2103(a)(3) and 42 CFR 457.440) This option is only applicable to New York, Florida, and Pennsylvania. Attach a description of the benefits package, administration, and date of enactment. If existing comprehensive State-based coverage is modified, provide an actuarial opinion documenting that the actuarial value of the modification is greater than the value as of 8/5/97 or one of the benchmark plans. Describe the fiscal year 1996 State expenditures for existing comprehensive state-based coverage.

Guidance: Secretary-approved coverage refers to any other health benefits coverage deemed appropriate and acceptable by the Secretary upon application by a state. (Section 2103(a)(4)) (42 CFR 457.250)

6.1.4. ☒ Secretary-approved Coverage. **(Section 2103(a)(4)) (42 CFR 457.450)**

6.1.4.1. ☒ Coverage the same as Medicaid State plan
6.1.4.2. ☐ Comprehensive coverage for children under a Medicaid Section 1115 demonstration waiver
6.1.4.3. ☐ Coverage that either includes the full EPSDT benefit or that the State has extended to the entire Medicaid population

Guidance: Check below if the coverage offered includes benchmark coverage,

as specified in 457.420, plus additional coverage. Under this option, the State must clearly demonstrate that the coverage it provides includes the same coverage as the benchmark package, and also describes the services that are being added to the benchmark package.

6.1.4.4. ☐ Coverage that includes benchmark coverage plus additional coverage

6.1.4.5. ☐ Coverage that is the same as defined by existing comprehensive state-based coverage applicable only New York, Pennsylvania, or Florida (under 457.440)

Guidance: Check below if the State is purchasing coverage through a group health plan, and intends to demonstrate that the group health plan is substantially equivalent to or greater than to coverage under one of the benchmark plans specified in 457.420, through use of a benefit-by-benefit comparison of the coverage. Provide a sample of the comparison format that will be used. Under this option, if coverage for any benefit does not meet or exceed the coverage for that benefit under the benchmark, the State must provide an actuarial analysis as described in 457.431 to determine actuarial equivalence.

6.1.4.6. ☐ Coverage under a group health plan that is substantially equivalent to or greater than benchmark coverage through a benefit by benefit comparison (Provide a sample of how the comparison will be done)

Guidance: Check below if the State elects to provide a source of coverage that is not described above. Describe the coverage that will be offered, including any benefit limitations or exclusions.

6.1.4.7. ☐ Other (Describe)

Guidance: All forms of coverage that the State elects to provide to children in its plan must be checked. The State should also describe the scope, amount and duration of services covered under its plan, as well as any exclusions or limitations. States that choose to cover unborn children under the State plan should include a separate section 6.2 that specifies benefits for the unborn child population. (Section 2110(a)) (42CFR, 457.490)

If the state elects to cover the new option of targeted low income pregnant women, but chooses to provide a different benefit package for these pregnant women under the CHIP plan, the state must include a separate section 6.2 describing the benefit package for pregnant women. (Section 2112)

6.2. The State elects to provide the following forms of coverage to children: (Check all that apply. If an item is checked, describe the coverage with respect to the amount, duration and scope of services covered, as well as any exclusions or limitations) (Section 2110(a)) (42CFR 457.490)

6.2.1. ☒ Inpatient services (Section 2110(a)(1))
6.2.2. ☒ Outpatient services (Section 2110(a)(2))
6.2.3. ☒ Physician services (Section 2110(a)(3))
6.2.4. ☒ Surgical services (Section 2110(a)(4))
6.2.5. ☒ Clinic services (including health center services) and other ambulatory health care services. (Section 2110(a)(5))
6.2.6. ☒ Prescription drugs (Section 2110(a)(6))
6.2.7. ☒ Over-the-counter medications (Section 2110(a)(7))
6.2.8. ☒ Laboratory and radiological services (Section 2110(a)(8))
6.2.9. ☒ Prenatal care and pre-pregnancy family services and supplies (Section 2110(a)(9))
6.2.10. ☒ Inpatient mental health services, other than services described in 6.2.18., but including services furnished in a state-operated mental hospital and including residential or other 24-hour therapeutically planned structural services (Section 2110(a)(10))
6.2.11. ☒ Outpatient mental health services, other than services described in 6.2.19, but including services furnished in a state-operated mental hospital and including community-based services (Section 2110(a)(11)
6.2.12. ☒ Durable medical equipment and other medically-related or remedial devices (such as prosthetic devices, implants, eyeglasses, hearing aids, dental devices, and adaptive devices) (Section 2110(a)(12))
6.2.13. ☒ Disposable medical supplies (Section 2110(a)(13))

Guidance: Home and community based services may include supportive services such as home health nursing services, home health aide services, personal care, assistance with activities of daily living, chore services, day care services, respite care services, training for family members, and minor modifications to the home.

6.2.14. ☒ Home and community-based health care services (See instructions) (Section 2110(a)(14))

Guidance: Nursing services may include nurse practitioner services, nurse midwife services, advanced practice nurse services, private duty nursing care, pediatric nurse services, and respiratory care services in a home, school or other setting.

6.2.15. ☒ Nursing care services (Section 2110(a)(15))
6.2.16. ☒ Abortion only if necessary to save the life of the mother or if the pregnancy is the result of an act of rape or incest (Section 2110(a)(16)
6.2.17. ☒ Dental services (Section 2110(a)(17)) States updating their dental benefits must complete 6.2-DC (CHIPRA # 7, SHO # #09-012 issued October 7, 2009)
6.2.18. ☒ Inpatient substance abuse treatment services and residential substance abuse

treatment services (Section 2110(a)(18))

6.2.19. ☒ Outpatient substance abuse treatment services (Section 2110(a)(19))

6.2.20. ☒ Case management services (Section 2110(a)(20))

6.2.21. ☒ Care coordination services (Section 2110(a)(21))

6.2.22. ☒ Physical therapy, occupational therapy, and services for individuals with speech, hearing, and language disorders (Section 2110(a)(22))

6.2.23. ☒ Hospice care (Section 2110(a)(23))

Guidance: Any other medical, diagnostic, screening, preventive, restorative, remedial, therapeutic or rehabilitative service may be provided, whether in a facility, home, school, or other setting, if recognized by State law and only if the service is: 1) prescribed by or furnished by a physician or other licensed or registered practitioner within the scope of practice as prescribed by State law; 2) performed under the general supervision or at the direction of a physician; or 3) furnished by a health care facility that is operated by a State or local government or is licensed under State law and operating within the scope of the license.

6.2.24. ☒ Any other medical, diagnostic, screening, preventive, restorative, remedial, therapeutic, or rehabilitative services. (See instructions) (Section 2110(a)(24))

6.2.25. ☐ Premiums for private health care insurance coverage (Section 2110(a)(25))

6.2.26. ☒ Medical transportation (Section 2110(a)(26))

Guidance: Enabling services, such as transportation, translation, and outreach services, may be offered only if designed to increase the accessibility of primary and preventive health care services for eligible low-income individuals.

6.2.27. ☒ Enabling services (such as transportation, translation, and outreach services (See instructions) (Section 2110(a)(27))

6.2.28. ☒ Any other health care services or items specified by the Secretary and not included under this Section (Section 2110(a)(28)) *Telemedicine for children receiving mental health services.*

6.2-DC Dental Coverage (CHIPRA # 7, SHO # #09-012 issued October 7, 2009) The State will provide dental coverage to children through one of the following. Please update Sections 9.10 and 10.3-DC when electing this option. Dental services provided to children eligible for dental-only supplemental services must receive the same dental services as provided to otherwise eligible CHIP children (Section 2103(a)(5)):

6.2.1-DC ☐ State Specific Dental Benefit Package. The State assures dental services represented by the following categories of common dental terminology (CDT[1]) codes are included in the dental benefits:

1. Diagnostic (i.e., clinical exams, x-rays) (CDT codes: D0100-D0999) (must follow periodicity schedule)

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2. Preventive (i.e., dental prophylaxis, topical fluoride treatments, sealants) (CDT codes: D1000-D1999) (must follow periodicity schedule)
3. Restorative (i.e., fillings, crowns) (CDT codes: D2000-D2999)
4. Endodontic (i.e., root canals) (CDT codes: D3000-D3999)
5. Periodontic (treatment of gum disease) (CDT codes: D4000-D4999)
6. Prosthodontic (dentures) (CDT codes: D5000-D5899, D5900-D5999, and D6200-D6999)
7. Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (i.e., extractions of teeth and other oral surgical procedures) (CDT codes: D7000-D7999)
8. Orthodontics (i.e., braces) (CDT codes: D8000-D8999)
9. Emergency Dental Services

6.2.1.1-DC Periodicity Schedule. The State has adopted the following periodicity schedule:
- ☒ State-developed Medicaid-specific
- ☐ American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
- ☐ Other Nationally recognized periodicity schedule
- ☐ Other (description attached)

6.2.2-DC ☐ Benchmark coverage; (Section 2103(c)(5), 42 CFR 457.410, and 42 CFR 457.420)

6.2.2.1-DC ☐ FEHBP-equivalent coverage; (Section 2103(c)(5)(C)(i)) (If checked, attach copy of the dental supplemental plan benefits description and the applicable CDT[2] codes. If the State chooses to provide supplemental services, also attach a description of the services and applicable CDT codes)

6.2.2.2-DC ☐ State employee coverage; (Section 2103(c)(5)(C)(ii)) (If checked, identify the plan and attach a copy of the benefits description and the applicable CDT codes. If the State chooses to provide supplemental services, also attach a description of the services and applicable CDT codes)Page - 11 – State Health Official

6.2.2.3-DC ☐ HMO with largest insured commercial enrollment (Section 2103(c)(5)(C)(iii)) (If checked, identify the plan and attach a copy of the benefits description and the applicable CDT codes. If the State chooses to provide supplemental services, also attach a description of the services and applicable CDT codes)

6.2-DS ☐ **Supplemental Dental Coverage-** The State will provide dental coverage to children eligible for dental-only supplemental services. Children eligible for this option must receive the same dental services as provided to otherwise eligible CHIP children (Section 2103(a)(5). Please update Sections 1.1-DS, 4.1-DS, 4.2-DS, and 9.10 when electing this option.

Guidance: Under Title XXI, pre-existing condition exclusions are not allowed, with the only exception being in relation to another law in existence (HIPAA/ERISA). Indicate that the plan adheres to this requirement by checking the applicable description.

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In the event that the State provides benefits through a group health plan or group health coverage, or provides family coverage through a group health plan under a waiver (see Section 6.4.2.), pre-existing condition limits are allowed to the extent permitted by HIPAA/ERISA. If the State is contracting with a group health plan or provides benefits through group health coverage, describe briefly any limitations on pre-existing conditions. Previously 8.6

6.3 The State assures that, with respect to pre-existing medical conditions, one of the following two statements applies to its plan: (42CFR 457.480)

6.3.1. ☒ The State shall not permit the imposition of any pre-existing medical condition exclusion for covered services (Section 2102(b)(1)(B)(ii)); OR

6.3.2. ☐ The State contracts with a group health plan or group health insurance coverage, or contracts with a group health plan to provide family coverage under a waiver (see Section 6.6.2. (formerly 6.4.2) of the template). Pre-existing medical conditions are permitted to the extent allowed by HIPAA/ERISA (Section 2103(f)). Describe: Previously 8.6

Guidance: States may request two additional purchase options in Title XXI: cost effective coverage through a community-based health delivery system and for the purchase of family coverage. (Section 2105(c)(2) and (3)) (457.1005 and 457.1010)

6.4 Additional Purchase Options- If the State wishes to provide services under the plan through cost effective alternatives or the purchase of family coverage, it must request the appropriate option. To be approved, the State must address the following: (Section 2105(c)(2) and (3)) (42 CFR 457.1005 and 457.1010)

6.4.1. ☐ **Cost Effective Coverage-** Payment may be made to a State in excess of the 10% limitation on use of funds for payments for: 1) other child health assistance for targeted low-income children; 2) expenditures for health services initiatives under the plan for improving the health of children (including targeted low-income children and other low-income children); 3) expenditures for outreach activities as provided in Section 2102(c)(1) under the plan; and 4) other reasonable costs incurred by the State to administer the plan, if it demonstrates the following (42CFR 457.1005(a)):

6.4.1.1. Coverage provided to targeted low-income children through such expenditures must meet the coverage requirements above; Describe the coverage provided by the alternative delivery system. The State may cross reference Section 6.2.1 - 6.2.28. (Section 2105(c)(2)(B)(i)) (42CFR 457.1005(b))

6.4.1.2. The cost of such coverage must not be greater, on an average per child basis, than the cost of coverage that would otherwise be provided for the

coverage described above; Describe the cost of such coverage on an average per child basis. (Section 2105(c)(2)(B)(ii)) (42CFR 457.1005(b))

Guidance: Check below if the State is requesting to provide cost-effective coverage through a community-based health delivery system. This allows the State to waive the 10% limitation on expenditures not used for Medicaid or health insurance assistance if coverage provided to targeted low-income children through such expenditures meets the requirements of Section 2103; the cost of such coverage is not greater, on an average per child basis, than the cost of coverage that would otherwise be provided under Section 2103; and such coverage is provided through the use of a community-based health delivery system, such as through contracts with health centers receiving funds under Section 330 of the Public Health Services Act or with hospitals such as those that receive disproportionate share payment adjustments under Section 1886(c)(5)(F) or 1923.

If the cost-effective alternative waiver is requested, the State must demonstrate that payments in excess of the 10% limitation will be used for other child health assistance for targeted low-income children; expenditures for health services initiatives under the plan for improving the health of children (including targeted low-income children and other low-income children); expenditures for outreach activities as provided in Section 2102(c)(1) under the plan; and other reasonable costs incurred by the State to administer the plan. (42CFR, 457.1005(a))

6.4.1.3. The coverage must be provided through the use of a community based health delivery system, such as through contracts with health centers receiving funds under Section 330 of the Public Health Service Act or with hospitals such as those that receive disproportionate share payment adjustments under Section 1886(c)(5)(F) or 1923 of the Social Security Act. Describe the community-based delivery system. (Section 2105(c)(2)(B)(iii)) (42CFR 457.1005(a))

Guidance: Check 6.6.2.if the State is requesting to purchase family coverage. Any State requesting to purchase such coverage will need to include information that establishes to the Secretary's satisfaction that: 1) when compared to the amount of money that would have been paid to cover only the children involved with a comparable package, the purchase of family coverage is cost effective; and 2) the purchase of family coverage is not a substitution for coverage already being provided to the child. (Section 2105(c)(3)) (42CFR, 457.1010)

6.4.2. ☐ **Purchase of Family Coverage**- Describe the plan to purchase family coverage. Payment may be made to a State for the purpose of family coverage under a group health plan or health insurance coverage that includes coverage of targeted low-income children, if it demonstrates the following: (Section 2105(c)(3)) (42CFR

457.1010)

6.4.2.1. Purchase of family coverage is cost-effective. The State's cost of purchasing family coverage, including administrative expenditures, that includes coverage for the targeted low-income children involved or the family involved (as applicable) under premium assistance programs must not be greater than the cost of obtaining coverage under the State plan for all eligible targeted low-income children or families involved; and (2) The State may base its demonstration of cost effectiveness on an assessment of the cost of coverage, including administrative costs, for children or families under premium assistance programs to the cost of other CHIP coverage for these children or families, done on a case-by-case basis, or on the cost of premium assisted coverage in the aggregate.

6.4.2.2. The State assures that the family coverage would not otherwise substitute for health insurance coverage that would be provided to such children but for the purchase of family coverage. (Section 2105(c)(3)(B)) (42CFR 457.1010(b))

6.4.2.3. The State assures that the coverage for the family otherwise meets title XXI requirements. (42CFR 457.1010(c))

6.4.3-PA: Additional State Options for Providing Premium Assistance (CHIPRA # 13, SHO # 10-002 issued February, 2, 2010)A State may elect to offer a premium assistance subsidy for qualified employer-sponsored coverage, as defined in Section 2105(c)(10)(B), to all targeted low-income children who are eligible for child health assistance under the plan and have access to such coverage. No subsidy shall be provided to a targeted low-income child (or the child's parent) unless the child voluntarily elects to receive such a subsidy. (Section 2105(c)(10)(A)). Please remember to update section 9.10 when electing this option. Does the State provide this option to targeted low-income children?

☐ Yes
☐ No

6.4.3.1-PA Qualified Employer-Sponsored Coverage and Premium Assistance Subsidy

6.4.3.1.1-PA Provide an assurance that the qualified employer-sponsored insurance meets the definition of qualified employer-sponsored coverage as defined in Section 2105(c)(10)(B), and that the premium assistance subsidy meets the definition of premium assistance subsidy as defined in 2105(c)(10)(C).

6.4.3.1.2-PA Describe whether the State is providing the premium assistance subsidy as reimbursement to an employee or for out-of-pocket expenditures or directly to the employee's employer.

6.4.3.2-PA: Supplemental Coverage for Benefits and Cost Sharing Protections Provided under the Child Health Plan.

6.4.3.2.1-PA If the State is providing premium assistance for qualified employer-sponsored coverage, as defined in Section 2105(c)(10)(E)(i), provide an assurance that the State is providing for each targeted low-income child enrolled in such coverage, supplemental coverage consisting of all items or services that are not covered or are only partially covered, under the qualified employer-sponsored coverage consistent with 2103(a) and cost sharing protections consistent with Section 2103(e).

6.4.3.2.2-PA Describe whether these benefits are being provided through the employer or by the State providing wraparound benefits.

6.4.3.2.3-PA If the State is providing premium assistance for benchmark or benchmark-equivalent coverage, the State ensures that such group health plans or health insurance coverage offered through an employer will be certified by an actuary as coverage that is equivalent to a benchmark benefit package described in Section 2103(b) or benchmark equivalent coverage that meets the requirements of Section 2103(a)(2).

6.4.3.3-PA: Application of Waiting Period Imposed Under State Plan: States are required to apply the same waiting period to premium assistance as is applied to direct coverage for children under their CHIP State plan, as specified in Section 2105(c)(10)(F).

6.4.3.3.1-PA Provide an assurance that the waiting period for children in premium assistance is the same as for those children in direct coverage (if State has a waiting period in place for children in direct CHIP coverage).

6.4.3.4-PA: Opt-Out and Outreach, Education, and Enrollment Assistance

6.4.3.4.1-PA Describe the State's process for ensuring parents are permitted to disenroll their child from qualified employer-sponsored coverage and to enroll in CHIP effective on the first day of any month for which the child is eligible for such assistance and in a manner that ensures continuity of coverage for the child (Section 2105(c)(10)(G)).

6.4.3.4.2-PA Describe the State's outreach, education, and enrollment efforts related to premium assistance programs, as required under Section 2102(c)(3). How does the State inform families of the availability of premium assistance, and assist them in obtaining such subsidies? What are the specific significant resources the State intends to apply to educate employers about the availability of premium assistance subsidies under the State child health plan? (Section 2102(c))

6.4.3.5-PA: Purchasing Pool- A State may establish an employer-family premium assistance purchasing pool and may provide a premium assistance subsidy for enrollment in coverage made available through this pool (Section 2105(c)(10)(I)). Does the State provide this option?

☐ Yes
☐ No

6.6.3.5.1-PA Describe the plan to establish an employer-family premium assistance purchasing pool.

6.6.3.5.2-PA Provide an assurance that employers who are eligible to participate: 1) have less than 250 employees; 2) have at least one employee who is a pregnant woman eligible for CHIP or a member of a family that has at least one child eligible under the State's CHIP plan.

6.6.3.5.3-PA Provide an assurance that the State will not claim for any administrative expenditures attributable to the establishment or operation of such a pool except to the extent such payment would otherwise be permitted under this title.

6.4.3.6-PA Notice of Availability of Premium Assistance- Describe the procedures that assure that if a State provides premium assistance subsidies under this Section, it must: 1) provide as part of the application and enrollment process, information describing the availability of premium assistance and how to elect to obtain a subsidy; and 2) establish other procedures to ensure that parents are fully informed of the choices for child health assistance or through the receipt of premium assistance subsidies (Section 2105(c)(10)(K)).

6.4.3.6.1-PA Provide an assurance that the State includes information about premium assistance on the CHIP application or enrollment form.

Section 7. Quality and Appropriateness of Care

Guidance: **Methods for Evaluating and Monitoring Quality-** Methods to assure quality include the application of performance measures, quality standards consumer information strategies, and other quality improvement strategies.

Performance measurement strategies could include using measurements for external reporting either to the State or to consumers and for internal quality improvement purposes. They could be based on existing measurement sets that have undergone rigorous evaluation for their appropriateness (e.g., HEDIS). They may include the use of standardized member satisfaction surveys (e.g., CAHPS) to assess members' experience of care along key dimensions such as access, satisfaction, and system performance.

Quality standards are often used to assure the presence of structural and process measures that promote quality and could include such approaches as: the use of external and periodic review of health plans by groups such as the National Committee for Quality Assurance; the establishment of standards related to consumer protection and quality such as those developed by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners; and the formation of an advisory group to the State or plan to facilitate consumer and community participation in the plan.

Information strategies could include: the disclosure of information to beneficiaries about their benefits under the plan and their rights and responsibilities; the provision of comparative information to consumers on the performance of available health plans and providers; and consumer education strategies on how to access and

effectively use health insurance coverage to maximize quality of care.

Quality improvement strategies should include the establishment of quantified quality improvement goals for the plan or the State and provider education. Other strategies include specific purchasing specifications, ongoing contract monitoring mechanisms, focus groups, etc.

Where States use managed care organizations to deliver CHIP care, recent legal changes require the State to use managed care quality standards and quality strategies similar to those used in Medicaid managed care.

Tools for Evaluating and Monitoring Quality- Tools and types of information available include, HEDIS (Health Employer Data Information Set) measures, CAHPS (Consumer Assessments of Health Plans Study) measures, vital statistics data, and State health registries (e.g., immunization registries).

Quality monitoring may be done by external quality review organizations, or, if the State wishes, internally by a State board or agency independent of the State CHIP Agency. Establishing grievance measures is also an important aspect of monitoring.

☐ Check here if the State elects to use funds provided under Title XXI only to provide expanded eligibility under the State's Medicaid plan, and continue on to Section 8.

Guidance: The State must specify the qualifications of entities that will provide coverage and the conditions of participation. States should also define the quality standard they are using, for example, NCQA Standards or other professional standards. Any description of the information strategies used should be linked to Section 9. (Section 2102(a)(7)(A)) (42CFR, 457.495)

7.1. Describe the methods (including external and internal monitoring) used to assure the quality and appropriateness of care, particularly with respect to well-baby care, well-child care, and immunizations provided under the plan. (Section 2102(a)(7)(A)) (42CFR 457.495(a)) Will the State utilize any of the following tools to assure quality? (Check all that apply and describe the activities for any categories utilized.)

7.1.1. ☒ Quality standards
7.1.2. ☒ Performance measurement
- **7.1.2 (a)** ☐ CHIPRA Quality Core Set
- **7.1.2 (b)** ☐ Other

7.1.3. ☐ Information strategies
7.1.4. ☐ Quality improvement strategies

Guidance: Provide a brief description of methods to be used to assure access to covered services,

including a description of how the State will assure the quality and appropriateness of the care provided. The State should consider whether there are sufficient providers of care for the newly enrolled populations and whether there is reasonable access to care. (Section 2102(a)(7)(B))

7.2. Describe the methods used, including monitoring, to assure: (Section 2102(a)(7)(B)) (42CFR 457.495)

The Vermont CHIP operates exactly the same as Medicaid for children, and provides the same amount, duration and scope of services to CHIP children including EPSDT.

7.2.1 Access to well-baby care, well-child care, well-adolescent care and childhood and adolescent immunizations. (Section 2102(a)(7)) (42CFR 457.495(a))

DCF's Children's Integrated Services Program works with parents and providers to ensure children receive well-baby and well-child care. In addition VDH has a periodicity schedule for physicians regarding immunizations and well-child/adolescent care.

7.2.2 Access to covered services, including emergency services as defined in 42 CFR 457.10. (Section 2102(a)(7)) 42CFR 457.495(b))

The Vermont CHIP utilizes the same provider network as Medicaid.

7.2.3 Appropriate and timely procedures to monitor and treat enrollees with chronic, complex, or serious medical conditions, including access to an adequate number of visits to specialists experienced in treating the specific medical condition and access to out-of-network providers when the network is not adequate for the enrollee's medical condition. (Section 2102(a)(7)) (42CFR 457.495(c))

Vermont provides CHIP enrollees with the same amount, duration and scope of services as is provided under its Medicaid plan for children. The CHIP program utilizes the same provider network as Medicaid.

7.2.4 Decisions related to the prior authorization of health services are completed in accordance with State law or, in accordance with the medical needs of the patient, within 14 days after the receipt of a request for services. (Section 2102(a)(7)) (42CFR 457.495(d)) Exigent medical circumstances may require more rapid response according to the medical needs of the patient.

The Vermont CHIP is a separate child health program that operates exactly the same as the Medicaid program. Decisions related to prior authorizations are made in accordance with state law and the medical needs of the patient, using the same process and criteria used for Medicaid.

Section 8. Cost-Sharing and Payment

☐ Check here if the State elects to use funds provided under Title XXI only to provide expanded

eligibility under the State's Medicaid plan, and continue on to Section 9.

8.1. Is cost-sharing imposed on any of the children covered under the plan? (42CFR 457.505) Indicate if this also applies for pregnant women. (CHIPRA #2, SHO # 09-006, issued May 11, 2009)

8.1.1. ☒ Yes
8.1.2. ☐ No, skip to question 8.8.

8.1.1-PW ☐ Yes
8.1.2-PW ☐ No, skip to question 8.8.

Guidance: It is important to note that for families below 150% of poverty, the same limitations on cost sharing that are under the Medicaid program apply. (These cost-sharing limitations have been set forth in Section 1916 of the Social Security Act, as implemented by regulations at 42 CFR 447.50-.59). For families with incomes of 150% of poverty and above, cost sharing for all children in the family cannot exceed 5% of a family's income per year. Include a statement that no cost sharing will be charged for pregnancy-related services. (CHIPRA #2, SHO # 09-006, issued May 11, 2009) (Section 2103(e)(1)(A)) (42CFR 457.505(a), 457.510(b) &(c), 457.515(a)&(c))

8.2. Describe the amount of cost-sharing, any sliding scale based on income, the group or groups of enrollees that may be subject to the charge by age and income (if applicable) and the service for which the charge is imposed or time period for the charge, as appropriate. (Section 2103(e)(1)(A)) (42CFR 457.505(a), 457.510(b) &(c), 457.515(a)&(c))

Nominal cost sharing in the form of a premium is required for CHIP. The State assures that the cost sharing does not favor children from higher income families over lower income families and that costs will not exceed five percent (5%) of any family's income in a given year. No deductibles, coinsurance, or copayments are required for those in CHIP.

8.2.1. Premiums:

The state charges a premium for children enrolled in CHIP. The monthly premiums are charged per family to cover all eligible children in the family. Premiums are $60 per household per month.

8.2.2. Deductibles:
8.2.3. Coinsurance or copayments:
8.2.4. Other:

8.2-DS ☐ **Supplemental Dental** (CHIPRA # 7, SHO # #09-012 issued October 7, 2009)For children enrolled in the dental-only supplemental coverage, describe the amount of cost-

sharing, specifying any sliding scale based on income. Also describe how the State will track that the cost sharing does not exceed 5 percent of gross family income. The 5 percent of income calculation shall include all cost-sharing for health insurance and dental insurance (Section 2103(e)(1)(A)) (42 CFR 457.505(a), 457.510(b), and (c), 457.515(a) and (c), and 457.560(a)) Please update Sections 1.1-DS, 4.1-DS, 4.2-DS, 6.2-DS, and 9.10 when electing this option.

8.2.1-DS Premiums:
8.2.2-DS Deductibles:
8.2.3-DS Coinsurance or copayments:
8.2.4-DS Other:

8.3 Describe how the public will be notified, including the public schedule, of this cost sharing (including the cumulative maximum) and changes to these amounts and any differences based on income. (Section 2103(e)((1)(A)) (42CFR 457.505(b))

Guidance: The State should be able to demonstrate upon request its rationale and justification regarding these assurances. This section also addresses limitations on payments for certain expenditures and requirements for maintenance of effort.

Notification for past, current, and future cost sharing amounts has been provided under the same public notification requirements used for public policy promulgated under Vermont's Administrative Procedures Act. Information on the specific cost sharing amounts is included in outreach activities. Additionally, the State will continue to use the below listed groups established for the Medicaid program as sources of input and feedback.

The committees are:

Medicaid Advisory Board (MAB)
Health Access Oversight Committee (HAOC)
Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules
Vermont Legislature

8.4 The State assures that it has made the following findings with respect to the cost sharing in its plan: (Section 2103(e))

8.4.1. ☒ Cost-sharing does not favor children from higher income families over lower income families. (Section 2103(e)(1)(B)) (42CFR 457.530)

8.4.2. ☒ No cost-sharing applies to well-baby and well-child care, including age-appropriate immunizations. (Section 2103(e)(2)) (42CFR 457.520)

8.4.3 ☒ No additional cost-sharing applies to the costs of emergency medical services delivered outside the network. (Section 2103(e)(1)(A)) (42CFR 457.515(f))

8.5 Describe how the State will ensure that the annual aggregate cost-sharing for a family does not exceed 5 percent of such family's income for the length of the child's eligibility period in the State. Include a description of the procedures that do not primarily rely on a refund given by the State for overpayment by an enrollee: (Section 2103(e)(3)(B)) (42CFR 457.560(b) and

457.505(e))

Vermont has established a single annual maximum for households with incomes 225% - 300% FPL. This maximum will be an amount that does not exceed 5% of the 225% for a household of two. This assumes that at least one child must be in the household to qualify for Title XXI and that selecting the 225% FPL income level to set the maximum assures that no household in the income bracket will exceed the 5% level.

8.6 Describe the procedures the State will use to ensure American Indian (as defined by the Indian Health Care Improvement Act of 1976) and Alaska Native children will be excluded from cost-sharing. (Section 2103(b)(3)(D)) (42CFR 457.535)

Vermont notifies individuals on the application that membership in the designated tribes excludes families from cost sharing. If the applicant discloses membership the information is included in the eligibility system then this will exclude the applicant from cost sharing.

8.7 Provide a description of the consequences for an enrollee or applicant who does not pay a charge. (42CFR 457.570 and 457.505(c))

Guidance: Section 8.8.1is based on Section 2101(a) of the Act provides that the purpose of title XXI is to provide funds to States to enable them to initiate and expand the provision of child health assistance to uninsured, low-income children in an effective and efficient manner that is coordinated with other sources of health benefits coverage for children.

CHIP enrollees must pay a monthly premium that is billed monthly. The premiums are billed prospectively and individuals lose coverage if the premium is not paid. A 30 day grace period is applied if the premium had been paid in the prior month.

8.7.1 Provide an assurance that the following disenrollment protections are being applied:

Guidance: Provide a description below of the State's premium grace period process and how the State notifies families of their rights and responsibilities with respect to payment of premiums. (42CFR 457.570(a))

☒ State has established a process that gives enrollees reasonable notice of and an opportunity to pay past due premiums, copayments, coinsurance, deductibles or similar fees prior to disenrollment.

For those enrollees who fail to pay the monthly premium payment, a 30 day grace period is applied if their premium was paid in the prior month. For example, an enrollee that paid a premium for coverage in February but fails to pay the premium for March will retain coverage through the end of March as long as the enrollee meets all other eligibility criteria. If the payment for March is not received by the end of March, the enrollee's eligibility will end on the last day of March.

A past due premium payment received during the grace period will be applied to the prior month, and a new grace period granted. Any late premium payments will be applied to the earliest of the past due premium payment periods. If the March payment is received by the end of March, then coverage will be retained. If not, coverage will end at the end of March. If payment is received on April 1st, eligibility will be reinstated without reapplication. Otherwise, the child must reapply to regain coverage. To regain coverage a new application would need to be submitted and the child would have to be rescreened for program eligibility. At the time of the new application additional documentation may be required to be provided by the enrollees.

After 12 months any outstanding premium balances will be disregarded. If a enrollee's coverage ends due to failing to pay the premium, and the enrollee reapplies within 12 months, the past due premium payment is required prior to beginning coverage unless the enrollee is eligible for a program where no premium payments are required.

The following is a list of dates and notices for the March Coverage Period

January 28th – Premium bill for March sent
February 15th – March Premium due
February 19th – 1st Closure notice advising of grace period status and that coverage will close on the last day of March if payment is not received.
March 5th – Premium Grace Period Notice
March 17th – 2nd Notice of Closure for last day in March unless payment is received

☒ The disenrollment process affords the enrollee an opportunity to show that the enrollee's family income has declined prior to disenrollment for non-payment of cost-sharing charges. (42CFR 457.570(b))

Enrollees are required to report income changes when changes occur. If during the process of disenrollment the enrollee presents information that shows that family income has changed, the new information is entered into the eligibility system and changes in eligibility are made if warranted. If the information indicates the family income has declined, the eligibility system would reassign the child to the Medicaid program if all the eligibility criteria had been met.

☒ In the instance mentioned above, that the State will facilitate enrolling the child in Medicaid or adjust the child's cost-sharing category as appropriate. (42CFR 457.570(b))

Applications for Medicaid and CHIP are reviewed for determination by the same eligibility specialists. The State assures that children determined to be eligible for Medicaid are not reviewed or determined eligible for CHIP. Vermont uses an automated, integrated eligibility system. Criteria for CHIP, Medicaid and all other health care programs are programmed into the eligibility system. The eligibility system would automatically change the beneficiary's category code to Medicaid if warranted.

☒ The State provides the enrollee with an opportunity for an impartial review to

address disenrollment from the program. (42CFR 457.570(c))

Enrollees have the opportunity for an impartial review of any adverse eligibility determination through the Fair Hearing process.

8.8. The State assures that it has made the following findings with respect to the payment aspects of its plan: (Section 2103(e))

8.8.1. ☒ No Federal funds will be used toward State matching requirements. (Section 2105(c)(4)) (42CFR 457.220)

8.8.2. ☒ No cost-sharing (including premiums, deductibles, copayments, coinsurance and all other types) will be used toward State matching requirements. (Section 2105(c)(5) (42CFR 457.224) (Previously 8.4.5)

8.8.3. ☒ No funds under this title will be used for coverage if a private insurer would have been obligated to provide such assistance except for a provision limiting this obligation because the child is eligible under the this title. (Section 2105(c)(6)(A)) (42CFR 457.626(a)(1))

8.8.4. ☒ Income and resource standards and methodologies for determining Medicaid eligibility are not more restrictive than those applied as of June 1, 1997. (Section 2105(d)(1)) (42CFR 457.622(b)(5))

8.8.5. ☒ No funds provided under this title or coverage funded by this title will include coverage of abortion except if necessary to save the life of the mother or if the pregnancy is the result of an act of rape or incest. (Section 2105)(c)(7)(B)) (42CFR 457.475)

8.8.6. ☒ No funds provided under this title will be used to pay for any abortion or to assist in the purchase, in whole or in part, for coverage that includes abortion (except as described above). (Section 2105)(c)(7)(A)) (42CFR 457.475)

Section 9. Strategic Objectives and Performance Goals and Plan Administration

Guidance: States should consider aligning its strategic objectives with those discussed in Section II of the CHIP Annual Report.

9.1. Describe strategic objectives for increasing the extent of creditable health coverage among targeted low-income children and other low-income children: (Section 2107(a)(2)) (42CFR 457.710(b))

Guidance: Goals should be measurable, quantifiable and convey a target the State is working towards.

The strategic objectives of the Vermont CHIP are:

- *Children have adequate insurance to pay for needed care;*

- *Improved health care for children;*
- *Improved care coordination and utilization for children;*
- *Access to primary care provider; and*
- *Children are satisfied with their health care.*

9.2. Specify one or more performance goals for each strategic objective identified: (Section 2107(a)(3)) (42CFR 457.710(c))

Guidance: The State should include data sources to be used to assess each performance goal. In addition, check all appropriate measures from 9.3.1 to 9.3.8 that the State will be utilizing to measure performance, even if doing so duplicates what the State has already discussed in Section 9.

It is acceptable for the State to include performance measures for population subgroups chosen by the State for special emphasis, such as racial or ethnic minorities, particular high-risk or hard to reach populations, children with special needs, etc.

HEDIS (Health Employer Data and Information Set) 2008 contains performance measures relevant to children and adolescents younger than 19. In addition, HEDIS 3.0 contains measures for the general population, for which breakouts by children's age bands (e.g., ages < 1, 1-9, 10-19) are required. Full definitions, explanations of data sources, and other important guidance on the use of HEDIS measures can be found in the HEDIS 2008 manual published by the National Committee on Quality Assurance. So that State HEDIS results are consistent and comparable with national and regional data, states should check the HEDIS 2008 manual for detailed definitions of each measure, including definitions of the numerator and denominator to be used. For states that do not plan to offer managed care plans, HEDIS measures may also be able to be adapted to organizations of care other than managed care.

The performance goals for each strategic objective are as follows:

Children have adequate insurance to pay for needed care.
97% percent of Vermont children have creditable health care coverage.

Improved health care for children
90% of children 2 years old will receive recommended vaccines.

Improved care coordination and utilization for children
90 % of CHIP children are enrolled in the Primary Care Case Management (PCCM) Program.

Access to primary care provider
90% of children in PCCM will see a primary care provider during 12 month period.

Children are satisfied with their health care
90% (Children/parents) Rate Personal Doctor with a score of 7, or greater, out of 10 from a CAHPS.

9.3. Describe how performance under the plan will be measured through objective, independently verifiable means and compared against performance goals in order to determine the State's performance, taking into account suggested performance indicators as specified below or other indicators the State develops: (Section 2107(a)(4)(A),(B)) (42CFR 457.710(d))

Performance of CHIP will be measured utilizing data from both external independent sources such as Department of Financial Regulation Household Health Insurance survey, VDH data, and from DVHA using MMIS and HEDIS measures.

Check the applicable suggested performance measurements listed below that the State plans to use: (Section 2107(a)(4))

- **9.3.1.** ☐ The increase in the percentage of Medicaid-eligible children enrolled in Medicaid.
- **9.3.2.** ☒ The reduction in the percentage of uninsured children.
- **9.3.3.** ☒ The increase in the percentage of children with a usual source of care.
- **9.3.4.** ☐ The extent to which outcome measures show progress on one or more of the health problems identified by the state.
- **9.3.5.** ☐ HEDIS Measurement Set relevant to children and adolescents younger than 19.
- **9.3.6.** ☐ Other child appropriate measurement set. List or describe the set used.
- **9.3.7.** ☒ If not utilizing the entire HEDIS Measurement Set, specify which measures will be collected, such as:
  - **9.3.7.1.** ☐ Immunizations
  - **9.3.7.2.** ☒ Well childcare
  - **9.3.7.3.** ☒ Adolescent well visits
  - **9.3.7.4.** ☐ Satisfaction with care
  - **9.3.7.5.** ☐ Mental health
  - **9.3.7.6.** ☒ Dental care
  - **9.3.7.7.** ☒ Other, list: *Access to primary care.*
- **9.3.8.** ☐ Performance measures for special targeted populations.

9.4. ☒ The State assures it will collect all data, maintain records and furnish reports to the Secretary at the times and in the standardized format that the Secretary requires. (Section 2107(b)(1)) (42CFR 457.720)

Guidance: The State should include an assurance of compliance with the annual reporting requirements, including an assessment of reducing the number of low-income uninsured children. The State should also discuss any annual activities to be undertaken that relate

to assessment and evaluation of the program.

9.5. ☒ The State assures it will comply with the annual assessment and evaluation required under Section 10. Briefly describe the State's plan for these annual assessments and reports. (Section 2107(b)(2)) (42CFR 457.750)

Vermont will utilize assessments of CHIP to inform stakeholders and decision-makers about progress towards performance goals. The State will utilize the Department of Financial Regulation Household Health Insurance Survey as a baseline number of uninsured children in Vermont.

9.6. ☒ The State assures it will provide the Secretary with access to any records or information relating to the plan for purposes of review of audit. (Section 2107(b)(3)) (42CFR 457.720)

Guidance: The State should verify that they will participate in the collection and evaluation of data as new measures are developed or existing measures are revised as deemed necessary by CMS, the states, advocates, and other interested parties.

9.7. ☒ The State assures that, in developing performance measures, it will modify those measures to meet national requirements when such requirements are developed. (42CFR 457.710(e))

9.8. The State assures, to the extent they apply, that the following provisions of the Social Security Act will apply under Title XXI, to the same extent they apply to a State under Title XIX: (Section 2107(e)) (42CFR 457.135)

9.8.1. ☒ Section 1902(a)(4)(C) (relating to conflict of interest standards)
9.8.2. ☒ Paragraphs (2), (16) and (17) of Section 1903(i) (relating to limitations on payment)
9.8.3. ☒ Section 1903(w) (relating to limitations on provider donations and taxes)
9.8.4. ☒ Section 1132 (relating to periods within which claims must be filed)

Guidance: Section 9.9 can include discussion of community-based providers and consumer representatives in the design and implementation of the plan and the method for ensuring ongoing public involvement. Issues to address include a listing of public meetings or announcements made to the public concerning the development of the children's health insurance program or public forums used to discuss changes to the State plan.

9.9. Describe the process used by the State to accomplish involvement of the public in the design and implementation of the plan and the method for insuring ongoing public involvement. (Section 2107(c)) (42CFR 457.120(a) and (b))

The State involves the public in the design and implementation of the Vermont CHIP in a number of ways. The State uses feedback from individual enrollees or providers that comes to the State's

attention to inform the design and implementation of programs. The State also utilizes standing committees (See Section 8.3) established for the Medicaid program as sources of input and feedback on the CHIP program. Formal participation is provided under the same public notification requirements used for public policy promulgated under Vermont's Administrative Procedures Act.

9.9.1 Describe the process used by the State to ensure interaction with Indian Tribes and organizations in the State on the development and implementation of the procedures required in 42 CFR 457.125. States should provide notice and consultation with Tribes on proposed pregnant women expansions. (Section 2107(c)) (42CFR 457.120(c))

Vermont has no federally recognized Indian tribes. Approximately 50% of Indians in Vermont populate the northwest area of the state, most in the St. Albans area. In addition, individuals or tribal organizations have the opportunity under the public notification requirements used for public policy promulgated under Vermont's Administrative Procedures Act to participate in the development of the CHIP or other health care programs.

9.9.2 For an amendment relating to eligibility or benefits (including cost sharing and enrollment procedures), describe how and when prior public notice was provided as required in 42 CFR457.65(b) through (d).

Public notice for amendments relating to eligibility or benefits is under the same public notification requirements used for public policy promulgated under Vermont's Administrative Procedures Act.

9.9.2 Describe the State's interaction, consultation, and coordination with any Indian tribes and organizations in the State regarding implementation of the Express Lane eligibility option.

9.10 Provide a 1-year projected budget. A suggested financial form for the budget is below. The budget must describe: (Section 2107(d)) (42CFR 457.140)

- Planned use of funds, including:
  - Projected amount to be spent on health services;
  - Projected amount to be spent on administrative costs, such as outreach, child health initiatives, and evaluation; and
  - Assumptions on which the budget is based, including cost per child and expected enrollment.
  - projected expenditures for the separate child health plan, including but not limited to expenditures for targeted low income children, the optional coverage of the unborn, lawfully residing eligibles, dental services, etc. All cost sharing, benefit, payment, eligibility need to be reflected in the budget.

- Projected sources of non-Federal plan expenditures, including any requirements for cost-sharing by enrollees.
- Include a separate budget line to indicate the cost of providing coverage to pregnant women.
- States must include a separate budget line item to indicate the cost of providing coverage to premium assistance children.
- Include a separate budget line to indicate the cost of providing dental-only supplemental coverage.
- Include a separate budget line to indicate the cost of implementing Express Lane Eligibility.
- Provide a 1-year projected budget for all targeted low-income children covered under the state plan using the attached form. Additionally, provide the following:
    - Total 1-year cost of adding prenatal coverage
    - Estimate of unborn children covered in year 1

FFY 2012				
State: Vermont				
Federal Fiscal Year: 2012				
	CHIP Base Budget	30 Day Waiting Period	Dependent Children State Employees	Total
State's Enhanced FMAP Rate	70.31%	70.31%	70.31%	70.31%
Benefit Cost				
Insurance Payments				
Managed Care (PCCM)	$8,781,663.36	$0.00	$115,512.74	$8,897,176.10
Per Member Per Month Rate				
Fee for Service	$560,531.71	$6,144.29	$7,373.15	$574,049.15
Health Services Initiative	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Total Benefit Costs	$9,342,195.07	$6,144.29	$122,885.89	$9,471,225.25
(Offsetting Premium Payments)	$1,627,800.28	$1,140.00	$22,085.89	$1,651,026.17
Net Benefit Costs	$7,714,394.79	$5,004.29	$100,800.00	$7,820,199.08
Administration Costs				
Personnel	$457,852.49	$300.26	$6,048.00	$464,200.75
General administration	$67,830.00	$44.48	$896.00	$68,770.48
Contractors/Brokers	$50,872.49	$33.36	$672.00	$51,577.85
Claims Processing	$110,223.75	$72.28	$1,456.00	$111,752.03
Outreach	$118,702.50	$77.84	$1,568.00	$120,348.34
Other	$42,393.75	$27.80	$560.00	$42,981.55
Total Administration Cost	$847,874.98	$556.02	$11,200.00	$859,631.00

Federal Share $	$6,020,131.88	$3,909.45	$78,747.20	$6,102,788.53
State Share $	$2,542,137.89	$1,650.86	$33,252.80	$2,577,041.55
Total Costs of Approved SCHIP Plan	$8,562,269.77	$5,560.31	$112,000.00	$8,679,830.08
Member months	45,614	30	600	46,244

The source of state funds is state appropriations.

FFY 2013				
State: Vermont				
Federal Fiscal Year: 2013	CHIP Base Budget	30 Day Waiting Period	Dependent Children State employees	Total
State's Enhanced FMAP Rate	69.23%	69.23%	69.23%	69.23%
Benefit Cost				
Insurance Payments				
Managed Care (PCCM)	$9,670,587.79	$0.00	$159,176.55	$9,829,764.34
Per Member Per Month Rate				
Fee for Service	$617,271.56	$7,815.54	$10,160.21	$635,247.31
Health Services Initiative	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Total Benefit Costs	$10,287,859.35	$7,815.54	$169,336.76	$10,465,011.65
(Offsetting Premium Payments)	$1,744,343.56	$1,325.15	$28,711.66	$1,774,380.37
Net Benefit Costs	$8,543,515.79	$6,490.39	$140,625.10	$8,690,631.28
Administration Costs				
Personnel	$512,610.95	$389.42	$8,437.51	$521,437.88
General administration	$75,942.36	$57.69	$1,250.00	$77,250.05
Contractors/Brokers	$56,956.77	$43.27	$937.50	$57,937.54
Claims Processing	$123,406.34	$93.75	$2,031.25	$125,531.34
Outreach	$132,899.13	$100.96	$2,187.50	$135,187.59
Other	$47,463.98	$36.06	$781.25	$48,281.29
Total Administration Cost	$949,279.53	$721.15	$15,625.01	$965,625.69
Federal Share $	$6,571,862.20	$4,992.55	$108,171.95	$6,685,026.70
State Share $	$2,920,933.12	$2,218.99	$48,078.16	$2,971,230.27
Total Costs of Approved SCHIP Plan	$9,492,795.32	$7,211.54	$156,250.11	$9,656,256.97
Member Months	47,388	36	780	48,204

The source of state funds is state appropriations.

Section 10. Annual Reports and Evaluations

Guidance: The National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP), CMS and the states developed framework for the annual report that states have the option to use to complete the required evaluation report. The framework recognizes the diversity in State approaches to implementing CHIP and provides consistency across states in the structure, content, and format of the evaluation report. Use of the framework and submission of this information will allow comparisons to be made between states and on a nationwide basis. The framework for the annual report can be obtained from NASHP's website at http://www.nashp.org. Per the title XXI statute at Section 2108(a), states must submit reports by January 1st to be compliant with requirements.

10.1. Annual Reports. The State assures that it will assess the operation of the State plan under this Title in each fiscal year, including: (Section 2108(a)(1),(2)) (42CFR 457.750)

10.1.1. ☒ The progress made in reducing the number of uninsured low-income children and report to the Secretary by January 1 following the end of the fiscal year on the result of the assessment, and

10.2. ☒ The State assures it will comply with future reporting requirements as they are developed. (42CFR 457.710(e))

10.3. ☒ The State assures that it will comply with all applicable Federal laws and regulations, including but not limited to Federal grant requirements and Federal reporting requirements.

10.3-DC ☐ Specify that the State agrees to submit yearly the approved dental benefit package and to submit quarterly current and accurate information on enrolled dental providers in the State to the Health Resources and Services Administration for posting on the Insure Kids Now! Website. Please update Sections 6.2-DC and 9.10 when electing this option.

Section 11. Program Integrity (Section 2101(a))

☐ Check here if the State elects to use funds provided under Title XXI only to provide expanded eligibility under the State's Medicaid plan, and continue to Section 12.

11.1. ☒ The State assures that services are provided in an effective and efficient manner through free and open competition or through basing rates on other public and private rates that are actuarially sound. (Section 2101(a)) (42CFR 457.940(b))

11.2. The State assures, to the extent they apply, that the following provisions of the Social Security Act will apply under Title XXI, to the same extent they apply to a State under Title XIX:

(Section 2107(e)) (42CFR 457.935(b)) The items below were moved from section 9.8. (Previously items 9.8.6. - 9.8.9)

11.2.1. ☒ 42 CFR Part 455 Subpart B (relating to disclosure of information by providers and fiscal agents)
11.2.2. ☒ Section 1124 (relating to disclosure of ownership and related information)
11.2.3. ☒ Section 1126 (relating to disclosure of information about certain convicted individuals)
11.2.4. ☒ Section 1128A (relating to civil monetary penalties)
11.2.5. ☒ Section 1128B (relating to criminal penalties for certain additional charges)
11.2.6. ☒ Section 1128E (relating to the National health care fraud and abuse data collection program)

Section 12. Applicant and Enrollee Protections (Sections 2101(a))

☐ Check here if the State elects to use funds provided under Title XXI only to provide expanded eligibility under the State's Medicaid plan.

12.1. Eligibility and Enrollment Matters- Describe the review process for eligibility and enrollment matters that complies with 42 CFR 457.1120. Describe any special processes and procedures that are unique to the applicant's rights when the State is using the Express Lane option when determining eligibility.

Guidance: "Health services matters" refers to grievances relating to the provision of health care.

The State follows state and federal due process laws (including our program regulations), and affords any individual the right to a fair hearing. The State Human Services Board provides an impartial review.

12.2. Health Services Matters- Describe the review process for health services matters that comply with 42 CFR 457.1120.

The State follows state and federal due process laws (including our program regulations), and affords any individual the right to a fair hearing. The State Human Services Board provides an impartial review.

12.3. Premium Assistance Programs- If providing coverage through a group health plan that does not meet the requirements of 42 CFR 457.1120, describe how the State will assure that applicants and enrollees have the option to obtain health benefits coverage other than through the group health plan at initial enrollment and at each redetermination of eligibility.

N/A

Key for Newly Incorporated Templates

The newly incorporated templates are indicated with the following letters after the numerical section throughout the template.

- PC- Prenatal care and associated health care services (SHO #02-004, issued November 12, 2002)
- PW- Coverage of pregnant women (CHIPRA #2, SHO # 09-006, issued May 11, 2009)
- TC- Tribal consultation requirements (ARRA #2, CHIPRA #3, issued May 28, 2009)
- DC- Dental benefits (CHIPRA # 7, SHO # #09-012, issued October 7, 2009)
- DS- Supplemental dental benefits (CHIPRA # 7, SHO # #09-012, issued October 7, 2009)
- PA- Premium assistance (CHIPRA # 13, SHO # 10-002, issued February 2, 2010)
- EL- Express lane eligibility (CHIPRA # 14, SHO # 10-003, issued February 4, 2010)
- LR- Lawfully Residing requirements (CHIPRA # 17, SHO # 10-006, issued July 1, 2010)

CMS Regional Offices				
CMS Regional Offices	**States**		**Associate Regional Administrator**	**Regional Office Address**
Region 1-Boston	Connecticut Massachusetts Maine	New Hampshire Rhode Island Vermont	Richard R. McGreal richard.mcgreal@cms.hhs.gov	John F. Kennedy Federal Bldg. Room 2275 Boston, MA 02203-0003
Region 2-New York	New York Virgin Islands	New Jersey Puerto Rico	Michael Melendez michael.melendez@cms.hhs.gov	26 Federal Plaza Room 3811 New York, NY 10278-0063
Region 3-Philadelphia	Delaware District of Columbia Maryland	Pennsylvania Virginia West Virginia	Ted Gallagher ted.gallagher@cms.hhs.gov	The Public Ledger Building 150 South Independence Mall West Suite 216 Philadelphia, PA 19106
Region 4-Atlanta	Alabama Florida Georgia Kentucky	Mississippi North Carolina South Carolina Tennessee	Jackie Glaze jackie.glaze@cms.hhs.gov	Atlanta Federal Center 4th Floor 61 Forsyth Street, S.W. Suite 4T20 Atlanta, GA 30303-8909
Region 5-Chicago	Illinois Indiana Michigan	Minnesota Ohio Wisconsin	Verlon Johnson verlon.johnson@cms.hhs.gov	233 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 600 Chicago, IL 60601
Region 6-Dallas	Arkansas Louisiana New Mexico	Oklahoma Texas	Bill Brooks bill.brooks@cms.hhs.gov	1301 Young Street, 8th Floor Dallas, TX 75202
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GLOSSARY

Adapted directly from SEC. 2110. DEFINITIONS.

CHILD HEALTH ASSISTANCE- For purposes of this title, the term `child health assistance' means payment for part or all of the cost of health benefits coverage for targeted low-income children that includes any of the following (and includes, in the case described in Section 2105(a)(2)(A), payment for part or all of the cost of providing any of the following), as specified under the State plan:

1. Inpatient hospital services.
2. Outpatient hospital services.
3. Physician services.
4. Surgical services.
5. Clinic services (including health center services) and other ambulatory health care services.
6. Prescription drugs and biologicals and the administration of such drugs and biologicals, only if such drugs and biologicals are not furnished for the purpose of causing, or assisting in causing, the death, suicide, euthanasia, or mercy killing of a person.
7. Over-the-counter medications.
8. Laboratory and radiological services.
9. Prenatal care and prepregnancy family planning services and supplies.
10. Inpatient mental health services, other than services described in paragraph (18) but including services furnished in a State-operated mental hospital and including residential or other 24-hour therapeutically planned structured services.
11. Outpatient mental health services, other than services described in paragraph (19) but including services furnished in a State-operated mental hospital and including community-based services.
12. Durable medical equipment and other medically-related or remedial devices (such as prosthetic devices, implants, eyeglasses, hearing aids, dental devices, and adaptive devices).
13. Disposable medical supplies.
14. Home and community-based health care services and related supportive services (such as home health nursing services, home health aide services, personal care, assistance with activities of daily living, chore services, day care services, respite care services, training for family members, and minor modifications to the home).
15. Nursing care services (such as nurse practitioner services, nurse midwife services, advanced practice nurse services, private duty nursing care, pediatric nurse services, and respiratory care services) in a home, school, or other setting.
16. Abortion only if necessary to save the life of the mother or if the pregnancy is the result of an act of rape or incest.
17. Dental services.
18. Inpatient substance abuse treatment services and residential substance abuse treatment services.
19. Outpatient substance abuse treatment services.
20. Case management services.
21. Care coordination services.

22. Physical therapy, occupational therapy, and services for individuals with speech, hearing, and language disorders.
23. Hospice care.
24. Any other medical, diagnostic, screening, preventive, restorative, remedial, therapeutic, or rehabilitative services (whether in a facility, home, school, or other setting) if recognized by State law and only if the service is--
    a. prescribed by or furnished by a physician or other licensed or registered practitioner within the scope of practice as defined by State law,
    b. performed under the general supervision or at the direction of a physician, or
    c. furnished by a health care facility that is operated by a State or local government or is licensed under State law and operating within the scope of the license.
25. Premiums for private health care insurance coverage.
26. Medical transportation.
27. Enabling services (such as transportation, translation, and outreach services) only if designed to increase the accessibility of primary and preventive health care services for eligible low-income individuals.
28. Any other health care services or items specified by the Secretary and not excluded under this section.

TARGETED LOW-INCOME CHILD DEFINED- For purposes of this title--

1. IN GENERAL- Subject to paragraph (2), the term `targeted low-income child' means a child--
    a. who has been determined eligible by the State for child health assistance under the State plan;
    b. (i) who is a low-income child, or
    (ii) is a child whose family income (as determined under the State child health plan) exceeds the Medicaid applicable income level (as defined in paragraph (4)), but does not exceed 50 percentage points above the Medicaid applicable income level; and
    c. who is not found to be eligible for medical assistance under title XIX or covered under a group health plan or under health insurance coverage (as such terms are defined in Section 2791 of the Public Health Service Act).
2. CHILDREN EXCLUDED- Such term does not include--
    a. a child who is a resident of a public institution or a patient in an institution for mental diseases; or
    b. a child who is a member of a family that is eligible for health benefits coverage under a State health benefits plan on the basis of a family member's employment with a public agency in the State.
3. SPECIAL RULE- A child shall not be considered to be described in paragraph (1)(C) notwithstanding that the child is covered under a health insurance coverage program that has been in operation since before July 1, 1997, and that is offered by a State which receives no Federal funds for the program's operation.
4. MEDICAID APPLICABLE INCOME LEVEL- The term `Medicaid applicable income level' means, with respect to a child, the effective income level (expressed as a percent of the poverty line) that has been specified under the State plan under title XIX (including under a waiver

authorized by the Secretary or under Section 1902(r)(2)), as of June 1, 1997, for the child to be eligible for medical assistance under Section 1902(l)(2) for the age of such child.

5. TARGETED LOW-INCOME PREGNANT WOMAN.—The term 'targeted low-income pregnant woman' means an individual—''(A) during pregnancy and through the end of the month in which the 60-day period (beginning on the last day of her pregnancy) ends; ''(B) whose family income exceeds 185 percent (or, if higher, the percent applied under subsection (b)(1)(A)) of the poverty line applicable to a family of the size involved, but does not exceed the income eligibility level established under the State child health plan under this title for a targeted low-income child; and ''(C) who satisfies the requirements of paragraphs (1)(A), (1)(C), (2), and (3) of Section 2110(b) in the same manner as a child applying for child health assistance would have to satisfy such requirements.

ADDITIONAL DEFINITIONS- For purposes of this title:

1. CHILD- The term `child' means an individual under 19 years of age.
2. CREDITABLE HEALTH COVERAGE- The term `creditable health coverage' has the meaning given the term `creditable coverage' under Section 2701(c) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300gg(c)) and includes coverage that meets the requirements of section 2103 provided to a targeted low-income child under this title or under a waiver approved under section 2105(c)(2)(B) (relating to a direct service waiver).
3. GROUP HEALTH PLAN; HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE; ETC- The terms `group health plan', `group health insurance coverage', and `health insurance coverage' have the meanings given such terms in Section 2191 of the Public Health Service Act.
4. LOW-INCOME CHILD - The term `low-income child' means a child whose family income is at or below 200 percent of the poverty line for a family of the size involved.
5. POVERTY LINE DEFINED- The term `poverty line' has the meaning given such term in section 673(2) of the Community Services Block Grant Act (42 U.S.C. 9902(2)), including any revision required by such section.
6. PREEXISTING CONDITION EXCLUSION- The term `preexisting condition exclusion' has the meaning given such term in section 2701(b)(1)(A) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300gg(b)(1)(A)).
7. STATE CHILD HEALTH PLAN; PLAN- Unless the context otherwise requires, the terms `State child health plan' and `plan' mean a State child health plan approved under Section 2106.
8. UNINSURED CHILD- The term `uninsured child' means a child that does not have creditable health coverage.