

Welcome!

We will begin shortly. All lines have been automatically muted.

Please mute your phone AND computer microphone to avoid feedback.

Please do not put us on hold during today's meeting.

Please hold questions until the Q & A portion of the meeting.

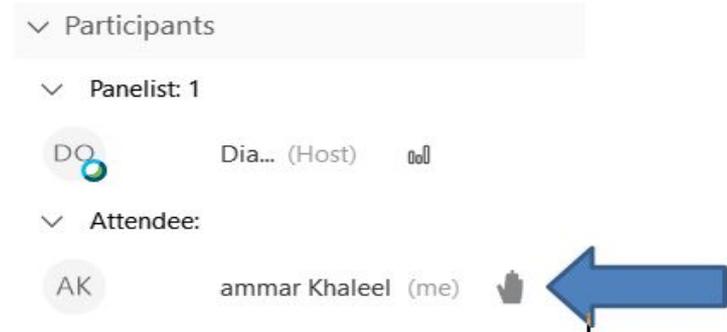
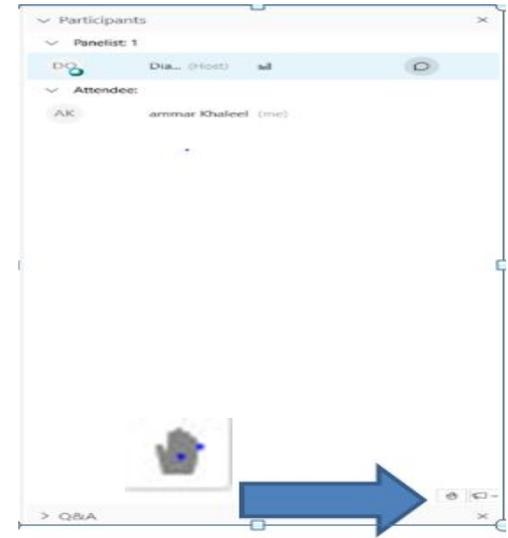
If you are joining via web, there are two ways to ask questions:

1. Utilizing the chat feature
2. Raise your hand to be unmuted

Raising Your Hand

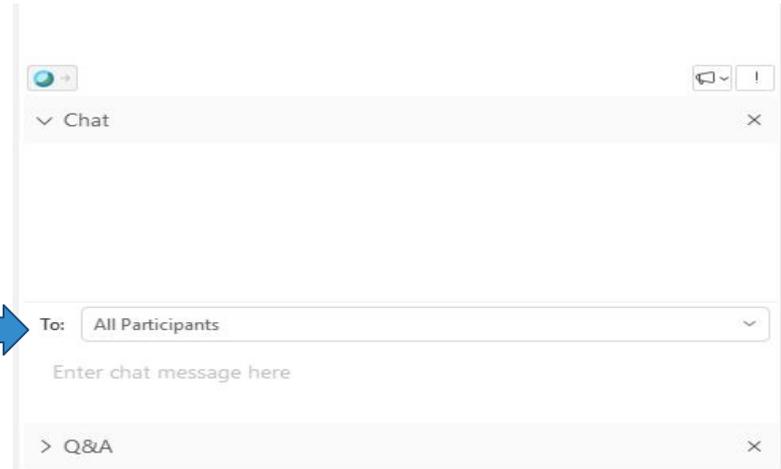
Use the 'Raise Hand' button in the 'Participants' panel to ask/answer a question:

- Remember to unraise your hand when you are done addressing your comment/question



Use Chat

Use the chat window to chat with the host, panelists:





Arizona AHCCCS COVID-19 RESPONSE

COVID-19 Response Effort

Special Tribal Consultation
May 21, 2020

Where do I find the latest information about COVID-19?

- AHCCCS updates the FAQ document daily to reflect the latest guidance for providers, members and plans.
- Please find guidance at: <https://azahcccs.gov/AHCCCS/AboutUs/covid19FAQ.html>
- These are in English and Spanish.



COVID-19 Information

AHCCCS is responding to an outbreak of respiratory illness, called COVID-19, caused by a novel (new) coronavirus. Health officials urge good hand washing hygiene, covering coughs, and staying home if you are sick.

On March 11, Governor Doug Ducey issued a [Declaration of Emergency](#)  and an [Executive Order](#)  regarding the COVID-19 outbreak in Arizona, and subsequent [Executive Orders](#)  with further administrative actions.

On March 17, 2020, AHCCCS [submitted a request](#) to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to waive certain Medicaid and KidsCare requirements in order to ensure ongoing access to care over the course of the COVID-19 outbreak. As of March 23, AHCCCS has received federal approval to implement programmatic changes to help ensure access to health care for vulnerable Arizonans.

To address Medicaid-related questions from providers and contractors about COVID-19, AHCCCS has developed a list of Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), updated regularly as more information becomes available.

[COVID-19 FAQs](#)

Learn how to protect yourself and stop the spread of COVID-19. Visit azdhs.gov/COVID19  and cdc.gov/COVID19 .

If you are an AHCCCS member who is experiencing flu-like symptoms, please call the 24-hour Nurse Line for your health plan (listed below):

24-Hour Nurse Line Numbers by Health Plan

Health Plan

Nurse Line Number



▼ Oversight of Health Plans

▲ Governmental Oversight

Federal and State Requirements

Legislative Sessions

Waiver

PCH SNCP Technical Amendment

COVID-19 Federal Emergency Authorities Request

IMD Waiver Amendment

SB 1092 Legislative Directive Waiver Proposal

American Indian Initiatives

Mental Health Parity

County Acute Care Contributions

Grants

Hospital Finance & Utilization Information

COVID-19 Federal Emergency Authorities Request

On March 17 and March 24, 2020, the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) submitted requests to the Administrator for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to waive certain Medicaid and KidsCare requirements to enable the State to combat the continued spread of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19). AHCCCS is seeking a broad range of emergency authorities to:

- Strengthen the provider workforce and remove barriers to care for AHCCCS members
- Enhance Medicaid services and supports for vulnerable members for the duration of the emergency period
- Remove cost sharing and other administrative requirements to support continued access to services

Arizona's request to CMS is posted below:

- Letter To CMS Administrator on COVID-19 Flexibilities (submitted March 17, 2020)
- Summary of Additional COVID-19 Flexibility Requests (submitted March 24, 2020)
- Summary of Additional COVID-19 Flexibility Requests (submitted April 17, 2020)
- Status of AHCCCS Emergency Authority Requests (updated May 7, 2020)

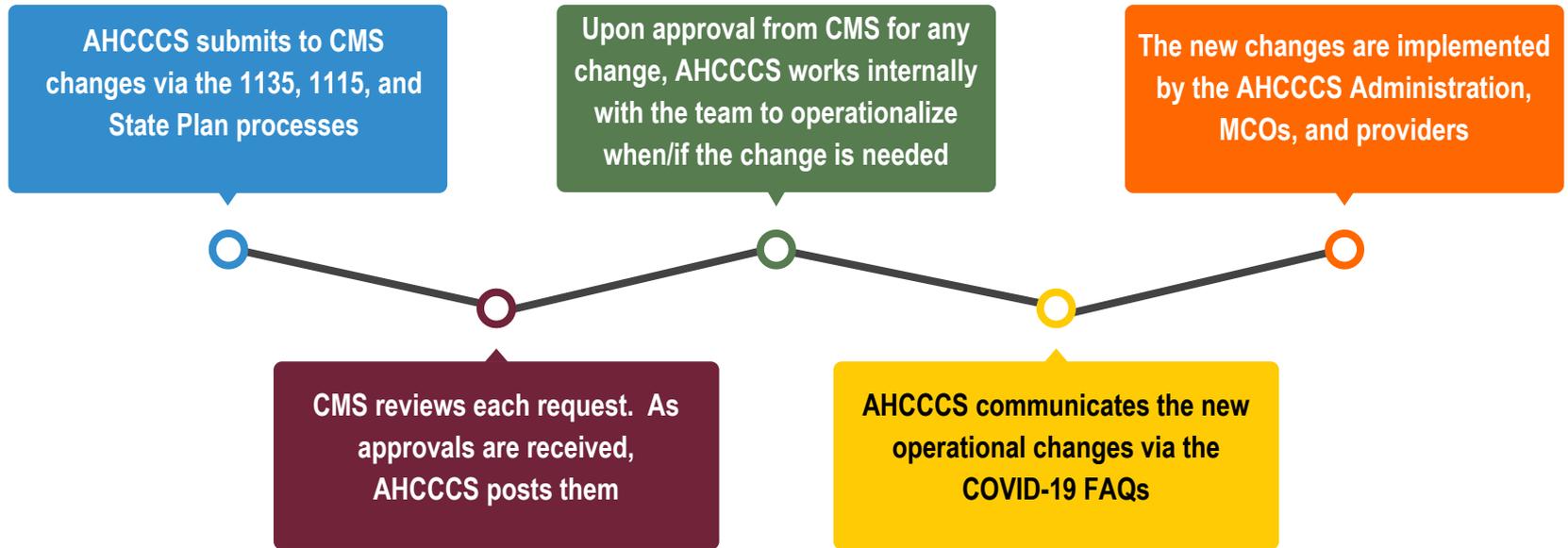


CMS approved components of Arizona's request under the 1135 Waiver, Appendix K and State Plan:

- CMS 1135 Waiver Approval Letter for COVID-19 Flexibilities (received March 23, 2020)
- CMS Medicaid Disaster Relief State Plan Amendment (SPA) Approval (received April 1, 2020)
- CMS 1115 Waiver Appendix K Approval Letter (received April 6, 2020)
- CMS 1115 Waiver Approved Appendix K Document (received April 6, 2020)
- CMS Medicaid Disaster Relief State Plan Amendment (SPA) Approval, #2 (received April 9, 2020)
- CMS CHIP Disaster Relief State Plan Amendment (SPA) Approval (received April 24, 2020)
- CMS 1135 Waiver Approval Letter for COVID-19 Flexibilities (received May 6, 2020)

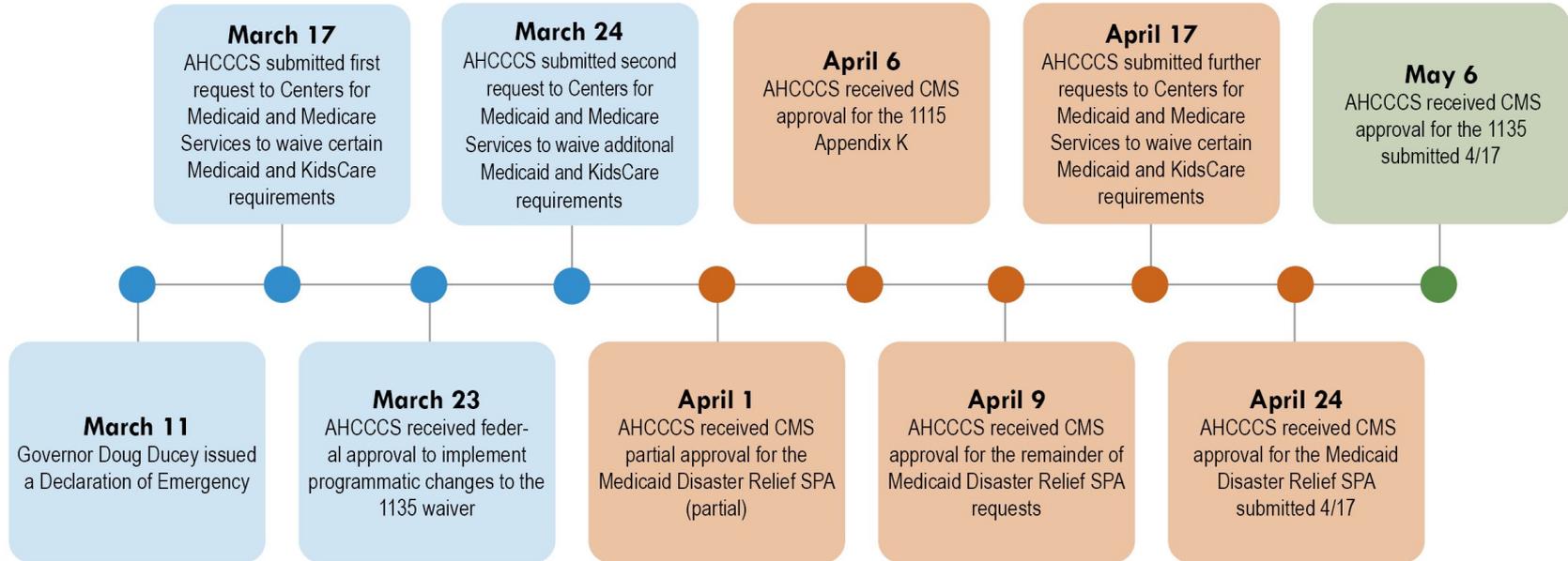
The allowances from CMS grant broad authority to Arizona to tailor changes to best serve its citizens. AHCCCS will make decisions about how and when these changes will be implemented in the coming days. The agency awaits direction from CMS regarding additional requested flexibilities.

How does the state pursue flexibilities to address COVID-19?



Status of AHCCCS Emergency Authority Requests (for the federally declared COVID-19 emergency)

COVID-19 Timeline



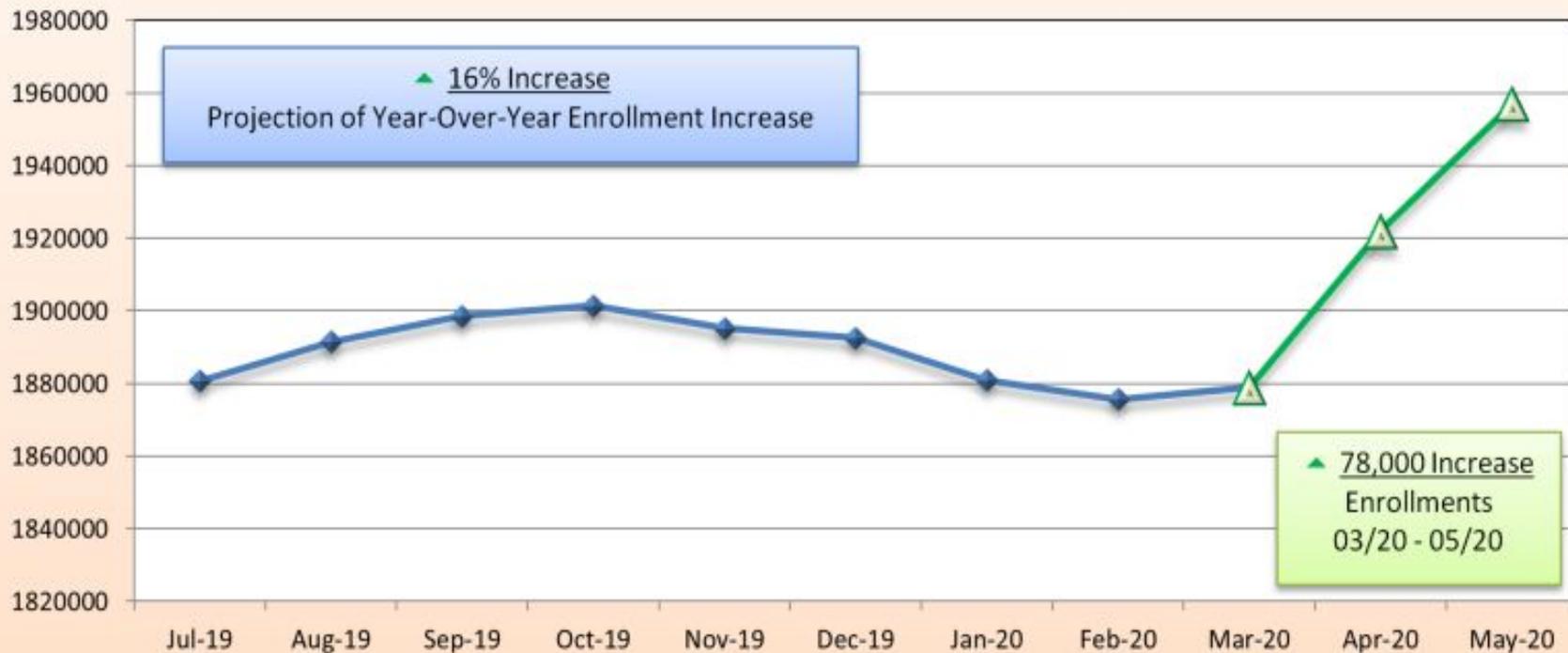
Resulting From Approved Requests

- Streamline provider enrollment
- Amend prior and continued authorization processes
- Suspend PASRR assessments (pre-admission and annual resident review)
- Provide continuous eligibility
- Waive premiums and copays
- Coverage for COVID testing
- Expand respite limit
- Electronic method for services (telehealth and telephonic)

**For a complete list see all 50 listed in a [table on our website](#)

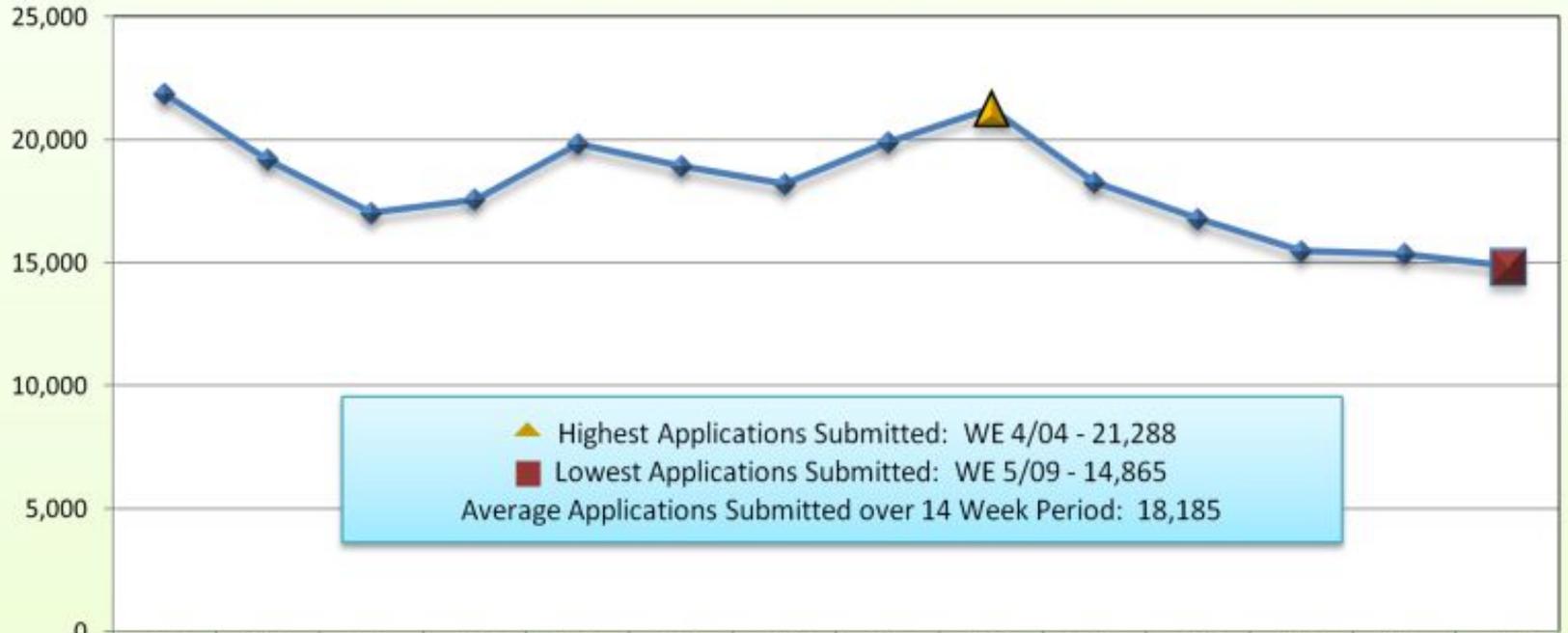


Enrollment Growth: 07/2019 - 05/2020



	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20
Enrollment Growth	1880641	1891455	1898616	1901411	1895254	1892514	1880915	1875633	1878960	1922002	1956977

Applications Submitted: 02/1/2020 - 05/09/2020



	WE 2/08	WE 2/15	WE 2/22	WE 2/29	WE 3/07	WE 3/14	WE 3/21	WE 3/28	WE 4/04	WE 4/11	WE 4/18	WE 4/25	WE 5/02	WE 5/09
Applications Submitted	21,885	19,193	17,039	17,567	19,840	18,930	18,201	19,899	21,288	18,268	16,792	15,474	15,345	14,865

AHCCCS Financial Relief

Payments made April 13, 2020

Offered \$5.3 million in additional payments to Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs)

Advanced supplemental payments to three hard-hit NFs facilities by one month.

Payments made mid-to-late April 2020

Made \$6 million in additional supplemental payments to Nursing Facilities (NFs).

Payments anticipated to begin in May 2020

Initiated the provision of retention payments to ALTCS providers who serve individuals who are elderly or have physical disabilities and offer attendant care and/or personal care services Process initiated in April 2020.

Payments made early-May 2020

Advanced over \$41M in scheduled payments to Targeted Investments Program providers, including hospitals, primary care, behavioral health outpatient and justice clinic providers.

Payments anticipated in late-May 2020

Accelerated \$50 million in payments to hospitals which participated in the Graduate Medical Education program in 2019.

April 2020

May 2020

Arizona AHCCCS COVID-19 RESPONSE

Staying Connected with Stakeholders

- Arizona Council of Human Service Providers - every two weeks
- Tribal Consultation - every two weeks
- MCO meeting - weekly
- Smaller MCO provider viability meeting - weekly
- State Medicaid Advisory Committee - monthly
- OIFA Advisory Council - Monthly
- Telehealth Webinars
- Behavioral Health Taskforce
- Crisis Task Force
- Housing/homelessness

Approximately 2000
Stakeholders reached due
to our COVID-19 Response
targeted meetings

**not including all MCO
meetings

Alternative Care Sites

- AHCCCS is pursuing an additional 1135 Waiver flexibility to allow for reimbursement when services are provided at an Alternative Care Site.
 - Alternative Care Sites are intended to provide additional hospital surge capacity and capability for communities overwhelmed by patients from COVID-19.
 - This flexibility will be unique to IHS and 638 facilities.

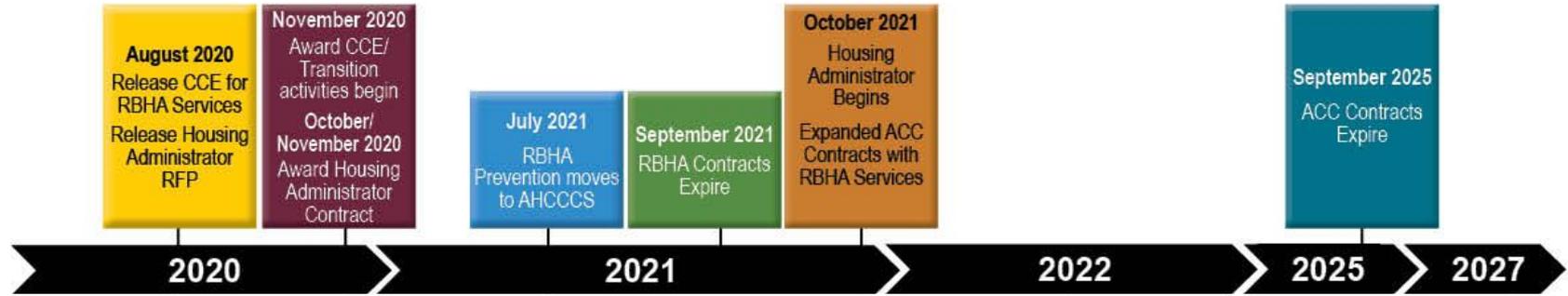
Next Steps

- Defining which flexibilities we want to maintain
 - Currently receiving recommendations specific to telehealth and telephonic services
- Ongoing conversation with CMS regarding retainer payments
- Ongoing conversation with CMS regarding AHCCCS' overarching 1115 waiver
- Continuing open dialogue with our stakeholders
- Assessing timelines moving forward
 - APEP go live 8/31/2020
 - CMDP go live no later than 4/1/2021
 - EVV go live 1/1/2021

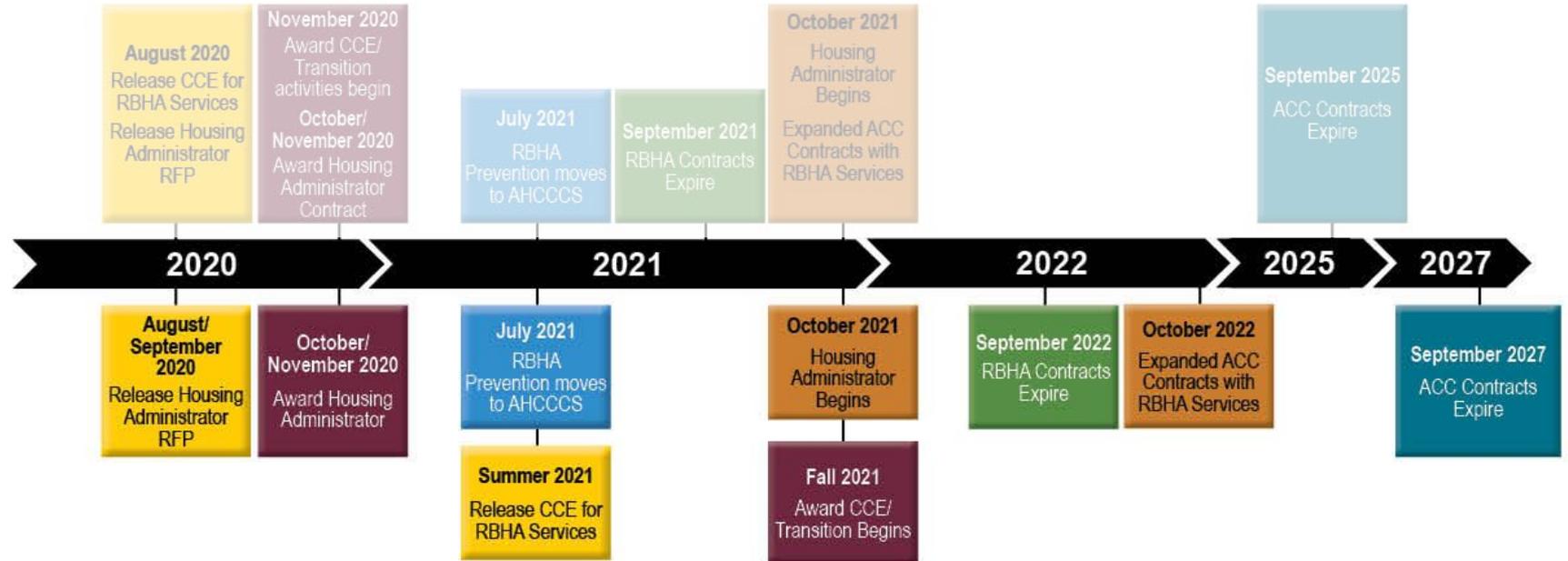
Transfer of RBHA Services Competitive Contract Expansion

Major Decisions
Released 5/6/2020

RBHA CCE - Past Timeline



Revised RBHA CCE Timeline





Grants Update

Division of Grants Administration Update

Due to COVID-19, SAMHSA has released emergency grant opportunities inclusive of a partnership with FEMA. AHCCCS has applied, or is in the process of applying for all three.

- Emergency Grant to Address Mental and Substance Abuse Disorders During COVID-19
- Crisis Counseling Program Service
- COVID-19 Emergency Response for Suicide Prevention

Emergency Grant to Address Mental and Substance Abuse Disorders During COVID-19

- Awarded \$2 million to support efforts throughout Arizona
- Working with RBHAs and TRBHAs to implement specific grant requirements in their network and/or service areas
- Areas of focus:
 - Recovery housing for those who cannot return home or to alternative care levels due to COVID-19 symptoms
 - Counseling and support groups for healthcare workers
 - Increased engagement for Substance Use needs
 - PPE for service providers within the grant scope

Crisis Counseling Program Service

- FEMA and SAMHSA Grant Opportunity submission date of May 15th and awaiting approval status
- Focus
 - PSA and Education focused on reduction of effects of trauma related to COVID-19
 - Provision of individual and group counseling, assessment and referral to telehealth options of care
 - Utilization of existing services to support immediate needs within the emergency period

COVID-19 Emergency Response for Suicide Prevention

- Grant announced May 12th with a submission date of May 22nd
- Purpose of the grant is to support efforts to prevent suicide and suicide attempts among adults 25 and older
- SAMHSA is requiring 25% of the direct services funding be used to support domestic violence victims
- In consideration of statistical information and data review, area of focus will be Pima county should we be awarded



State Plan Amendments

Feedback Requested

- The following items were discussed at the May 7, 2020 AHCCCS Tribal Consultation:
 - SPA to lift the dental benefit limit for IHS/Tribal facilities as passed in House Bill 2244.
 - Tohono O’odham Nation’s presentation regarding the proposed change in reimbursement structure for Tribal Nursing Facilities and Assisted Living Facilities.

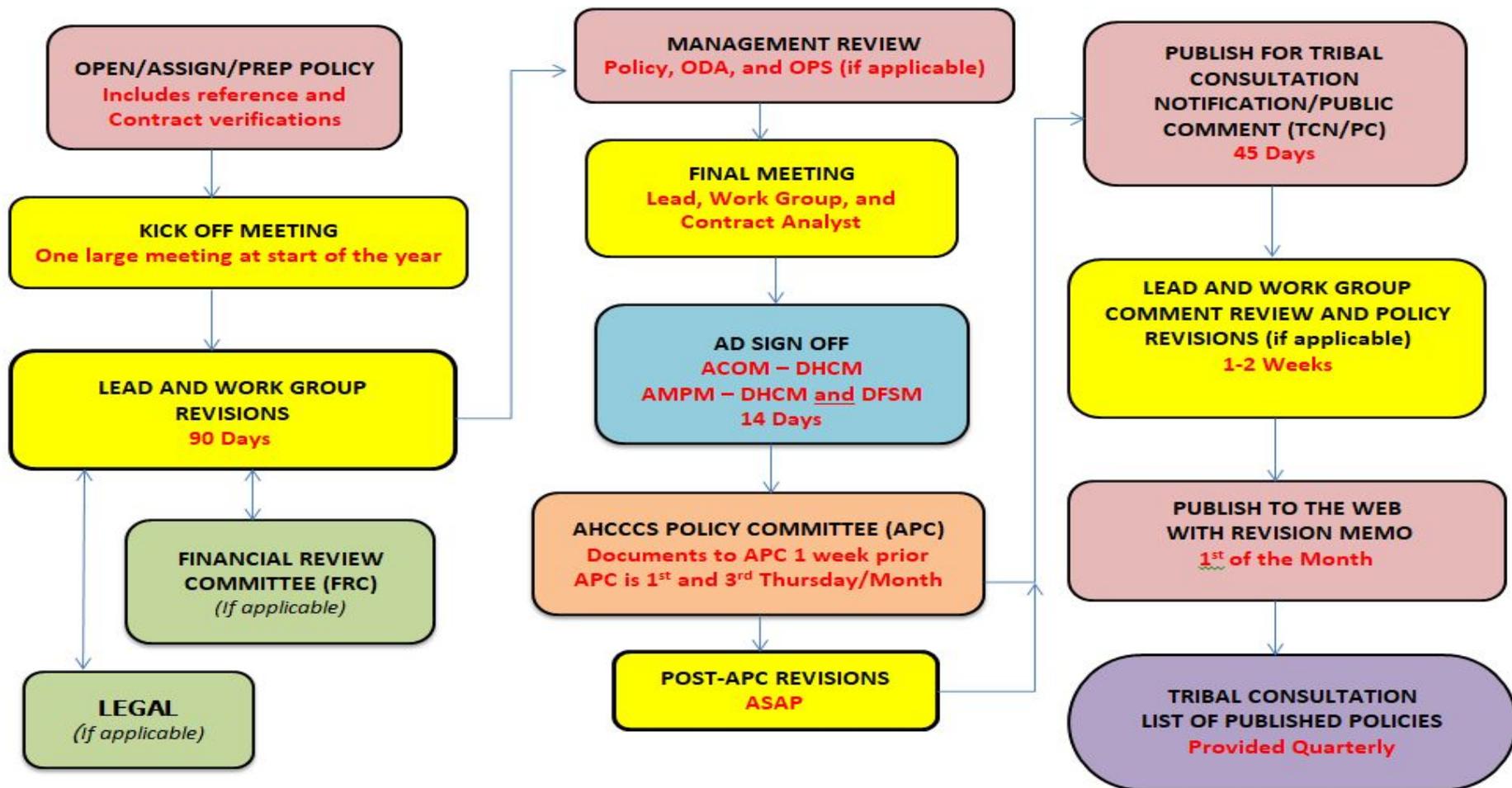
Tribal Consultation and Public Comment Process

- The Tribal Consultation/Public Comment portal can be found at: <https://comments.azahcccs.gov>.
- Public Comments can be submitted through email or mail at the address below:
 - Email: public input@azahcccs.gov; or
 - Mail: AHCCCS Attn: Office of Intergovernmental Relations 801 E. Jefferson St., MD 4200 Phoenix, AZ 85034

AHCCCS Policy Process

Feedback Requested

THE POLICY PROCESS FOR THE AHCCCS CONTRACTOR OPERATIONS MANUAL (ACOM) AND AHCCCS MEDICAL POLICY MANUAL (AMPM)



Feedback can be sent to Amanda Bahe, Tribal Liaison via email:
Amanda.Bahe@azahcccs.gov

Resources

AHCCCS COVID-19

- AHCCCS COVID-19 Information:
<https://azahcccs.gov/AHCCCS/AboutUs/covid19.html>
- AHCCCS FAQs Regarding COVID-19:
<https://azahcccs.gov/AHCCCS/AboutUs/covid19FAQ.html>
- AHCCCS Federal Authorities Request:
<https://www.azahcccs.gov/Resources/Federal/PendingWaivers/1135.html>

Next Special Tribal Consultation:

June 04, 2020 at 2 pm (AZ time)

Please check [AHCCCS Tribal Consultation Webpage](#) for meeting information.



Please take the survey.

Surveys help us better
tailor meetings to
your needs.