

**Security Certification Requirements for use of the SSA Data Set via the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) Hub**

The Social Security Administration (SSA) does not allow new data exchange partners to begin receiving data electronically until the Authorized State Agency submits an approved Security Design Plan (SDP). SSA's Office of Information Security (OIS) usually performs an onsite security review to verify and validate that the management, operational, and technical controls conform to the requirements of the signed agreements between SSA and the Authorized State Agency, as well as applicable Federal law and SSA's technical systems security requirements (Attachment 4 to the Information Exchange Agreement (IEA)). As it concerns the use of the *SSA Data Set* via the Hub, OIS will waive the initial SDP/Certification for an existing Authorized State Agency if it meets all the following criteria:

1. The Authorized State Agency already has a functioning CMS-approved Integrated Eligibility Verification System (IEVS).
2. The Authorized State Agency is already receiving data from the Hub to support the Medicaid program and/or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).
3. The Authorized State Agency will only process requests for the *SSA Data Set* for administration of health or income maintenance programs approved by SSA through the Hub in conjunction with Insurance Affordability Programs eligibility determinations.
4. The Authorized State Agency agrees that the SSA security controls identified in the IEA and Attachment 4 to the IEA will prevail for all SSA data received by the State Agency, including the *SSA Data Set*.
5. The Authorized State Agency agrees that a significant vulnerability or risk in a security control, a data loss, or a security breach may result in a suspension or termination of the *SSA Data Set* through the Hub. In this case, at SSA's request, the Authorized State Agency agrees to immediately cease using the *SSA Data Set* for all SSA authorized health or income maintenance programs until the State Agency sufficiently mitigates or eliminates such risk(s) and/or vulnerabilities to SSA's data.
6. The Authorized State Agency agrees not to process verification requests through the Hub from a standalone application for health or income maintenance program requests that have no connection to Insurance Affordability Programs eligibility determinations.

In the event that an Authorized State Agency decides to implement a new integrated eligibility system or use a different Authorized State Agency to implement the health or income maintenance data exchange process through the Hub, the Authorized State Agency will submit to SSA's OIS an SDP and be approved/certified prior to receipt of the *SSA Data Set* through the Hub. The Authorized State Agency will adhere to the following criteria, in addition to those stated in the IEA, section C, Program Questionnaire:

1. The Authorized State Agency agrees to provide an attestation to SSA that it has received certification through the CMS Hub approval MARS-E process.
2. The Authorized State Agency attests that it operates and has a CMS-approved IEVS and the IEVS initiates the request for the *SSA Data Set* for the State Agency's administration of health or income maintenance programs approved by SSA through the Hub in conjunction with Insurance Affordability Programs eligibility determinations.



3. The Authorized State Agency uses a streamlined multi-benefit application. The Authorized State Agency agrees not to process verification requests through the Hub from a standalone application for health or income maintenance program requests that have no connection to Insurance Affordability Programs eligibility determinations.
4. The Authorized State Agency will not request the *SSA Data Set* through the Hub until it has successfully begun using the Hub for administration of Insurance Affordability Programs eligibility determinations. SSA will begin sending the *SSA Data Set* to the Authorized State Agency after the State Agency verifies that the Hub process works, as required by the CMS Hub approval MARS-E process.
5. The Authorized State Agency agrees to participate in SSA's SDP/Certification process prior to transmitting requests for the *SSA Data Set* through the Hub and to participate in SSA's triennial security compliance reviews on an ongoing basis.
6. The Authorized State Agency agrees that a significant vulnerability or risk in a security control, a data loss, or a security breach may result in a suspension or termination of the *SSA Data Set* through Hub. In this case, at SSA's request, the Authorized State Agency agrees to immediately cease using the *SSA Data Set* for all SSA authorized health or income maintenance programs until the State Agency sufficiently mitigates or eliminates such risk(s) and/or vulnerabilities to SSA's data.

