



**ORS 410.604 Legislative Report to
Interim Committees of the Legislative Assembly Related to Human Services
Universal Provider Number and Single Online Application Annual Report
December 1, 2018**

Background

Senate Bill 774 passed during the 2015 Legislative Session. This bill, under section (4) (a) and (b) encourages the Department of Human Services (DHS) to determine the feasibility of:

- 1) implementing an online application for workers interested in joining the homecare workforce to apply to be included on the Oregon Home Care Commission's Registry and;
- 2) assigning a universal provider number to each Medicaid homecare worker.

A universal provider number and single online application provided through the Oregon Home Care Commission's (OHCC) Registry will allow this workforce to maintain one Medicaid provider number allowing them to serve consumers from different DHS and Oregon Health Authority (OHA) program areas without going through multiple enrollment and credentialing processes. The implementation of the universal provider number will streamline the path to a single online application for workers desiring to be included on the OHCC registry as they will no longer have multiple provider numbers requiring multiple OHCC registry profiles.

Reporting requirements

DHS is required to provide an update to the Legislative Assembly related to Human Services annually on the status of implementing an online application and universal provider number.

Universal provider number project status

The Integrated Eligibility (IE) project is utilizing most available IT resources. The investment in this project will allow DHS to better serve some of Oregon's most vulnerable citizens. After the completion and implementation of these projects, DHS will be able to focus attention on the additional analysis required for this project.

Additional Analysis Required

The feasibility of implementing a universal provider number requires additional in-depth analysis including the following:

- An updated business case;
- As-Is/current state process analysis;
- Identified solution options;
- Complexity of identified options;
- Determination of in-scope and out-of-scope items for each identified option;
- List of assumptions, risks, benefits, and constraints for each identified option;
- High-level or rough order of magnitude estimate of each identified option's duration and cost.

The completion of additional analysis is dependent on available resources, as most resources are currently being utilized by the IE project.

There are also policy issues that would need legislative resolution for implementation. Different programs utilizing Homecare and Personal Support Workers have different fitness determination standards that will need to be resolved prior to implementing a universal provider number.

Summary

DHS believes that implementing a universal provider number, coupled with an online application process, remains the correct long-term strategy.

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