



## *Medicare Advantage Policy Basics:*

# What Medicaid Officials Need to Know About Medicare Advantage Contracting and Bid Development

For state officials actively working with Dual Eligible Special Needs Plans (D-SNPs) to advance integration, or those newly examining ways to enhance D-SNP contracts, it is essential to understand how the federal Medicare Advantage program works. This training video, ***What Medicaid Officials Need to Know About Medicare Advantage Contracting and Bid Development***, was developed to help Medicaid and partner agency staff understand the Medicare Advantage contracting process, including the components of the Medicare Advantage application and the annual contracting timeline. The training video also describes the different elements that make up a Medicare Advantage bid and how bids are used to determine plan payment.

### Through this training, viewers will become more familiar with:

1. Key components of the Medicare Advantage contracting cycle and bid development process
2. How Medicare Advantage and Medicaid managed care contracting processes differ
3. How Medicare Advantage contracting and bid processes can be used to advance state goals

## Why This Matters to States

### States advancing integrated care can:

- ✓ Partner with and utilize D-SNPs to achieve financial, care delivery, and policy goals.
- ✓ Use the information in D-SNPs' bids to explore opportunities for financial alignment and ensure that plans are appropriately aligning and coordinating enrollees' Medicare and Medicaid benefits.
- ✓ Align state timelines for decision making around D-SNP policy and related contract requirements with the annual Medicare Advantage contracting cycle.
- ✓ Work with D-SNPs to identify time needed to implement changes due to Medicare Advantage bid timelines and the nature of the annual contracting cycle.

### ABOUT THE MEDICARE ADVANTAGE POLICY BASICS SERIES

This overview and companion video is part of a series, ***Medicare Advantage Policy Basics***, produced by the **Center for Health Care Strategies** through the ***Medicare Academy***, an initiative made possible by **Arnold Ventures, The Commonwealth Fund, and The SCAN Foundation**.

Visit [www.chcs.org/medicare-medicaid-capacity](http://www.chcs.org/medicare-medicaid-capacity) to view additional videos on the following topics:

- Medicare Advantage Payment Policy and Rate Setting
- Medicare Advantage Supplemental Benefits
- Medicare Advantage Star Rating System