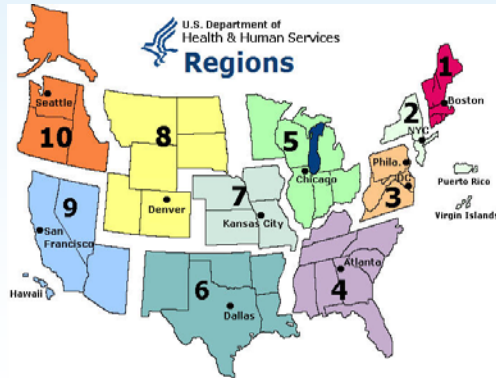




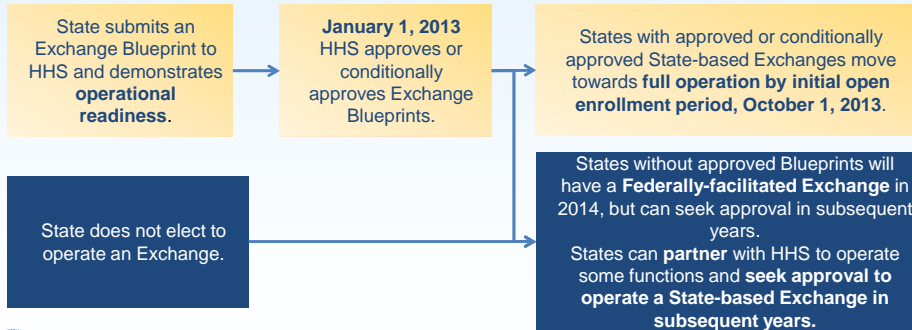
HHS Regional Offices

<http://www.hhs.gov/about/regions/>



Exchange Establishment

All States have the option to establish a State-based Exchange. In States where a State-based Exchange is not operating, HHS will operate a Federally-facilitated Exchange (FFE) or in a State Partnership.



Guidance on Federally-facilitated Exchanges

Guidance released May 16 outlines HHS' intended approach to implementing a FFE in any State where a State-based Exchange is not operating.

Addresses:

1. How States can partner with HHS to implement selected functions in an FFE

2. Key policies organized by Exchange function

3. How HHS will consult with stakeholders to implement an FFE

Subsequent guidance documents will include policy and operational details intended to inform State decision-making and preparation for Exchange participation, roles and responsibilities, and potential areas of collaboration.



Exchange Models and Additional Flexibility

State-based Exchange

State operates all Exchange activities; however, State may use Federal government services for the following activities:

- Premium tax credit and cost sharing reduction determination
- Exemptions
- Risk adjustment program
- Reinsurance program

State Partnership Exchange

State operates activities for:

- Plan Management
- Consumer assistance
- Both

State may elect to perform or can use Federal government services for the following activities:

- Reinsurance program
- Medicaid and CHIP eligibility: assessment or determination*

Federally-facilitated Exchange

HHS operates; however, State may elect to perform or can use Federal government services for:

- Reinsurance program
- Medicaid and CHIP eligibility: assessment or determination*

*Coordinate with Medicaid and CHIP Services (CMCS) on decisions and protocols

