

Office of Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight

**State Planning and Establishment Grants for the
Affordable Care Act's Exchanges**

Quarterly Project Report

Date: Aug. 5, 2011

State: North Dakota

Project Title: State Planning and Establishment Grants for the Affordable Care Act's Exchanges

Project Quarter Reporting Period: Quarter 3 (4/1/2011–6/30/2011)

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Project Summary

North Dakota was awarded a \$1 million grant Sept. 30, 2010. The Insurance Department met with the state's Emergency Commission Nov. 30, 2010 requesting permission to spend the grant funds. The request was denied.

The North Dakota Legislative Assembly passed [House Bill 1126](#), granting the Insurance Department permission to spend the grant funds beginning July 1, 2011. The Insurance Department issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) July 18 to hire a consultant to provide Exchange research and planning services for the State of North Dakota. The winning bidder will provide research and analysis on Exchange governance options, the state's uninsured population, the state's insurance marketplace, Exchange financial modeling, and communication and outreach, with the ultimate goal of recommending a viable plan for developing and sustaining a Health Benefit Exchange in North Dakota. Five proposals were received and are currently being scored.

**STATE PLANNING AND ESTABLISHMENT GRANTS FOR THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT'S EXCHANGES
REPORTING TEMPLATES**

OMB #0938-1101

The North Dakota Legislative Assembly is expected to hold a special session in the fall of 2011 to determine whether the state will run its own Exchange and, if so, how it will be governed. Research and analysis provided by the winning RFP bidder will be provided to the legislature.

The North Dakota Insurance Department, North Dakota Department of Human Services and North Dakota Information Technology Department have begun to meet regularly to discuss Health Benefit Exchange planning. A series of stakeholder meetings will be held in September to gather input from consumer groups, issuers, providers, producers and others regarding the development of an Exchange in North Dakota.

Additionally, the Insurance Department continues to present information to the interim health care reform review legislative committee. The most recent meeting was held Aug. 5, during which Commissioner Hamm talked about the recently-proposed federal Exchange regulations, presented a copy of the Department's Exchange consultant RFP and discussed Exchange governance options. Meeting minutes are not available at this time, but will be [posted online](#).