Commonwealth Fund Commercial Market Affordability Strategies Technical Assistance (TA) Program

Summary

The Commonwealth Fund is pleased to announce that it is accepting applications for a technical assistance (TA) program customized for states that are actively engaged in the planning, design, implementation, and/or refinement of specific commercial market affordability strategies. This program will provide state agencies with customized TA through subject matter experts, peer-to-peer support, virtual group "office hour" sessions, and one inperson convening for all state participants.

To be eligible for the program, state agencies need to demonstrate either: (1) current engagement in the design, implementation, and/or refinement of one or more of the commercial market affordability strategies listed below, or another affordability strategy; or (2) a serious commitment to addressing commercial market affordability via engagement in planning for the selection of one or more strategies.

The Commonwealth Fund identified a menu of affordability strategies in its February 2022 issue brief, <u>State Strategies for Slowing Health Care Cost Growth in the Commercial Market</u> and accompanying <u>strategy profiles</u>. In January 2023, The Commonwealth Fund published <u>implementation guides</u> to help states adopt the strategies.

- 1. Adopting multi-payer value-based payment models
- 2. Adopting multi-payer hospital global budgets
- 3. Using rate review to make health insurance more affordable
- 4. Limiting the rate of growth in provider prices
- 5. Capping high provider prices

States should articulate the type(s) of TA they are seeking, why TA would be helpful for their design and/or implementation work, and that they are ready and able to take advantage of assistance provided under this program. TA may be requested to pursue one of the aforementioned strategies, and/or another commercial market affordability strategy.

Once selected for program participation, states will have access to a pool of subject matter experts, consisting of Bailit Health staff and other subject matter experts, as needed. States may also request facilitation of direct peer-to-peer support from other states on technical implementation issues. The TA program will convene virtual group "office hour" sessions for states to discuss and share learnings on successes, challenges, and specific topics of shared interest. Additionally, the TA program will include one in-person convening for all state participants to build cross-state relationships and generate more in-depth policy discussions, problem-solving, and resource-sharing among the state participants.

The Commonwealth Fund encourages your state agency to apply for this technical assistance program, and looks forward to the opportunity to support your state in designing and implementing successful commercial market affordability strategies. Applicants are encouraged to apply as soon as possible and no later than August 15, 2023. Please complete and submit the attached form to avangeli@bailit-health.com. Select states may be contacted for interviews as part of the selection process. States will be notified of selection for the program by September 8, 2023. For any questions, please contact Alyssa Vangeli at Bailit Health at avangeli@bailit-health.com.

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Application Form

Section 1. State Information

State	
State Agency Name	
State Agency Mailing	
Address	
State Contact Name	
State Contact Title	
State Contact Email	
State Contact Phone Number	

Section 2. Narrative Questions

1. What is the commercial market affordability strategy your state is in the process of designing and/or implementing? (please select one or more)

Adopting multi-payer value-based payment models
Adopting multi-payer hospital global budgets
Using rate review to make health insurance more affordable
Limiting the rate of growth in provider prices
Capping high provider prices
Other (please specify)

2. Please describe in 500 words or less the current status of your commercial market affordability strategy planning, design, and/or implementation work.

Please describe the type(s) of TA your state is seeking, and be as specific as possible. For each type of TA, please explain why this particular TA would be helpful for your state's affordability strategy planning, design, and/or implementation work.
Please describe your state's readiness and ability to take advantage of assistance under this TA program, including any potential barriers or challenges.
Please provide any additional information that you believe is important for us to know as we consider your state's application.