



**COLORADO**

Department of Health Care  
Policy & Financing

1570 Grant Street  
Denver, CO 80203

## **Home- and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Settings Final Rule Statewide Transition Plan (STP) Fact Sheet**

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The Department has updated Colorado’s Statewide Transition Plan (STP) for bringing home- and community-based services (HCBS) throughout the State into compliance with the federal HCBS Settings Final Rule.

**The Department will accept public comments from March 25, 2022 through May 9, 2022.** The Department intends to submit the final STP to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) after it has reviewed and addressed the comments received during the public comment period.

An explanation of the materials available for public comment can be found below.

### **Background**

In 2014, CMS published a [rule](#) requiring HCBS to be provided in settings that meet certain criteria. The criteria ensure that HCBS participants have access to the benefits of community living and live and receive services in integrated, noninstitutional settings. They also ensure that residential settings are truly homelike.

The Department developed Colorado’s STP for bringing HCBS throughout the State into compliance with the HCBS Settings Final Rule. After several rounds of public comment, the [STP was last published and submitted to CMS](#) on December 16, 2016. CMS granted [initial approval](#) of that version of the STP on November 21, 2017.

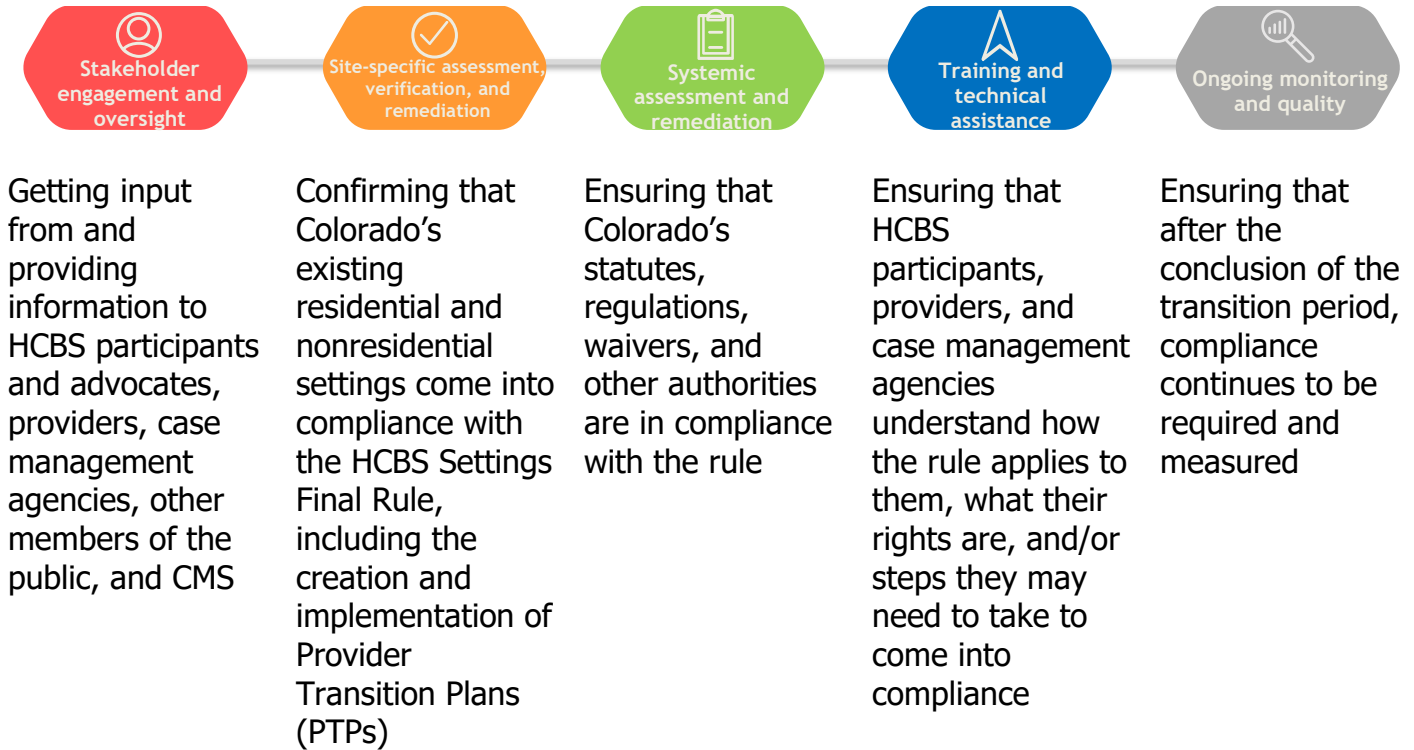
Since then, the Department has worked with stakeholders to make significant progress in implementing the federal rule. The updated STP describes the work completed and the tasks that still remain. Subject to public comment, the Department believes that the updated STP is ready to submit to CMS for final approval.

### **Materials available for public comment**

#### **(1) Statewide Transition Plan (STP)**

This document describes the process by which the Department has been working with stakeholders to achieve statewide compliance with the HCBS Settings Final Rule. This work has entailed concurrent progress on five major fronts, or Program Components:





The STP addresses each of these Program Components in turn. It has been updated to reflect significant developments since the STP received CMS’s initial approval and to set out a revised timeline for completing all remaining work before the end of the federal transition period in March 2023.

**(2) STP Redline**

This document shows the changes made to the STP since it received CMS’s initial approval. The Department prepared this document by using Microsoft Word’s Compare function, which shows changes in redline format. To allow stakeholders to focus on changes of significance, formatting changes are not shown.

**(3) Stakeholder Communication Strategy**

This document summarizes the Department’s approach to engaging with stakeholders as it implements the HCBS Settings Final Rule. This document replaces and updates some text originally found in the STP, including the entire Key Stakeholders column, which no longer appears in the final STP.

**Public Comment Opportunity**

The Department will post the final STP, the STP redline, and the stakeholder communication strategy on its [website](#) for public review and comment.

The Department will make these materials available for a **45-day public comment**

**period, running from March 25, 2022 through May 9, 2022.**

The Department commits to incorporating comments, concerns, and suggestions when and wherever possible. The Department will summarize comments and its responses as part of its final submission to CMS. The Department will post on its [website](#) an updated version of the STP, STP redline, and stakeholder communication strategy, along with the summary of public comments and responses, after the public comment period ends.

To request a paper or electronic copy of the materials mentioned in this Fact Sheet, and/or to provide public comment, please reach out to us via:

- Phone: 303-866-6314 (Rebecca Spencer, HCBS Policy Analyst)
- Email: [HCPF\\_STP.PublicComment@state.co.us](mailto:HCPF_STP.PublicComment@state.co.us)
- U.S. Mail: Department of Health Care Policy & Financing, 1570 Grant Street, Denver, CO 80203, ATTN: Statewide Transition Plan Team
- Fax: 303-866-4411 (Attention: Statewide Transition Plan Team)