

EIS-R Project Update – What’s the latest status?

November 19, 2013

Finally, an EIS-R Project Update! I’m sure many of you have probably been wondering, “What’s going on?”

Well, as with any large IT project, a certain amount of risk is to be expected. The EIS-R Project is unique because it’s a large IT project on a VERY short timeline. The shortened timeline adds a greater degree of complexity to the project risks. Unfortunately, the project encountered some of these risks and we were not able to overcome them as quickly as we would have liked. As we managed our way through the month of October, the Release 1a timeline was changing several times a week. We didn’t want to release a project update until we had firm dates. Now, we finally have a schedule and a high level of confidence that we can meet its dates.

Before the schedule is unveiled, here’s a quick acronym reminder: Self Service Portal (SSP), Worker Portal (WP), User Acceptance Testing (UAT).

We’ve broken down the schedule by the SSP and WP.

Self Service Portal Go-Live

As I’m sure you’ll recall, the SSP is the client facing portion of ARIES. This is where clients will apply for Medicaid online. Clients can access the SSP via the MyAlaska web portal. SSP training is not required by DPA personnel prior to its Go-Live. The schedule for SSP Go-Live is as follows:

SSP UAT	11/13 – 11/15
Final SSP Validation	12/9
SSP Go-Live	12/13

The SSP UAT was conducted last week. It was a success! Deloitte did a great job getting the SSP ready for UAT. Testers for the SSP UAT consisted of Qualis personnel, System Operations staff, and a portion of the ARIES Leads. Everyone who participated in this UAT noted a significant improvement in quality of the SSP.

Worker Portal Go-Live

WP is used by DPA personnel to process client applications. The majority of the ARIES training is on the use of the WP. The schedule for WP Go-Live is as follows:

Initial Training Material provided to ARIES Leads	11/25
WP UAT	12/9 – 12/20
Train DPA Personnel	12/9 – 12/20
Freeze Training	12/21 – 1/12
WP Go-Live	12/31
Resume Training for DPA Personnel	1/13 – 1/31

You might have noticed a break in the training for DPA personnel between 12/20 and 1/13. This break is unavoidable. The initial training period (12/9 – 12/20) will be conducted in the system used for the WP Go-Live on 12/31. This system will not be available after 12/20 since it must be prepared for the Go-Live date. The permanent training system will be available on 1/13. More information will be forthcoming as we get closer to 12/9.

Personnel from the State, Deloitte, and Qualis have been working long hours over the past month to 'get the project back on track'. A tremendous amount of progress has been made in recent weeks. The project team feels like this progress has created the positive momentum the project needs to make our new Go-Live dates. Now that we have a firm schedule, we hope to resume the bi-weekly DPAWeb Updates. Stay tuned!