

**INDEPENDENT EXTERNAL AUDIT:
2023 AUDIT FINDINGS REPORT**

CONNECTICUT

**CONNECTICUT HEALTH INSURANCE EXCHANGE
DBA ACCESS HEALTH CT (AHCT)**



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INDEPENDENT EXTERNAL AUDIT: 2023 FINDINGS REPORT

To: CCIO State Exchange Group
From: CliftonLarsonAllen LLP
Date: October 30, 2023
Subject: Audit Findings Report for Connecticut
Audit Period: Year Ended June 30, 2023

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PURPOSE

The purpose of this independent external audit is to ensure that the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange (dba Access Health CT (AHCT)) in the State of Connecticut is in compliance with the financial and programmatic requirements set forth by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

We conducted this performance audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards established by the Government Accountability Office's (GAO) *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on the audit objectives.

Name of State-Based Marketplace (SBM): Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange (dba Access Health CT (AHCT))
State of SBM: Connecticut
Name of Auditing Firm: CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

SCOPE

Our responsibility is to perform a programmatic audit on AHCT's compliance with 45 CFR Part 155 for the year ending June 30, 2023, which are:

- General Standards (Subpart B)
- General Functions (Subpart C)
- Eligibility Determinations (Subpart D)
- Enrollment Functions (Subpart E)
- Appeals of Eligibility Determinations (Subpart F)
- Exemptions (Subpart G)
- SHOP (Subpart H)
- Certification of Qualified Health Plans (Subpart K)
- Oversight and Program Integrity Standards (Subpart M)
- State Flexibility (Subpart N)
- Quality Reporting Standards (Subpart O)

Our audit consisted of specific procedures and objectives to test AHCT’s compliance and program effectiveness with all subparts of 45 CFR Part 155 listed above and we are reporting on the following key subparts comprising the core functions of Marketplace operations under 45 CFR Part 155 as defined by CMS in “State-based Marketplace Independent External Audit Technical Assistance” dated March 15, 2016:

- General Functions (Subpart C)
- Eligibility Determinations (Subpart D)
- Enrollment Functions (Subpart E)
- Certification of Qualified Health Plans (Subpart K)

METHODOLOGY

Audit Firm Background

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP (CLA) is one of the nation’s leading professional services firms, and one of the largest firms specializing in the public sector. CLA performs single audits for hundreds of organizations annually, ranking top in the nation for the number of single audits performed by any CPA firm. The single audit requires a specific set of skills in order to properly perform the procedures. As such, we have developed a group of professionals who specialize in providing single audit services. Our State and Local Government Group is dedicated to serving municipalities and other government entities and committed to their specialized needs. CLA has extensive audit experience in providing services to government clients and other recipients of state and federal financial assistance. We possess significant knowledge of, and experience with, the Uniform Guidance; the State of Connecticut Single Audit Act; and federal, state, and local financial assistance programs, including grant compliance auditing. As a result, we are thoroughly familiar with the complexities and concerns that result from the requirements of compliance with financial assistance programs.

Audit of the Financial Statements

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange, which comprise the statement of net position as of June 30, 2023 and the related statements of revenues, expenses and changes in net position and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange’s basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated October 30, 2023.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued a report dated October 30, 2023 on our consideration of Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange’s internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange’s internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange’s internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Programmatic Audit in Accordance with CMS Requirements:

Report on Compliance with 45 CFR Part 155

We have audited AHCT's compliance with the compliance requirements described in the above scope in accordance with 45 CFR Part 155 for the year ended June 30, 2023.

Management's Responsibility

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements of federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions applicable to 45 CFR Part 155.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on AHCT's compliance with 45 CFR Part 155. We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and CMS. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on the program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about AHCT's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion on compliance with 45 CFR Part 155. However, our audit does not provide a legal determination of the AHCT's compliance.

Opinion on Compliance with 45 CFR Part 155

In our opinion, AHCT complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above for the year ended June 30, 2023.

Summary of Programmatic Procedures:

We reviewed the following documentation obtained from AHCT:

- Public Act No. 11-53, An Act Establishing a State Health Insurance Exchange
- Privacy Policy
- CT Privacy Impact Assessment
- Annual Security and Privacy Attestation
- Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) Mitigation Plan
- Access to The Access Health Learning Center Learning Modules and Certification Exams
- Policy for Establishing Requirements for Certification, Recertification and Decertification of Qualified Health Plans
- Policy for Nondiscrimination in Health Programs and Activities
- Policy for Tribal Consultation
- Policy for Acquiring Operations Funding
- Policy for Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action
- Policy for Procurement: Contracting for Personal Services
- Small Employers Health Options Program (SHOP) Policy
- Employer Group Application Form
- Employer Application Supplement Form
- Compliance and Disciplinary Policy for Certified Independent Brokers
- Ethics Policy

- Accounting Policy and Procedure Manual
- Policy for Employer Appeals Process
- By-Laws
- Call Center Management Agreement - TTEC, Inc.
- Access Health CT Website
- Application for Exemption from the Individual Responsibility Requirement form
- Enrollment Form
- Connecticut SMART 2022 Package
- Sample Applications
- MARS-E standards
- Information Exchange Agreement Extension (issued 10/2/2019)
- Matching Agreement - To Connect with CMS Data Services Hub
- Current POAMs for MARS-E Standards Submitted to CMS
- System Security Plan
- IRS Publication 1075
- Safeguards Security Report Submitted to IRS
- Corrective Action Plan Submitted to IRS
- Access Health CT Network Security Policies and Procedures, with MARS-E and NIST SP 800-53 requirements mapped to specific policy areas (Access Health CT and BEST)

We interviewed the following AHCT staff and performed walkthroughs of data systems and operations to understand management and staff responsibilities and processes as they relate to compliance with 45 CFR Part 155:

- Controller
- Business Solutions Analyst
- Enrollment Support Services Manager
- Training Facilitator
- eLearning Specialist
- Carrier Product Manager
- Director of Legal and Governmental Affairs

We interviewed the following non-AHCT staff and performed walkthroughs of data systems and operations to understand management and staff responsibilities and processes as they relate to compliance with 45 CFR Part 155:

- Program Manager, Call Center TTEC

We analyzed the following samples obtained from AHCT's eligibility, enrollment, terminations, and carrier populations to evaluate compliance with key subparts of 45 CFR Part 155:

- A listing of 888,563 distinct households with an eligibility determination between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023 was provided to us from AHCT Technical Operations. A random sample of 40 applications were selected to test the compliance of 45 CFR 155 Subpart D, Eligibility Determinations, and 45 CFR 155 Subpart E, Enrollment Functions.
- A listing of 44,913 terminations from quality health plans between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023 was provided to us from AHCT Technical Operations. Termination population included both voluntary terminations initiated by participants in addition to circumstantial terminations. A random sample of 40 applications was selected to test the compliance of 45 CFR 155 Subpart E, Enrollment Functions, Section 155.430, Termination of Coverage.

- A listing of 3 health insurance carriers used by AHCT was provided to us from AHCT Plan Management. All three carriers were selected to test compliance with 45 CFR 155 Subpart K, Certification of Qualified Health Plans.
- Compliance with 45 CFR 155 Subpart C, General Functions, was determined through interviews and review of documentation.

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION OMITTED

N/A

II. AUDIT FINDINGS

KEY FINDINGS

None

AUDITOR'S OPINION

Based on the Key Findings above, it is CliftonLarsonAllen LLP's opinion that the accounting practices and financial statements reviewed during the 2023 independent external audit are:

MODIFIED UNMODIFIED ADVERSE DISCLAIMER

III. RECOMMENDATIONS

None

IV. CONCLUSION

We confirm to the best of our knowledge that the information included in this Audit Findings Report is accurate and based on a thorough review of the documentation required for this report.

SIGNATURE OF AUDIT FIRM: *CliftonLarsonAllen LLP*

COMPLETION DATE OF AUDIT FINDINGS REPORT: October 30, 2023