



MITA

MEDICAID INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ARCHITECTURE

January 2026

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MITA Governance Board Newsletter

Deputy Director's Corner

Happy New Year! The beginning of the year can be an energizing time to reconnect and ensure we finish the goals we set to support the modernization of the Medicaid Enterprise systems. The Medicaid Enterprise Systems Conference (MESC) held in August in Milwaukee was highly invigorating. The discussions highlighted both the critical challenges and significant opportunities facing Medicaid programs today. With modernization expectations rapidly evolving, states, vendors, managed care organizations (MCOs), and federal partners are navigating a period that necessitates a shared vision, collaboration, and preparedness. In this context, the Medicaid Information Technology Architecture (MITA) 4.0 will act as a crucial guide for transforming Medicaid systems.

Over the past year, our workgroups have made substantial progress in drafting the forthcoming iterations of the MITA 4.0 framework and technical assistance resources. Thanks to the extraordinary dedication of our volunteers, we are developing a framework that is more scalable, outcomes-focused, and aligned with the operational realities of today's Medicaid enterprise. We remain committed to facilitating more agile technology delivery to support state system modernization efforts.

A new MITA Governance Board (MGB) for the 2025 – 2027 term was announced. The dedication and service of the previous Board have been recognized, and appreciation is extended to those members who accepted the invitation to return for another term, as well as to the new Board members for their time and effort. The workgroups established by the previous Board have been retained by the new Board to ensure that momentum is continued. Thank you to all who continue to support this work. If you would like to get involved, share feedback, or learn more, reach out to us at MITAGovBoard@cms.hhs.gov. We are enthusiastic to continue this journey with you as the new year brings renewed energy and many exciting opportunities.

- Ed Dolly, Data and Systems Group (DSG) Deputy Director

MITA 4.0 Update Meeting at MESC 2025

The MGB returned to the Medicaid Enterprise Systems Conference (MESC) 2025 with renewed energy and a clear mission: **to modernize Medicaid IT Architecture and deliver meaningful, scalable tools for states and stakeholders.**

Key Highlights

MITA 4.0 is in motion

MITA 4.0 is being developed using an agile approach, employing iterative processes to create new artifacts collaboratively with a large team of volunteers. Early value delivery is achieved through a multi-phase rollout, starting with a pilot phase designed to gather feedback from States for refinement and improvement. Led by the MGB, this framework will be more adaptable, outcomes-driven, and aligned with CMS priorities. The focus is on:

- Reducing State burden
- Enabling automation
- Delivering tools relevant to State Medicaid Agencies (SMAs)
- Ensuring Medicaid members benefit from these improvements

MITA 4.0 is a collaborative effort

The following are involved:

- SMAs
- Federal partners
- Vendors and contractors
- Managed Care Organizations (MCO)

This diverse coalition ensures MITA reflects the full Medicaid ecosystem, and reinforces the need for States, Vendors and the Federal Government to work together to drive success.

MITA Workgroup Updates

During the MESC 2025 conference, the MGB delivered annual updates to stakeholders on the progress of various MITA initiatives. The MITA workgroups shared their progress in an open session. Below are the recent updates from each workgroup.

MITA NextGen Workgroup

Business Architecture Sub-workgroup

- Business Architecture Development & Management Guidelines
 - Developing the Business Architecture use cases for SMA guidance.



- Updating the processes and guidelines for SMAs on how to develop and maintain a Business Architecture that meets MITA, Streamlined Modular Certification (SMC), and SMA business outcomes, and enables an agile transformation of the enterprise.
- **Business Capability Reference Model**
 - Detailing the structure and definitions for Business Architecture capabilities.
 - Driving the alignment to Information Architecture and Technical Architecture capability development.
- **Business Process Models**
 - Defining the relationship between business processes and business capabilities.
- **Business Architecture Viewpoints**
 - Providing a scalable Business Architecture that allows states to develop a more accurate view of their real “As-Is” and “To-Be” of each architecture.
 - Incorporating actors into the Business Process Templates.
 - Developing standard Business Process Models.
- **Business Architecture Maturity Criteria**
 - Developing architectural checklists and criteria to further define Business Architecture maturity and to align with the MITA maturity model.

Information Architecture Sub-workgroup

- **Information Architecture Development & Management Guidelines**
 - Updating the high-level process and guidelines for SMAs on how to develop and maintain an Information Architecture that meets MITA and SMA business outcomes.
- **Data Management Capability Reference Model**
 - Identifying common capabilities needed to manage data.
- **Data Reference Model**
 - Defining core data domains and categories that represent data common to all SMAs.
- **Information Architecture Viewpoints**
 - Defining common viewpoints that can be used by SMAs to communicate consistent views of their Information Architecture.
- **Information Architecture Maturity Criteria**
 - Identifying key maturity criteria that can be used by SMAs to assess the maturity of their Information Architecture.

Technical Architecture Sub-workgroup

- **Technical Architecture Guidance**

- Providing guidelines and best practices for developing and managing Technical Architecture.
- Technical Reference Model
 - Creating a vendor-neutral reference model of technical services and components that supports an agile enterprise.
 - Establishing a standard set of technical domains and areas for SMAs and vendors to follow.
- Technical Architecture Viewpoints
 - Designing Technical Architecture viewpoints so SMAs can consistently communicate their technical landscapes.
- Technical Maturity Criteria
 - Defining clear maturity criteria to assess the current technical landscape and plan for future enhancements.

MITA State Self-Assessment (SS-A) Workgroup

- The SS-A Workgroup is focused on collaborating with the NextGen Workgroup to adapt and deliver a refined and optimized SS-A process. The workgroups are pilot testing new artifacts, emphasizing usability, outcomes-based planning, and delivering an enhanced maturity model to help states better visualize their full State Medicaid Enterprise. Using a “respond, refine, repeat” approach to gather stakeholder feedback and iterate on technical assistance resources that guide states to achieve better outcomes through an agile enterprise as a consistent theme throughout MITA 4.0.
- Designing a proof-of-concept SS-A tool that streamlines collecting state Medicaid maturity inputs and provides an assessment of system maturity based on the new MITA maturity model. The tool is designed to simplify and transform the assessment process.
- Developing MITA maturity models that reflect the evolving MITA 4.0 Framework and updated architectures that is focused on providing meaningful feedback to states to help drive to outcomes.

MITA Communications Workgroup

Accomplishments this year:

- Relunched the [MITA MGB website](#) as a central hub for the MGB and its workgroups.
- Supported communications efforts for MGB at MESC 2025.
- Developed the 2025 third-quarter newsletter.

We Hear You!

A survey was conducted among attendees of the MITA Update session at MESC. The survey gathered insights on attendees' level of familiarity with MITA and their knowledge of states planning to conduct an SS-A within the next year.



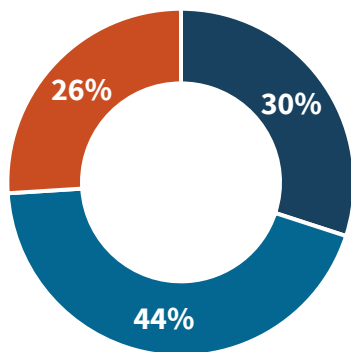
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How familiar are you with MITA?



■ Very familiar ■ Somewhat familiar ■ Not familiar

Questions raised by meeting attendees

1. What is MITA?
2. How does MITA 4.0 differ from previous versions?
3. Where can states find information about MITA requirements?
4. How does MITA consider ongoing SMA priorities, including the integration of social determinants of health and alignment with example MES modules in CMS's SMC guidance?

These questions have been acknowledged and addressed by the MGB through this newsletter and the ongoing efforts of the workgroups. Answers to the questions have also been added to the Frequently Asked Questions of the [MITA MGB website](#).

What Is MITA 4.0?

MITA 4.0 (Medicaid Information Technology Architecture) will be CMS's modernized framework for MES solutions, evolving from its 2012 predecessor. It is being designed to align business and IT strategies to improve administration, compliance, and operations across SMAs.

Guided by the MGB, MITA 4.0 is being developed by three primary workgroups—**NextGen, SS-A, and Communications**. While there were originally four workgroups focused on MITA 4.0 development, the Interoperability Workgroup, previously a standalone entity, has now been integrated into NextGen to streamline efforts and better align with current realities. Their collective goals include:

- Making MITA more meaningful for states and stakeholders
- Reducing the burden on SMAs through streamlined processes
- Enabling automation to improve efficiency and scalability

- Integrating MITA with Advanced Planning Document (APD), certification, and enterprise-wide activities
- Aligning the framework with current healthcare and IT trends

MITA 4.0 is currently in development, with progress planned from 2024 to 2026. It features a broader scope that includes performance strategy, reference models, and outcomes-based planning. Designed with a focus on outcomes, MITA 4.0 aims to serve as an optional tool to reduce the burden of SS-As while offering more valuable feedback to SMAs and CMS. The initiative is led by the MGB in collaboration with SMAs, vendors, and CMS. Active engagement is encouraged through workgroups, GitHub, newsletters, and workshops.

MITA 4.0 is not just an update; it's a shift toward a more agile, interoperable, and outcomes-driven State Medicaid Enterprise suited for the 21st Century.

Will MITA 4.0 Align with CMS Streamlined Modular Certification (SMC) Modules?

Yes. MITA 4.0 is being updated to align with CMS's SMC guidance and Conditions for Enhanced Funding requirements for a modular architecture. The Capability Reference Models and Business Process Models developed by the NextGen Workgroup are leveraging the modules that are in scope for SMC. This alignment ensures consistency across SMA implementations and easier certification and APD approval.

Where Can States Find MITA 4.0 Resources?

States will be able to access MITA 4.0 materials and updates as they become available (once approved by CMS) at the official [MITA GitHub Repository](#). This site includes:

- Informational bulletins
- Talking points for SMAs
- Presentations
- SS-A tools and templates
- Workgroup updates and newsletters
- Frequently Asked Questions

What's Next?



Future workshops

Hands-on sessions to showcase tools and gather input



MITA 4.0 Pilot

Two to three SMAs will be selected to test the initial MITA 4.0 tools and provide feedback



Final Framework Development

Targeting Q3 2026 for final CMS approval and an introduction of MITA 4.0 at MESC 2026



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Final Word

We envision MITA 4.0 not just as a framework, but as a **movement—driven by need, growing interest, and a passionate volunteer base**. With this momentum, **MITA 4.0 is on track to be the most impactful version yet**.

To every board member, workgroup lead, and workgroup member: thank you! Your time, energy, and expertise are shaping the future of Medicaid, and most importantly, the members we serve.



Get Involved

The MGB would like to see more participation, especially from states, to shape the next version of MITA. Help us get the word out! If you are able to participate in workgroups, please contact the MGB. If you are a state or working with a state that is open to piloting, please also reach out to the MGB. The best way to do that is to do so via the MGB email at MITAGovBoard@cms.hhs.gov.



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