

NP 9001 – MPATH FTE

This new proposal requests the transfer of 3.00 FTE from the Healthcare Facilities Division to provide operational support for Montana's Program for Automating and Transforming Healthcare (MPATH) in the Technology Services Division. These FTE will be responsible for ongoing MPATH module maintenance and operations, allowing existing FTE to focus on MPATH module design, development, and implementation (DDI) activities. This change package requests \$510,825 in total funds over the biennium, including \$139,022 in general fund and \$371,803 in federal funds.

	General Fund	State Special	Federal Funds	Total Request
FY 2024	\$56,297	\$0	\$148,071	\$204,368
FY 2025	\$82,724	\$0	\$223,733	\$306,457
Biennium Total	\$139,021	\$0	\$371,804	\$510,825

Background:

Montana’s Program for Automating and Transforming Healthcare (MPATH) is responsible for modernizing the Department’s legacy healthcare systems. MPATH is a collection of commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) software solutions, commonly called modules, that comprise Montana’s Medicaid Enterprise Systems. In December 2015, CMS published 42 CFR Part 433 – Subpart C Mechanized Claims Processing and Information Retrieval Systems (MMIS) also known as the “[Modularity Final Rule](#)”, requiring all states to use a modular approach for MMIS replacement. Following the Modularity Final Rule, Montana developed a module-based IT roadmap for system procurement, replacement, and implementation in 2016.

Montana’s MMIS replacement project is comprised of nine modules. The MPATH team has successfully implemented and operationalized the following modules per federal guidelines.

1. Pharmacy Claims Processing
2. Provider Services
3. Enterprise Data Warehouse
4. Population Health & Data Analytics
5. Premium Billing & Collections
6. System Integration Services

Additional FTEs are critical to support the systems' ongoing monitoring, maintenance, and operations to protect the State’s investment and to ensure MPATH is secure and operating efficiently and effectively.

Staff Functions:

Additional FTEs are needed to manage the implementation of system change requests generated by new and evolving federal and state regulations. These resources will ensure product updates (version upgrades) for all commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) products don't result in defects that prevent internal and external users from completing critical business activities in the Care Management and Financial Support Services systems. Business Analysts are also responsible for ensuring internal and external customer service issues are addressed, escalated, and resolved within required contractual timelines. Additionally, these resources will ensure that user guides, training manuals, and other documentation are updated and distributed with each system change.