

CalHHS Data Exchange Framework Policy and Procedure

Subject: Real-Time Exchange	
Status: Final	Policy: OPP-12
Publication Date: August 10, 2026	Version: 1.0.1

I. Purpose

California Health and Safety Code § 130290 establishes that the California Health and Human Services Data Exchange Framework (Data Exchange Framework) will be “designed to enable and require real-time access to, or exchange of, health information among health care providers and payers through any health information exchange network, health information organization, or technology that adheres to specified standards and policies.” The purpose of this policy is to clarify what meets “real-time access to, or exchange of health information.”

II. Policy

Participants in the Data Exchange Framework must send Health and Social Services Information to other Participants in a timely manner to support important care decisions benefiting all Californians. Any intentional or programmatic delay in the sharing of Health and Social Services Information for Required Purposes set forth in the Permitted, Required, and Prohibited Purposes Policy and Procedure shall be considered a violation of this policy and may violate the California Information Blocking Prohibitions Policy and Procedure.

For the purposes of this policy, programmatic delay means any delay in sharing Health and Social Services Information by a Participant, other than

1. A delay that is caused by events or circumstances that are beyond the Participant’s reasonable control; or,
2. A delay that meets an exception under the California Information Blocking Prohibitions Policy and Procedure; or,
3. A delay that is a result of a Participant’s lack of an electronic health record or other electronic information system that can be used by the Participant to store and Exchange Health and Social Services Information.

This policy shall be effective January 31, 2024.

III. Procedures

1. Obligations of Participants

a. In response to an Order or Referral, Participant(s) must share the Health and Social Services Information associated with the Order or the Referral in the manner specified by the requester and consistent with the Technical Requirements for Exchange Policy and Procedure as soon as the information becomes available and without intentional or programmatic delay.

b. In response to a Request for Information, Participant(s) must respond upon receipt of the Request for Information and without intentional or programmatic delay.

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c. Event Notifications must be shared at the time of the Event without intentional or programmatic delay.

IV. **Definitions**

All capitalized terms shall have the meaning set forth in the Data Exchange Framework Glossary of Defined Terms.

V. **Related Policies and Procedures**

California Information Blocking Prohibitions Policy and Procedure

Permitted, Required, and Prohibited Purposes Policy and Procedure

Technical Requirements for Exchange Policy and Procedure

VI. **Version History**

No.	Date	Author	Comment
1.0	July 21, 2023	CalHHS CDII	Initial version
1.0.1	August 10, 2026	HCAI	Administrative update to align with terminology updates in Technical Requirements for Exchange P&P.