Interface Approach

Overview

Florida PALM plans to identify, design, build, and test interfaces in collaboration with agencies. Interfaces refer to data exchanges between Florida PALM and other systems. Those planned to interface with Florida PALM are agencies, enterprise partners, and third parties (e.g., banks).

There are three interface transmission types available:

- File Based: Uses fixed, delimited, or XML file formats to carry data
- Web Services: Uses JSON or XML messages to send/receive data real-time
- Spreadsheet Upload: Uses a delivered Excel template to upload data

Interface layouts are provided to agencies based on the timing of implementation waves for the related interfaces. File based and web service interface testing is performed during Interface Testing. Agencies receive CMS and Central Wave interface layouts and are asked to confirm their interface connections. Spreadsheet uploads are provided for testing during User Acceptance Testing.

Standard Interface data field names may differ from what they are currently in CMS or Central FLAIR. Agencies that plan to exchange data using standard interfaces need to conduct an analysis of current to future data needs. Legacy-like interfaces contain translated or derived values.

Agency Interface Activities

Agencies are encouraged to use the Master Readiness Workplan (MRW) as a starting point for wave activities followed by collaboration within their agency to understand impacted business functionality and to define the activities and timing to plan, design, build, and test interfaces. Interface activities will be conducted during each wave. Existing Change Champion Network activities, including recurring Readiness Touchpoints and MRW tasks, may be leveraged for agency questions on interface activities.

Table 1: Interface Activities

Activity	Description
Identify Interface Needs	The Florida PALM Team will collaborate with agencies to develop an inventory of interface connections for CMS and Central Waves.
Review Initial Interface Layouts	Agencies will receive interface layouts to begin reviewing and providing iterative feedback. These interface layouts may evolve as the Florida PALM Team receives feedback from agencies.
Determine Business System Impacts	Agencies should identify and track impacts to internal and partner business systems. For example, online screens, reports, downstream interfaces, and external partners.
Receive Revised Layouts	The Florida PALM team will provide revised interface layouts to agencies incorporating updates from collaboration meetings and the Florida PALM design process. If any additional interface layout changes are made during the Project's design and build, the Florida PALM team will communicate revisions to agencies.
Design Business System Changes	Based on the identification of the business system impacts activities, agencies should design the necessary changes to their business systems.
Build Interfaces	Agencies will complete their interface build activities, leveraging the revised interface layouts.
Test Interfaces	The Project will conduct interface testing with agencies.

Deploy Interfaces	Agencies and Florida PALM team will deploy interfaces. Deployment is the final step in the interface lifecycle wherein interface programs are deployed in support of the Florida PALM for ongoing processing.

Table 2: Spreadsheet Upload Activities

Activity	Description
Identify Available Spreadsheet Uploads	The Florida PALM Team will collaborate with agencies to identify spreadsheet uploads that will be available for use during implementation waves and will be documented in the Catalog of Interface Offerings.
Review Spreadsheets	Agencies will receive spreadsheet files for review prior to user acceptance testing.
Determine Business System Impacts	Agencies should identify and track impacts to internal and partner business systems that will create data for spreadsheet uploads.
Design Business System Changes	Agencies should design the necessary changes to their business systems based on the identification of the business system impacts activities.
Test Spreadsheet Uploads	The Project will conduct user acceptance testing with agencies.