

SEPTEMBER
2016 EXTRA



Incentive Extra

TENNCARE EHR PROVIDER INCENTIVE PAYMENT PROGRAM

ABOUT THIS SPECIAL EDITION

In case you didn't receive this information from CMS, at right is an EHR-related update which was just released. We will continue to provide you with updates and instructions as we proceed. A recent CMS proposed rule is scheduled to become effective next month, although we don't know the date yet.

Additionally, there are two notes from TennCare inserted in the CMS update. Please pay particular attention to those notes. As always, if you have questions you can email us at TennCare.EHRincentive@tn.gov. If your question is more appropriate for Medicare, call the CMS Help Desk at 888.734.6433.

NEWS UPDATE

Understand the Medicare EHR Requirements for 2016 Participation

National Health IT Week is September 26-30, 2016. CMS is sharing guidance throughout the week to help providers and industry members participate successfully in ongoing CMS health IT initiatives. Stay tuned all week for the latest news and updates from CMS.

The Medicare and Medicaid Electronic Health Record (EHR) Incentive Programs were established in 2011 to encourage eligible professionals (EPs), eligible hospitals, and critical access hospitals (CAHs) to adopt, implement, upgrade, and demonstrate meaningful use of certified EHR technology. As of July 2016, there are nearly 600,000 [active participants](#) in the program.

To learn how to participate successfully in the EHR Incentive Programs in 2016, check out the information below and on the [CMS EHR Incentive Programs website](#).

2016 Program Requirements

In 2016, all providers must attest to a single set of objectives and measures. There are 10 objectives for eligible professionals, and 9 objectives for eligible hospitals and CAHs. To learn more, view the 2016 Specification Sheets for [EPs](#) and [eligible hospitals and CAHs](#).

Note: There are [alternate exclusions available in 2016](#) for certain objectives and measures, which are intended to assist providers in the early stages of meaningful use by providing lower thresholds and accommodating changes required for the transition to Modified Stage 2.

EHR Reporting Period

- EPs, eligible hospitals, and CAHs that have not demonstrated meaningful use successfully in a prior year may use an EHR reporting period of any continuous 90-day period between January 1 and December 31, 2016.
- All returning participants must report for a full calendar year from January 1 to December 31, 2016.*

*The [OPPS NPRM](#) proposes a 90-day reporting period for all participants. CMS will communicate changes to the programs after the rule is final.

Attestation Period

- First-time participants must attest to 2016 meaningful use measures by **October 1, 2016** in order to avoid a payment adjustment in 2017. Note: The EHR Registration and Attestation system still will be available for first-



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With EHR Incentive Program questions,
email TennCare.EHRIncentive@tn.gov

With Meaningful Use (MU) questions, email
EHRMeaningfuluse.TennCare@tn.gov
CMS Help Desk, 888.734.6433

TennCare Medicaid EHR Incentive Program
website: [www.tn.gov/tenncare/section/
electronic-health-record](http://www.tn.gov/tenncare/section/electronic-health-record)

How-to PowerPoint Presentations are
available at [www.tn.gov/tenncare/topic/
powerpoint-presentations](http://www.tn.gov/tenncare/topic/powerpoint-presentations)

As always, anytime you have a question or need
assistance, please feel free to contact us. We
will get back to you as quickly as possible.

Please be sure to include the provider's name
and NPI when contacting us.

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Understand Medicare EHR Requirements for 2016...

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time attesters until February 28,
2017, but first-time participants
who attest after October 1 will
be subject to a payment
adjustment. CMS will re-
adjudicate this adjustment after
the provider attests successfully
to achieving meaningful use.

**[TennCare Note: This section
is applicable only to those
attesting through the
Medicare EHR Incentive
Program.]**

- All returning providers must
attest by February 28, 2017.
The attestation system will open
in January. **[TennCare Note:
The February deadline
applies to those attesting in**

**the Medicare EHR Incentive
Program ONLY. The
attestation period for the
TennCare EHR Incentive
Program is January 1, 2017
thru March 31, 2017.]**

For More Information

- Visit the [2016 Program Requirements](#) page on the [CMS EHR Incentive Programs website](#).
- Watch the [2016 EHR Incentive Programs Requirements for Eligible Professionals](#) webinar or the [2016 EHR Incentive Payment Programs Requirements for Eligible Hospitals & CAHs](#) webinar.

SEE YOU THIS FALL AT THE TMA WORKSHOPS!

We'll be at the TennCare
booth to answer your
questions about the EHR
Incentive Program. Look
for us in the exhibit area.

Oct. 4 | Memphis

Oct. 5 | Jackson

Oct. 11 | Kingsport

Oct. 12 | Knoxville

Oct. 13 | Chattanooga

Oct. 25 | Nashville