

PROGRAM UPDATE



May 13, 2015

The Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (Department) continues to accept attestations for the Colorado Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. In Program Year 2012, more than **\$63 million** in incentive payments were made to eligible health care professionals and hospitals for the adoption, implementation or upgrade (AIU) and Meaningful Use (MU) of certified EHR technology. Payments for Program Year 2013 total more than **\$48 million** while Program Year 2014 payments total more than **\$9.7 million**.

Modifications to Meaningful Use in 2015 through 2017 Proposed Rulemaking Released

On April 10th, CMS released the [Modifications to MU in 2015 through 2017](#) Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM). It was earlier this year that CMS announced their intent to make changes to MU and the EHR Incentive Program and make changes they did!

The highlighted proposed changes include:

- A 90-day reporting period for all EPs and EHs in 2015
- Modifications to Stage 2 that include the deletion of redundant objectives and the elimination of Stage 1 (with special exclusions for 2015)
- Aligned reporting periods for EPs and EHs starting in 2015, and
- Options for EPs to attest to avoid payment adjustments even if they aren't eligible for the EHR Incentive Program

Please Give Us Your Feedback!

CMS is requesting comments on the NPRM by June 15, 2015 and CORHIO has provided options for you to participate. You can submit your comments via an [online survey](#) at your own convenience or you can participate in a webinar scheduled for May 19, 2015 at noon ([advanced registration](#) is required).

Recorded Webinar on 2015-2017 Changes

Since the changes are many and they affect all EHs and EPs in this program year, we've recorded an in depth webinar for you to watch before submitting any questions or comments. To view the webinar, [click here](#).

If you have any questions about the NPRM, please contact Tracy McDonald, Medicaid EHR Incentive Program Coordinator at MedicaidEHR@corhio.org.

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Reminder – Comments Requested for Stage 3 Proposed Rule

In addition to the 2015-2017 Modifications NPRM, the Stage 3 NPRM was released in late March with comments due on May 29, 2015. CORHIO has provided a couple of options for you to comment:

1. You can submit your comments via a survey at your own convenience by using the following link:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/6JGQ9W5>, or
2. You can participate in our webinar this Friday, May 15th at 11:00 am. Please register in advance at
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/3T5GBSX>

Important Reminder – Correcting 2014 Attestations

Many times, pre-payment reviews will result in the need for more information or a clarification of the information submitted. If a pre-payment review results in a need to make a correction, the attestation will be “pended” and unlocked for the EP to amend and resubmit. If you’ve been contacted about a pended attestation, please note that these need to be corrected in a timely manner. The Department is asking that all pended attestation be corrected by **May 15, 2015**. The sooner it is corrected, the sooner the incentive payment can be made.

Make sure that you check your email, as this is the preferred method of contact when an attestation has been pended. The emails will be sent to the contact listed on the attestation and direct communication with the reviewer is best. If you have questions about a pended attestation, please contact Xerox at SLRHelpDesk@xerox.com.

Program Year 2015 – Opening Date and Medicaid Eligibility

Due to the numerous proposed changes to Meaningful Use and the EHR Incentive Program, CMS has asked in the 2015-2017 Modifications NPRM to allow the program year 2015 opening date for all attestations to be pushed back until January 1, 2016. Until the final rule is released, Colorado’s Medicaid EHR Incentive Program will also be scheduled to open on **January 1, 2016** for AIU and MU attestations.

In the meantime, you may start working on eligibility requirements for the program. The eligibility for EPs is not changing due to the 2015-2017 Modifications NPRM which means the rules stay the same. Please note that with the change of the reporting year for EHs moving to a calendar year, the timeframes for eligibility may change.

CORHIO has not yet published the eligibility workbooks for 2015; however, you can use the [2014 workbooks](#) as a guideline. The 2015 workbooks should be published later this summer.

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Updated Anticipated Timeline – Colorado Medicaid EHR Incentive Program

Event	Status/Expected Date
CO R&A System begins accepting Medicaid & Medicare Meaningful Use attestations	Now Open!
First incentive payments issued to EPs who successfully attested to Medicaid Stage 1 Meaningful Use	Paid!
First incentive payments issues to EHs who successfully attested to Medicaid Stage 1 Meaningful Use	Paid!
CO R&A System opens for EHs to attest to 2014 Stage 1 and Stage 2 Meaningful Use for FFY 2014	Program Year Closed
CO R&A System opens for EPs to attest to 2014 Stage 1 for program year 2014	Program Year Closed
CO R&A System opens for EPs and EHs to attest to 2013 Stage 1 Objectives for the 2014 Flexibility Rule	Program Year Closed
CO R&A System open for EPs and EHs to attest to 2015 Meaningful Use	Tentatively Scheduled for January 1, 2016

Medicaid Program Point of Contact and Partnerships

The Department has partnered with CORHIO to provide program coordination and assist with provider communications and outreach regarding the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. The Medicaid EHR Incentive Program Coordinator will be the central point of contact for EPs, EHs, partners and other interested parties on requirements, processes and questions regarding the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. The Medicaid EHR Incentive Program Coordinator, Tracy McDonald, can be reached at MedicaidEHR@corhio.org or 720.285.3232.

Xerox (formerly Affiliated Computer Services) has been contracted by the Department to manage the Provider Outreach Page and to provide the Colorado R&A System, including the web portal through which eligible providers can register and attest to receive the EHR incentive payments.