



TennCare

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CONTACT INFORMATION

Happy Holidays

We at the Bureau of TennCare's EHR Provider Incentive Payment Program hope you & yours have enjoyed a successful, happy, and safe holiday season. It's almost hard to believe a new year is upon us already. The current editor of the TennCare EHR Newsletter is on his "break", so the 'old' editor is taking over, which means reverting back to the old format! 😊

The opportunity to participate in the TennCare EHR Provider Incentive Payment Program (PIPP) is Drawing to a Close!

CMS issued a clarification on when enrollment to participate in PIPP ends. We previously thought enrollment would end December 31, 2016. As a result of this clarification, Tennessee providers wishing to participate **must**:

- Go to the [CMS RNA web site](#) and register to participate, **AND**
- **Submit** your Program Year 2016 attestation,
- **Do all of this by March 31, 2017** (11:59 PM CT). ←

ALL PROGRAM YEAR 2016 EHR ATTESTATIONS (AIU OR MU) MUST BE SUBMITTED TO TENNCARE BY 11:59 P.M. C.T. ON MARCH 31, 2017. IF YOU HAVE YET TO ENROLL AT THE CMS RNA WEBSITE, YOU MUST DO SO AND MUST SUBMIT YOUR ATTESTATION BY MARCH 31, 2017. PROGRAM YEAR 2016 IS THE LAST YEAR TO SUBMIT AIU ATTESTATIONS. PROGRAM YEAR 2017 AIU ATTESTATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

↪ If you have already enrolled and are continuing to attest, the only concern you have is submitting your Program Year 2016 attestation by March 31st. This emphasis is on those who have yet to enroll and attest.

Attesting for Meaningful Use for Program Year 2017

As CMS makes changes to the requirements for attesting to Meaningful Use, we will keep you updated. There is one particular item you need to be aware of now.

Late last year, CMS finalized a rule which allows ALL providers attesting for Program Year 2017 to attest for MU using a consecutive 90-day period of data. However, CMS has clarified that providers **when attesting to CQMs MUST have 365 days** of data in order to attest. This means two things:

- You must be gathering CQM-related data beginning January 1st;
- Attesting for Program Year 2017 will not begin until January 2018.

NOTE: If Program Year 2017 is your first year to attest to Meaningful Use, then you would still follow the 90-day requirements. The above will not affect you.

One more thing about Meaningful Use

If you intend to, or do, replace your certified EHR technology system (EHR) next year, make sure you protect and retain ALL data related to Meaningful Use. You will need that information for attestation purposes and especially if you are selected for audit by either CMS or TennCare. We have heard of some problems encountered by providers when switching systems. Make sure you understand what will happen to your previous information and what your access will be. The choice to change systems is totally yours, and we don't want to lead you one way or the other. We are highly encouraging you to protect yourself and your data.



WHEN CONTACTING US....



Lately we have received lots and lots of emails requesting our help or for information. We do not mind because that's what we are here for – to assist you. However, it seems more often than not, we have to respond to your questions by asking for more information.

Whenever contacting us, please include:

- ◆ The provider's name
- ◆ The provider's NPI
- ◆ The group/Payee NPI, if appropriate

Plus the more specific you are with your request, the better we are to assist you. Also keep in mind that if you have locked your account (trying too many times while making errors), changing your password will not unlock your User Account. We must do that for you. If there is a need to change your password, we can help with that also.

Information about 1099s

The State of Tennessee will issue individual 1099s to Eligible Professionals (EPs) receiving EHR Incentive Payments during 2016. The mailing will occur on **or shortly after** January 31, 2017. EPs do have the option to assign their EHR Incentive Payment to their Group Practice or Clinic, however, IRS guidelines requires the issuance of 1099-MISC to the EP.

The 1099 form is an informational return that is also provided to the IRS. To determine if payments are taxable, you must consult your tax professional. The EP is responsible for selecting the appropriate option in the CMS Registration and Attestation System, whether the EP is to receive the EHR Incentive Payment or it is to be made to a designated Payee NPI (one with which the EP has a contractual relationship). The payment can be designated to a different entity for each year of program participation, but cannot be divided during a single year of program participation.

CMS, the Bureau of TennCare, and the EHR Provider Incentive Payment Program are not responsible for decision-making or mediation regarding the assignment of EHR Incentive Payments.

In most cases the EHR Incentive Payment itself is distributed to the group practice. **When this occurs, it is the responsibility of the EP to report the payment on Form 1099-MISC to the employer or entity which bills for the EP's services.** Contact your employer to obtain the tax ID number to be entered on the Form 1099-MISC.

Again, EPs are strongly encouraged to contact their tax professional on the proper handling of this matter.

EPs who lose their 1099 or otherwise need a replacement should contact F&A Accounts, Supplier Maintenance at F_A.Accounts@tn.gov. (There is an underscore [_] between the F and the A.) In your message, please provide the tax year for which the 1099 is needed, Tax ID number, name, and either an email address, fax number, or current mailing address where the replacement 1099 can be sent.

Any questions about the EHR Provider Incentive Payment Program should be sent to TennCare.EHRIncentive@tn.gov. F&A Accounts, Supplier Maintenance is **NOT** able to assist you with EHR Program-related questions.

<Keep Reading>





Contact Information

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.** 

- ◆ For questions relating to **Meaningful Use (MU)**, send an email to EHRMeaningfuluse.TennCare@tn.gov
- ◆ For **all other questions**, send an email to TennCare.EHRIncentive@tn.gov
- ◆ The **CMS Help Desk** can be reached at **1-888-734-6433**.
- ◆ **TennCare Medicaid EHR Incentive Program web site:**
<http://www.tn.gov/tenncare/section/electronic-health-record>
- ◆ **PowerPoint Presentations** on different subject areas are available here:
<http://www.tn.gov/tenncare/topic/powerpoint-presentations>
- ◆ **To enroll in the EHR Provider Incentive Payment Program:**
<https://ehrincentives.cms.gov/hitech/login.action>
- ◆ **CMS EHR Web Site (for more information)**
<https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/EHRIncentivePrograms/RegistrationandAttestation.html>

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