

Overview of Alabama's Meaningful Use Incentive Payment Program for Eligible Professionals

Program Synopsis

- Cash Payment up to **\$63,750.00** over 6 year maximum (\$21,250 in Year-1; \$8,500 in Yrs 2-6)
- Must be a user of certified Electronic Health Record (EHR) technology
- Must be an "Eligible Professional" (EP)
- Must have at least 30% Medicaid patient volume, or only 20% if a Pediatrician
- Program duration is 2011 – 2021
- Must start program no later than 2016

Medicaid Patient Volume Requirements

Eligibility for Payment - MUST have minimum Medicaid patient volume percentage. **There are no exceptions.**

Compute Percentage – Divide Medicaid encounters by Total Patient encounters.

Encounter – services provided to a single person on a single day.

Medicaid Encounters – may include \$0-paid & denied claims

Must have the following minimum percentages:

- At least 30% Medicaid patient volume
- Pediatricians-only may qualify with at least 20% Medicaid patient volume (will result in receiving only 2/3 of the maximum total incentive payment.)

EPs with at least 50% of practice in a FQHC or RHC may also include **Medically Needy** individuals to meet the 30% Medicaid patient volume.

In a Group Practice?

Only individual EPs may apply; however, a group's total encounters may be used as a proxy for individual EP to ensure all EPs meet patient volume requirements if:

- All members practice in the same manner
- All members use the group numbers

Assignment

EP has option to assign his/her payment to the group.

What is "Certified EHR Technology" (CEHRT)?

- CEHRT: EHR system MUST be certified by CMS
- Must acquire and use CEHRT in your practice.
- CEHRT MUST enable EP to meet all "Meaningful Use" (MU) requirements.

Find certification number on the "Chapel" website (CHPL - Certified HIT Product List):

<http://oncchpl.force.com/ehrcert>

Who Is An Eligible Professional (EP)?

Must be an active Alabama Medicaid Provider and be one of the following:

- Any physician
- Nurse Practitioner
- Certified Nurse Midwife
- Dentists
- Optometrists

Physician Assistant (PA) working in either a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) or Rural Health Clinic (RHC) that is led by the PA. (PA's working in a physician-led clinic are NOT eligible.)

What Does The Application Include?

Adopt, Implement or Upgrade (AIU)

- Must be First year application
- Attest to acquiring (Adopt), installing or beginning use (Implement), or Upgrading an existing system to a CEHRT.
- No reporting period

Meaningful Use (MU) Measures and Standards

- Required for Years 2 – 6; MU Stages 1, 2, & 3
- Year-2: Stage 1, 90-day reporting period
- Year-3, Stage 1, 12-month reporting period
- Years 4-6, Stages 2 & 3, 12 month reporting period (TBD by CMS)

How Do I Apply?

Must first register with CMS – Registration and Attestation System website:

<https://ehrincentives.cms.gov/hitech/login.action>

Alabama State Level Registry (SLR)

Register & submit application via the SLR:

<https://al.ara incentive.com>

Where To Get Help

CMS - <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/EHRIncentivePrograms/index.html>

State of Alabama (Medicaid Agency)

MU Webpage:

<http://www.onehealthrecord.alabama.gov/MU/index.html>

Health Information Exchange (HIE):

<http://www.onehealthrecord.alabama.gov/>

Medicaid Meaningful Use Administration Division:

- Telephone: (334) 353-4500
- Email: info@onehealthrecord.alabama.gov