

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR INCENTIVES?



HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

As meaningful users of EHR technology, **health care professionals** may be eligible for incentive payments through Medicaid or Medicare.

TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR INCENTIVES, PROFESSIONALS MUST:

- Use a certified EHR in a meaningful manner
- Exchange health information to improve the quality of care
- Report on quality measures

ELIGIBLE PROFESSIONALS IN MEDICAID

- Physicians (Pediatricians have special eligibility and payment rules)
- Nurse Practitioners
- Certified Nurse-Midwives
- Dentists
- Physician Assistants who lead a Federally Qualified Health Center or Rural Health Clinic

ELIGIBLE PROFESSIONALS IN MEDICARE

- Doctor of Medicine or Osteopathy
- Doctor of Dental Surgery or Dental Medicine
- Doctor of Podiatric Medicine
- Doctor of Optometry
- Chiropractor

To qualify, a **Medicaid Eligible Professional (EP)** must not be hospital-based* and must meet one of the following criteria:

- have at least 30 percent Medicaid patient volume **OR**
- practice predominantly in a Federally Qualified Health Center or Rural Health Clinic with at least 30 percent patient volume attributable to needy individuals **OR**
- be a pediatrician with at least 20 percent Medicaid patient volume.

- A Medicaid EP is considered hospital-based if 90 percent or more of his/her services are performed in a hospital inpatient or emergency room setting.
- Louisiana Children's Health Insurance Program (LaCHIP) patients count toward the Medicaid patient volume criteria.
- Medicaid incentives include payments of up to \$63,750. Pediatricians who are not hospital-based and who have 20-29 percent Medicaid patient volume may receive two-thirds of the total allowable incentive payments. Pediatricians who are not hospital-based and who have at least 30 percent Medicaid patient volume may qualify for the full incentive.

Similar guidelines and incentives exist for **Medicare Eligible Professionals**, who may receive up to \$44,000 in incentive payments over five years.

- To receive incentives, the professional must not be hospital-based*.
- Professionals are eligible for incentive payments of 75 percent of allowable charges up to the maximum for that program year.
- By 2015, professionals who do not adopt certified EHR technology may be subject to a Medicare payment reduction which increases annually up to a maximum of five percent.

NOTE:

*An Eligible Professional is considered hospital-based if 90 percent or more of the services are performed in a hospital inpatient or emergency room setting. Eligible professionals may claim incentive payments from either Medicare or Medicaid within a given year, although a one-time switch between programs may be allowed. Additional eligibility criteria may apply.

HOSPITALS



As meaningful users of EHR technology, **hospitals** may be eligible for incentive payments through Medicaid and Medicare.

ELIGIBLE HOSPITALS IN MEDICAID

- Acute Care Hospitals
- Critical Access Hospitals
- Children's Hospitals

ELIGIBLE HOSPITALS IN MEDICARE

- Acute Care Hospitals
- Critical Access Hospitals

Eligible hospitals may claim both **Medicare** and **Medicaid** incentives if they qualify for both.

- To be Medicaid eligible, hospitals must have at least 10 percent Medicaid patient volume. There is no Medicaid patient volume requirement for children's hospitals. EHR incentive payments for Medicaid and Medicare eligible hospitals are formula-based.
- The first year's incentive payment may be made to Medicaid eligible hospitals for adoption, implementation or upgrade of certified EHR; however, they must demonstrate Meaningful Use in subsequent years to qualify for additional payments.