



Questions about Meaningful Use (MU)?

The Quality Unit responsible for reviewing providers' Meaningful Use data now has its own mailbox. If you have questions, comments, or concerns, send those to EHRMeaningfulUse.TennCare@tn.gov.

The Meaningful Use (MU) sections of the Provider Incentive Payment Program (PIPP) Portal *will be available beginning Monday, April 2, 2012!*

Eligible Professionals (EPs)

If you attested to adopting, implementing, or updating (AIU) certified EHR technology in 2011, you can attest to 90 consecutive days of Stage 1 Meaningful Use completed anytime in calendar year 2012. If you began your 90-day meaningful use reporting period at the beginning of this year, you can attest to meaningful use beginning this Monday. **Keep in mind**, while your 90-day reporting period for Meaningful Use data is in **this** calendar year, the 90-day reporting period for **Patient Volume** must be from the **previous** calendar year (2011).

You can attest to 90 days of meaningful use completed this 2012 calendar year into spring 2013. TennCare encourages attestations earlier in the year so providers can better prepare to complete a full year of Stage 1 Meaningful Use in 2013.

Before you attest, please see TennCare's web pages for Stage 1 MU for EPs, http://www.tn.gov/tenncare/mu_epstage1.shtml, to review the meaningful use criteria and preview what may be asked for each measure.

If you did not attest to **AIU** for 2011, you can attest to AIU for 2012 and complete 90 days of Stage 1 Meaningful Use in 2013. Please see http://www.tn.gov/tenncare/mu_epstage1.shtml for possible timelines for your participation in the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program.

You will attest using the PIPP Portal: <https://pipp.tenncare.tn.gov>

For information on the PIPP Portal, visit http://www.tn.gov/tenncare/ehr_step3.shtml .

Eligible Hospitals (EHs)

If you are a Medicaid-only hospital that attested to adopting, implementing, or updating (AIU) certified EHR technology in fiscal year 2011, you can attest to 90 consecutive days of Stage 1 Meaningful Use completed anytime in fiscal year 2012. Medicaid-only hospitals attest via the PIPP portal, <https://pipp.tenncare.tn.gov> . *Like EPs, EH Patient Volume data must come from the previous fiscal year.*

(Dually eligible hospitals attest through CMS: <https://ehrincentives.cms.gov/hitech/login.action>.)

Information from CMS

The following two items are from recent bulletins from CMS. If you have any questions about these, contact the CMS Help Desk at 1-888-734-6433.

Ensure Your Success in the EHR Incentive Programs by Registering Early

CMS recommends that all eligible professionals (EPs) register as early as possible for the Medicare and Medicaid Electronic Health Record (EHR) Incentive Programs.

Registering does not mean you are required to participate. By registering early, however, you can make sure your information is completely up to date in all of the CMS systems and resolve any issues, which might otherwise prevent you from participating in the EHR Incentive Programs. If you do not resolve registration problems, you will not be able to attest and could potentially miss out on a payment year.

Give yourself plenty of time and register today. For more information on registration in the EHR Incentive Programs, visit the [Registration page](#) of the EHR website.

Latest Success Data on Provider Participation in the EHR Incentive Programs

CMS has released February 2012 data that highlights program-to-date (since January 2011) participation and payment totals under the Medicare and Medicaid Electronic Health Record (EHR) Incentive Programs. The February report documents continued growth in registrations and payments, including:

- Over **211,500** eligible professionals (EPs), eligible hospitals, and critical access hospitals (CAHs) have registered for the Medicare and/or Medicaid EHR Incentive Programs since January 2011
 - Over **20,000** registered for the Medicare and/or Medicaid EHR Incentive Programs in the month of February
- Over **62,000** EPs, eligible hospitals, and CAHs have been paid for successfully participating in the Medicare and/or Medicaid EHR Incentive Programs
- Over **\$3.8 billion** has been paid in Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive Program payments to EPs, eligible hospitals, and CAHs across the country
 - Over **\$738 million** was paid in the month of February

Visit the [Data and Reports page](#) on the EHR website to review more of more data on continued acceleration in registration and payment data.

Helpful Resources

CMS has created several resources to help participants navigate the Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive Programs. A few key resources include:

- *[An Introduction to the Medicare EHR Incentive Program for Eligible Professionals](#)*- This interactive guide helps EPs navigate every aspect of the Medicare program and provides helpful resources and tips along the way. *A Medicaid guide will be available later this spring.*
- Updated User Guides- CMS has updated the registration and attestation user guides, which walk EPs and eligible hospitals through CMS' registration and attestation system. There are five guides in total and all of them can be downloaded from the [Educational Materials](#) page of the EHR website.
- Provider Testimonial Videos- These videos, which can be found on the [CMS YouTube](#) channel, highlight providers' experiences participating in the EHR Incentive Programs.

If you are considering registering for the programs, but have not done so yet, take a look at the CMS EHR website and use our [eligibility tool](#) to find out if you can participate.

Remember: 2012 is the last year in which EPs can receive a full incentive payment in the **Medicare** EHR Incentive Program. Beginning in 2013, EPs will receive a smaller overall total payment. Remember to register early.

Want more information about the EHR Incentive Programs?

Make sure to visit the [EHR Incentive Programs website](#) for the latest news and updates on the EHR Incentive Programs.