



Making Changes to Your CMS Attestation Registration

On occasions, TennCare finds it necessary to send providers back to the CMS Registration & Attestation System web site to make changes. This is necessary when a provider has left off the CMS Registration number for his certified EHR system; to make a change in the provider's email address; or to change the Payee NPI when leaving, changing, or joining a group practice or clinic. Other times, providers have gone back to make changes without our telling you to do so, which is fine.

When making changes on the CMS Registration web site, you **must** do the following.

- Enter the registration number CMS assigned you when you initially completed your registration.
- Click "Modify."
- On **EACH** page, click "Save & Continue."
- On the last page, click "Submit." It is only by clicking on "Submit" will your changes be completed, saved, and forwarded to TennCare by CMS.

Even if you only do the first two steps and then change your mind, you **must still** do the clicks on "Save & Continue" and "Submit." CMS has informed us that if a provider clicks "Modify" and then "Cancel," the provider's attestation status has been changed. Without completing the steps described above, your registration is basically in a "hold" status and nothing can be done with your attestation.

A NIGHT AT THE MOVIES

Through the combined efforts of BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee, the Tennessee Medical Association, and tnREC, a series of six videos have been produced and are available for viewing. Most of you already on our subscription list have already obtained, and hopefully using, certified EHR technology. However, if you know someone who is on the fence, just not sure, you may want to direct him or her to this web site - <http://www.adoptehr.com/>. The six videos are entitled:

Adopt Electronic Health Records: Working Smart Not Hard
Stopping the Chaos
Path to Better Health
PCMH
Privacy and Security
Aligning Your Practice

Each video is 10 minutes in length or less. Doctors, Practice Managers, and others share their experiences and knowledge about using certified EHR technology.

Information from CMS

CMS issues newsletters from time-to-time with information you may find useful. This is from one dated June 5, 2012. If you have questions about this information, call the CMS Help Desk at 1-888-734-6433.

Learn How to Use CMS' Updated FAQ System to get on the Path to Payment for the EHR Incentive Programs

CMS has upgraded the [frequently asked questions \(FAQs\) section](#) of their website. The EHR Incentive Programs' FAQs are now incorporated in the same page as other CMS program FAQs.

New and Old FAQ Numbers

CMS has tagged FAQs in the new system with two sets of FAQ numbers. You can now identify an FAQ by its old FAQ number (listed after the word “Keywords” below the answer of the FAQ) or its new FAQ number (at the very bottom of the FAQ in parentheses).

Finding FAQs

There are a few different ways to find EHR Incentive Programs FAQs:

1. Click on the Topic: *Electronic Health Records Incentive Programs* on the blue navigation panel on the left side of the [FAQ page](#)
 - a. Click on the Subtopic of your choice, such as “Getting Started” or “Registration and Attestation,” to see the FAQs related to that area of the programs
2. Search for your FAQ in the system
 - a. Enter a search term such as “EHR” in the Search box on the top, left side of the [FAQ page](#).
 - b. Use the new FAQ numbers
 - i. Enter the new FAQ number in the “FAQ # Search” box found at the top, left side of the [FAQ page](#). Choose the “FAQ #” option by clicking the circle and highlighting it in blue.
 - If you have already read an FAQ and noted the new number (in parentheses at the bottom of the FAQ), use that number as a reference to quickly find it again
 - c. Use the old FAQ numbers
 - i. Enter the old FAQ number (listed after “Keywords” below the FAQ answer) in the “Text Search box” found at the top, left side of the [FAQ page](#). Choose the “Text” option.

Note: You cannot search by **old** FAQ number in the “FAQ # Search” box. However, you can search by old FAQ numbers in the “Text Search” box.

You can also download a PDF of all the FAQs for the EHR Incentive Program. Go to the [FAQ page](#) on the EHR Incentive Programs website and click the [link](#) under the Downloads section at the bottom of the page.

A CMS bulletin dated June 19, 2012:

CMS and ONC Announce Over 100,000 Providers Have Been Paid Under the EHR Incentive Programs

Today, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) [announced that over 100,000 health care providers have been paid](#) under the Medicare and Medicaid Electronic Health Record (EHR) Incentive Programs.

Only three months ago, CMS Acting Administrator Marilyn Tavenner and National Coordinator for Health Information Technology Farzad Mostashari, MD, ScM, wrote a blog post, [2012: The Year of Meaningful Use](#), which declared the goal for getting 100,000 health care providers to adopt, implement, upgrade, or demonstrate meaningful use of EHRs by the end of 2012.

According to Acting Administrator Tavenner, "Meeting this goal so early in the year is a testament to the commitment of everyone who has worked hard to meet the challenges of integrating EHRs and health information technology into clinical practice."

As of the end of May 2012:

Providers Paid Information

- More than 110,000 eligible professionals and more than 2,400 eligible hospitals have been paid by the Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive Programs.
- Approximately 48 percent of all eligible hospitals and critical access hospitals in the U.S. have received an incentive payment for adopting, implementing, upgrading, or demonstrating meaningful use of an EHR.
- One out of every five Medicare and Medicaid eligible professionals in the U.S. has received an incentive payment for adopting, implementing, upgrading, or demonstrating meaningful use of an EHR.

Payment Information

- Over \$5.7 billion in EHR Incentive Program payments have been made as of the end of May 2012.
- More than \$3 billion in Medicare EHR Incentive Program payments were made between May 2011 (when the first payments were released) and the end of May 2012.
- More than \$2.6 billion in Medicaid EHR Incentive Program payments were made between January 2011 (when the first states launched their programs) and the end of May 2012.

A CMS bulletin dated June 27, 2012:

CMS Has Added an Important New FAQ for EPs on Using Hospital EHR Modules for Meaningful Use

We want to help keep you updated with information on the Medicare and Medicaid Electronic Health Record (EHR) Incentive Programs. CMS has recently added a new FAQ that discusses the ability for eligible professionals (EPs) in the EHR Incentive Programs to use hospital EHR modules to achieve meaningful use. Take a minute and review the new FAQ below.

Question: Can an EP use EHR technology certified for an inpatient setting to meet a meaningful use objective and measure?

Answer: Yes. For objectives and measures where the capabilities and standards of EHR technology designed and certified for an inpatient setting are equivalent to or require more information than EHR technology designed and certified for an ambulatory setting, an EP can use the EHR technology designed and certified for an inpatient setting to meet an objective and measure. There are some EP objectives, **however**, that have no corollary on the inpatient side. **As a result**, an EP must possess Certified EHR Technology designed for an ambulatory setting for such objectives. Please reference ONC FAQ 12-10-021-1 and 9-10-017-2 and CMS FAQ 10162 for discussions on what it means to possess Certified EHR Technology, ONC FAQ 6-12-025-1 for a list of affected capabilities and standards, and how that relates to the exclusion and deferral options of meaningful use.

You can find this FAQ in the CMS FAQ system ([CMS FAQ system](#)) by searching for it by FAQ number. Type in 6421 in the "FAQ # Search" box found at the top, left side of the FAQ page. Choose the "FAQ #" option by clicking the circle and highlighting it in blue.

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.

A CMS bulletin dated June 28, 2012

Registration and Attestation System and EHR Information Center are Unavailable This Weekend; July 3rd is an Eligible Hospital Deadline

Attestation and Registration System and EHR Information Center Availability

The Medicare and Medicaid Electronic Health Records (EHR) Incentive Programs Registration and Attestation System will be affected by planned system maintenance starting Friday, June 29th, 12:00 AM ET, through Monday, July 2nd, 7:00 AM ET. Throughout this maintenance window, eligible professionals and eligible hospitals will not be able to register or attest for the EHR Incentive Programs.

Because of this system maintenance, the EHR Information Center staff will be unable to assist incoming calls relating to registration, attestation, and payment statuses. However, the recently enhanced Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system will be available. The IVR is able to provide registration, attestation and payment status along with a growing list of other self-service options.

The Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive Programs Registration and Attestation System and the EHR Information Center will resume regular operations on Monday, July 2 at 7:00 AM ET.

Deadline Reminder

Tuesday, July 3rd, is the last day for eligible hospitals and critical access hospitals (CAHs) to begin their 90-day reporting period to demonstrate meaningful use for the Medicare EHR Incentive Program. Visit the [Attestation page](#) for more information.

E-Blast Newsletters Now Available On-Line

E-blast Newsletters are now available on-line for a brief period, as they will be rotated when new ones are issued. Go to our EHR HITECH web site - http://www.tn.gov/tenncare/ehr_intro.shtml - and just above the "Steps" is a paragraph about subscribing to the newsletter. There is also a link to the most recent newsletters. You can still be among the first to receive each newsletter by taking advantage of the subscription link on the web page.

CONTACT US

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For information about Meaningful Use:

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