



TennCare



## CONTENTS

Time Out!	1099s
A Change in the Eligibility Portion of EHR Attestation	Redetermination of TennCare Enrollee Eligibility

## CONTACT INFORMATION



## TIME OUT!

Effective December 15<sup>th</sup>, we stopped accepting attestations for Meaningful Use (MU) regardless of the time period for which you may be attesting. This is because, as of that date, the rules and requirements for MU attestation changed. We will inform you of what the changes are and how you need to attest for MU in the future. We will also notify you when our system has been updated and ready to accept attestations under the new requirements. We hope this will be no later than mid-January.

We will continue to accept attestations for AIU as the Final Rule did not make any changes to the requirements for such attestations.

### **A change in the Eligibility Portion (the first 4 screens) of EHR Attestation**

Effective January 1, 2016, providers (EPs and EHRs) will no longer be required to submit a W-9, ACH form, or a voided check, deposit slip, or bank letter with their attestation. Provider Registration has implemented a process where all providers and groups are required to electronically register and revalidate. With that process nearing completion, we in the EHR Incentive program are going to accept what Provider Registration has as the information of record. You are **STILL** required to submit an updated Signature Page with each year's attestation. The current Signature Page is dated 10.21.14. Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants are also still required to submit their respective pages when attesting.

This is a message that we will repeat several times over the next few months. This is **not** a decision made by the Bureau of TennCare. The Department of Finance & Administration has interpreted IRS instructions to mean that 1099s must be sent to the attesting provider by the State of Tennessee. We have also recently learned that the IRS requires that **the 1099 be mailed to your home address** and not your office. Some providers are evidently being caught unaware until they receive a penalty notice from the IRS. Regardless of what you may hear of other states doing, this is what Tennessee will be doing until instructed otherwise.



The State of Tennessee will issue individual 1099s to providers receiving EHR Incentive Payments during 2015. This mailing will occur on or shortly after January 31, 2016. Although Eligible Professionals do have the option to assign their EHR Incentive Payment to their Group Practice or Clinic, the Department of Finance and Administration believes that the proper interpretation of IRS guidelines requires the issuance of individual 1099s to the attesting provider, at his/her home address, irrespective of who actually received the payment. The 1099 form is an informational return provided to the IRS. To determine if payments are taxable, you must consult your tax professional. In most cases, you and your organization will need to complete a “middleman 1099.” A “middleman 1099” transfers the income from your Social Security number and places such income in your employer’s tax ID number. You should have your employer’s tax ID number from the W-2 you were sent last year.

It is the responsibility of the eligible professional to assign his/her EHR Incentive Payment, either to his individual NPI or an organizational NPI (his employer or entity with whom he has a valid contractual relationship allowing the entity to bill for the EP’s services), in consideration of the program parameters and any agreements with his organization. The eligible professional is responsible for selecting the appropriate option in the CMS Registration and Attestation System, and any payments will be made to the designated Payee NPI. The payment can be designated to different entities 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 incentive payments.

Again, we strongly encourage you to contact your tax professional on the proper handling of this matter. If you lose your 1099 or otherwise need a replacement, contact Donna Nicely at [Donna.Nicely@tn.gov](mailto:Donna.Nicely@tn.gov) or (615) 253-5234. She will need your 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 one of the email addresses at the end of the newsletter. Donna will **NOT** be able to help you with those.

## Redetermination of TennCare Enrollee Eligibility

The following article is definitely **not** related to the EHR Provider Incentive Payment Program. However, we want to take advantage of every means possible to get the word out to enrollees and providers. Should enrollees fail to cooperate with the revalidation of their TennCare eligibility, they can lose their coverage, and then will be

responsible for their own health care costs. There are flyers (in English & Spanish) available at the web link below which you can print and post in your office.

The following information was emailed to providers on December 21, 2015.

## **Attention TennCare Providers**

**TennCare is in the process of re-determining eligibility for some members. Members undergoing the redetermination process will be sent a renewal packet in the mail and must fill out and return the packet by the due date included in the mailing.**

**We expect some members may come to their provider's office with questions about the renewal packet. In order to assist you in helping members who may come to you with questions, we have created a webpage that includes a sample renewal packet, a webinar which discusses each step of the renewal packet, and some FAQs.**

**You can view this information at <http://tn.gov/tenncare/article/redetermination>**

**Once again we ask for your continued assistance in communicating to TennCare members the importance of ensuring TennCare has their current address, opening all mail from TennCare, and following the instructions included in TennCare mailings.**

**As always, we thank you for your continued participation in the TennCare program and for serving the healthcare needs of TennCare members.**



## **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](mailto:EHRMeaningfuluse.TennCare@tn.gov)
- ◆ For **all other questions**, send an email to [TennCare.EHRIncentive@tn.gov](mailto: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>

**TennCare E-Newsletters:**

If you choose to unsubscribe from this list at any time, you may do so by sending a message to:

[listserv@listserv.tn.gov](mailto:listserv@listserv.tn.gov),

(no subject) and **unsubscribe MedicaidHIT**

You will receive an email confirming your removal.

To view previous TennCare E-Newsletters, go to <http://www.tn.gov/tenncare/topic/e-blast-newsletters>