



ISSUE DATE May 13, 2011	EFFECTIVE DATE June 6, 2011	NUMBER 01-11-05
SUBJECT: Medical Assistance Electronic Health Record (EHR) Incentive Program Application Process for Eligible Hospitals (EHs)		BY  Izanne Leonard-Haak, Acting Deputy Secretary Office of Medical Assistance Programs

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this bulletin is to inform hospitals about the application process to register for and participate in the Medical Assistance (MA) Electronic Health Records (EHR) Incentive Program. This bulletin also discusses how hospitals can apply for incentive payments and presents information and links to resources and tools that help explain the application process.

SCOPE:

This bulletin applies to all inpatient acute care hospitals, including critical access hospitals (CAHs) and children’s hospitals, that are enrolled in the Pennsylvania MA Program.

BACKGROUND:

On January 28, 2011, the Pennsylvania MA Program issued MA Bulletin 01-11-01, titled “Medical Assistance Electronic Health Records (EHR) Incentive Program for Eligible Hospitals (EH),” which announced the Department of Public Welfare’s (Department) intent to implement and administer a MA EHR Incentive Program.

The goal of the MA EHR Incentive Program is to promote the adoption and meaningful use of certified EHRs within the healthcare system. The Department envisions that adopting EHRs will lead to higher quality and better coordinated care resulting in improved patient outcomes and patient safety, while also improving the efficiency of the healthcare system.

Participation in the MA EHR Incentive Program is voluntary. Hospitals are not required to participate in the MA EHR Incentive Program.

In order to qualify for the MA EHR Incentive Program, hospitals must meet all federal and Department requirements, and must be enrolled and participating in the MA Program without

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

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Visit the Office of Medical Assistance Programs Web site at
<http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/provider/healthcaremedicalassistance/index.htm>

sanctions or exclusions. Hospitals that are not enrolled will need to enroll in the Pennsylvania MA Program and obtain a National Provider Identifier (NPI) number prior to applying for the Department's EHR Incentive Program.

Between January and April 2011, the Department held numerous webinars and education sessions with stakeholders to help hospitals learn about the program. Information presented in the webinars and education sessions, along with additional resources to assist hospitals that are interested in the MA EHR Incentive Program application process, is available at the following website: <http://www.PAMAHealthIT.org>

On June 6, 2011, the Department will activate the Medical Assistance Provider Incentive Repository (MAPIR), which is the Department's web-based application and attestation system for the MA EHR Incentive Program and the interface with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). The CMS system is named the Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive Program Registration and Attestation System (also known as the R&A).

DISCUSSION:

Hospital Application and Registration Processes

The application process includes the following steps:

- Applicants must register at the R&A website. Applicants will need to provide information such as the payee's NPI and Tax Identification Number (TIN), CMS Certification Number (CCN), program option of Medicare and/or MA (referred to as Medicaid in the R&A), state in which hospital is applying for the MA EHR Incentive Program, EHR Certification Number, and email contact information.
- Once successfully registered with the R&A, eligible applicants will receive a notification that they can register in MAPIR, which is accessed through the PROMISe™ provider portal. This may take up to two days, following successful registration with the R&A. MAPIR is the Department's web-based system that will track and act as a repository for information related to applications, attestations, payments, appeals, oversight functions, and interface with the R&A.
- Applicants will use their PROMISe™ logon ID and password to log into the PROMISe™ provider portal. If they are an eligible hospital type then a MAPIR application link will be displayed. By clicking on the link, the MAPIR application will search for a registration record received from the R&A. Once a match is found, the application process can begin. If an application is not found within three days after an applicant registered with the R&A, then the applicant should contact the Department for assistance either by email at RA-mahealthit@state.pa.us or by phone at (855) 259-2114.
- Applicants will need to verify the information displayed in MAPIR and will also need to enter additional required data elements and make attestations about program

requirements and the accuracy of the data elements entered in MAPIR. For example, applicants will need to demonstrate that they meet Medicaid patient volume thresholds, that they are adopting, implementing, or upgrading federally-certified EHR systems, and that they meet all other federal program requirements.

- Applicants may use the patient volume calculator on the Department's website (www.PAMAHealthIT.org) prior to entering MAPIR to estimate eligibility based on patient volume for a continuous 90-day period within the previous hospital fiscal year.
- The Department will use its own information (such as MA claims data) and information in MAPIR to review applications and make approval decisions. The Department will inform all applicants whether they have been approved or denied. All approvals and denials are based on federal rules governing the EHR Incentive Program.
- Please note that a hospital is eligible for incentive payments based on their CCN. Multiple hospitals within a health system may be rolled up into one CCN for the purposes of the MA EHR Incentive Program.
- Payments will be issued via the standard PROMISe™ payment system that runs once a week and hospitals will see approved payments on their remittance advices and their annual 1099s.
- It is possible that the Department may need to contact applicants during the application process before a decision can be made to approve or deny an application. Applicants are encouraged to contact the Department if they have questions about the process.
- Applicants have appeal rights available to them, for example, if an applicant is denied an EHR incentive payment. The Department will convey information on the appeals process to all applicants denied. Appeals will be processed by the Department's Bureau of Hearings and Appeals.

Applicants can take a number of steps to expedite the processing of their applications:

- Applicants must provide a valid email address during the CMS registration process so that the Department can inform them by email that their registration has been received from CMS and that they can begin the MAPIR application process.
- Applicants must obtain a logon ID and password for the PROMISe™ provider portal if they do not already have one. For registration information go to: <https://promise.dpw.state.pa.us>
- The NPI and TIN provided to CMS must match the NPI and TIN information within the PROMISe™ system. This combination should be the same NPI/TIN combination that you use for MA claim payment purposes.

- The Department will calculate hospital payments based on auditable sources of information such as hospital cost reports. However, the Department may need to contact applicants to clarify the information entered. Payments can be estimated using the hospital payment calculator available on the Department's website, (www.PAMAHealthIT.org).

PROCEDURES:

Please visit the Department's website at www.PAMAHealthIT.org for additional information such as the patient volume calculator, the hospital payment calculator, webinar materials, and frequently asked questions.

The Department's MA EHR Incentive Program Eligible Hospital Provider Manual (available at <http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/provider/healthcaremedicalassistance/medicalassistancehealthinformationtechnologyinitiative/maprovinciniverepos/index.htm>) describes the application process and is intended to serve as a resource for hospitals to help them successfully complete the application process. The Eligible Hospital Provider Manual explains the details of the MA EHR Incentive Program and includes detailed information and links to other resources on the following EHR Incentive Program requirements:

- Eligibility criteria
- Definition of an eligible hospital
- Patient volume calculations
- Adopt, implement, and upgrade requirements
- Calculating hospital payments and payment amounts
- Monitoring and oversight
- Information on how to apply for the program via the MAPIR system

You will find the R&A website at:

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

You will find the PROMISe™ application website at:

<https://promise.dpw.state.pa.us>

Applicants should not hesitate to contact the Department for more assistance with the application process. Applicants can contact the Department by email at RA-mahealthit@state.pa.us or by phone at (855) 259-2114.