

Program Alerts

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) recently released two tools to help health care providers get the most out of their health information technology (health IT), such as electronic health records (EHRs): an EHR contract guide and a newly expanded *Health IT Playbook*.

The new contract guide, *EHR Contracts Untangled: Selecting Wisely, Negotiating Terms, and Understanding the Fine Print*, explains important concepts in EHR contracts, and includes example contract language to help providers and health administrators in planning to acquire an EHR system and negotiating contract terms with vendors. The *Health IT Playbook* is a dynamic, web-based tool intended to make it easy for providers and their practices to find practical information and guidance on specific topics as they research, buy, use, or switch EHRs.

Both resources are available on the ONC at <https://www.healthit.gov/>. In addition, EHR contract guide can be accessed from the Electronic Health Record tab of the *Health IT Playbook*.

Important Dates

Eligible Professionals and Eligible Hospitals:

- **2016**
Last year to initiate participation in Medicaid EHR Incentive Program.
- **January 1, 2016**
Reporting year begins for Program Year 2016.
- **January 1 – February 29, 2016**
CAH 2015 Hardship Application Submission Period.
- **March 11, 2016**
Alternate Attestation Option deadline to avoid a payment adjustment.
- **March 15, 2016**
EP deadline to submit hardship exception application.
- **May 31, 2016**
Last day to attest to receive an incentive payment for Program Year 2015.
- **July 1, 2016**
EP, EH and CAH deadline to submit hardship exception application.
- **August 1 – September 30, 2016**
CAH 2015 Reconsideration Application Submission Period.
- **December 31, 2016**
Reporting year ends for Program Year 2016.
- **2021**
Last year to receive Medicaid EHR incentive payment.

For Help with Meaningful Use

Regional Extension Centers (REC) with Kentucky Service

- Kentucky REC at the University of Kentucky: <http://kentuckyrec.com/>
- NorthEast Kentucky Regional Health Information Organization: <http://nekyrhio.org/>

For Help from Kentucky Medicaid

- Medicaid EHR website <http://chfs.ky.gov/dms/ehr.htm>
- Send an email to ehrincentives@ky.gov
- Send an email from Send E-mail function at <https://prdweb.chfs.ky.gov/KYSLR/Login.aspx>
- Submit an Issue/Concern through attestation website

Getting Started

- ✓ Register at CMS
- ✓ Individual NPI and Registration Identifier (assigned by CMS)
- ✓ Payment reassignment documentation
- ✓ 90 day patient volume report
- ✓ Meaningful Use reports for MU reporting period
- ✓ Certified EHR Technology supporting documentation
- ✓ Screen shot of CMS Certification ID from the Certified Health IT Product List website
- ✓ Meaningful Use Confirmation form (provided by KHIE) and/or Go-Live Approval form (provided by KHIE)

Kentucky Medicaid EHR Incentive Program Status, October 10, 2016

	Registrations	Completed Attestations	Total Paid	Amount Paid
Hospitals	95	274	264	\$132,341,831.35
Providers	4,678	7,518	5,988	\$94,170,083.85
Totals	4,773	7,792	6,252	\$226,511,915.20

Kentucky Medicare EHR Incentive Program Status, July 2016

Total Payments to EPs and EHS: 10,806

Total Amount Paid: \$379,086,957.18

KHIE Connection

Kentucky Health Information Exchange (KHIE) is the Public Health Authority in the Commonwealth for the public health measures within the EHR Incentive Program. In order to be deemed a Meaningful User the provider must have a signed Participation Agreement and signed addendum(s) on file with KHIE for each public health objective selected for attestation.

Kentucky Office of Health Benefit and Information Exchange

Division of KHIE: <http://khie.ky.gov>

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Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.