

AT A GLANCE

UPCOMING DEADLINES

- **CMS Web Interface PY 2024 Quality Reporting Data Submission Due: March 31st 8:00 p.m. ET**

EVENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **CMS Web Interface Support Call**
February 19th | 1:00–2:30 p.m. ET | [Register](#)

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RESOURCES

- [Updates to PY 2025 Initial Assignment Reports](#)
- [Important Reminders When Submitting APP Data](#)
- [PY 2024 Q4 Report Packages: Now Available](#)
- [February CCLF and Claims Run-Out Files](#)
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- [Webinar on How ACOs Respond to Emergencies Materials: Now Available](#)

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RESOURCES

Updates to PY 2025 Initial Assignment Reports

CMS found an error in the PY 2025 initial assignment reports delivered in December 2024. Three telehealth codes (Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes 99441, 99442, and 99443) were unintentionally excluded and there was an error in the claims run-out date impacting Step 3 of assignment. The median impact for ACOs under prospective assignment was a decrease of 71 beneficiaries, and the median impact for ACOs under preliminary prospective with retrospective reconciliation assignment was a decrease of two beneficiaries. Most of the assignment changes relate to ACOs having additional beneficiaries excluded from assignment due to beneficiaries passing away between the initial assignment run on December 3, 2024, and December 31, 2024.

Initial assignment has been rerun to include these three telehealth codes and to correct the run-out date. CMS is planning to provide ACOs under prospective assignment with updated initial assignment lists on February 13th. ACOs under preliminary prospective assignment with retrospective reconciliation will receive updated assignment lists in the Quarter 1 (Q1) PY 2025 report packages, which are scheduled to be delivered in May.

Important Reminders When Submitting APP Data

Your ACO's Electronic Clinical Quality Measures (eCQM)/Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) CQM submission should be identified as an Alternative Payment Model (APM) Performance Pathway (APP) submission. Check your ACO's data submission to make sure it is tagged correctly.

Before uploading or submitting data files, make sure they are tagged as an APP submission. To tag your ACO's data file correctly, ACOs must do the following, depending on the file type:

- For Quality Payment Program (QPP) JSON files, “**category**” must be labeled as “**quality**,” and “**programName**” must be labeled as “**app1**” at the measurement set level. For more information, refer to [Tutorial: APP Submissions](#) in the QPP Developer Preview Environment Documentation.
- For Quality Reporting Document Architecture (QRDA) III files, your file must have the correct file naming convention of “**MIPS_APP1_APMENTITY**” as the CMS Program Name. For more information, refer to the [CMS Implementation Guide for Quality Reporting Document Architecture Category III](#) (PDF).

Note that **if the quality data file is not correctly tagged as an APP submission** in accordance with these instructions, the system will still indicate that the file has been uploaded successfully, but there will not be a quality data file in the APP Reporting Overview page. Instead, **the file will automatically be submitted and scored as a Traditional MIPS submission and will not be eligible for purposes of the Shared Savings Program.** If this happens, you must re-submit the file with the correct flags as listed above, and ACOs must re-verify the submission in the APP Reporting Overview page.

Remember, when submitting quality data for the eCQM/MIPS CQM measure set, sign into the [QPP website](#) and select “Start Reporting” on the main page or “Eligibility & Reporting” from the left-side navigation bar. Then, on the Reporting Options page, select “Start Reporting” on the APP reporting option. Next, select “Report APP” on the confirmation prompt to upload the quality data files.

For a comprehensive reporting submission walk-through, refer to the [2024 Alternative Payment Model \(APM\) Performance Pathway \(APP\) Data Submission User Guide](#) (PDF).

PY 2024 Q4 Report Packages: Now Available

CMS released the PY 2024 Q4 report packages to ACOs in the Data Hub tab in [ACO-MS](#) on February 6th. The report packages were sent as a zip package and includes the cover notice, *Quarterly List of Beneficiaries Eligible for Medicare Clinical Quality Measures*, *Assignment List Report (ALR)*, *Assignment Summary Report (ASR)*, *Aggregate Expenditure/Utilization Report (EXPU)*, *Beneficiary Expenditure/Utilization Report (BEUR)*, and the Non-Claims Based Payments (NCBP) file. As a note, ACOs without NCBP during the report period will not receive the NCBP file.

For additional information about the Q4 report package, refer to the Q4 cover notice and the PY 2024 Report User's Guides available on the [Program Guidance & Specifications webpage](#) in the [PY 2025 Shared Savings Program Report Templates](#) zip package. These report user's guides provide detailed information about the data elements included in the referenced program reports.

February CCLF and Claims Run-Out Files

February Claim and Claim Line Feed (CCLF) files will be available to ACOs the week of February 10th for the PY 2025 assignable or prospectively assigned beneficiaries in the Data Hub tab in [ACO-MS](#).

CMS will also provide claims run-out CCLF files during the months of February, March, and April to the ACOs continuing their participation in the Shared Savings Program from the prior year. These ACOs will receive claims with service dates through the end of December 2024 as an additional set of CCLF files. The run-out CCLF files will include claims for the beneficiary population from the ACOs' performance year that ended on December 31, 2024.

The February delivery timelines for the CCLF, Exclusion, and Medicare Beneficiary Identifier (MBI) XREF files are as follows:

FILE	FILE DELIVERY	FILE NAMING CONVENTION	DATA HUB PY
PY 2025 Exclusion and MBI XREF Files	Week of February 10 th	P.A****.ACO.MBIY25.Dyymmdd.Thhmsst P.A****.BNEX.Y25.Dyymmdd.Thhmsst	2025
PY 2025 CCLFs	Week of February 10 th	P.A****.ACO.ZCY25.Dyymmdd.Thhmsst	2025
PY 2024 Run-Out Exclusion and MBI XREF Files	Week of February 17 th	P.A****.ACO.MBIR24.Dyymmdd.Thhmsst P.A****.BNEX.R24.Dyymmdd.Thhmsst	2024
PY 2024 Run-Out CCLFs	Week of February 24 th	P.A****.ACO.ZCR24.Dyymmdd.Thhmsst	2024

ACOs should refer to Version 39 (V39) of the [CCLF Information Packet \(IP\)](#) and V11 of the [ACO and ACO-OS Data Exchange User Guide](#) (DEUG) for additional information on the CCLF and Exclusion files. The *CCLF IP* is available on the [Program Guidance & Specifications webpage](#), and the DEUG is available in the Knowledge Library tab in ACO-MS.

For technical assistance, contact the ACO Information Center using the SSP Helpdesk icon (located within the [ACO-MS](#) banner).

Resources Available for ACOs Submitting Quality Data

The [MIPS Data Submission Process Demonstration](#) video reviews the file upload process and includes a review of the MIPS data submission process for the three MIPS reporting options: how to upload a file, how to review previously submitted data, and how to delete data.

ACOs can refer to [2024 Reporting eCQMs, MIPS CQMs, and Medicare CQMs in the Alternative Payment Model \(APM\) Performance Pathway \(APP\)](#) for reporting information specific to Shared Savings Program ACOs reporting eCQMs, MIPS CQMs, and Medicare CQMs.

In addition, the following resources are available to provide instruction on data submission:

- [2024 Alternative Payment Model \(APM\) Performance Pathway \(APP\) Data Submission User Guide](#)
- [QPP Submissions API Documentation](#)

January 1, 2025 Shared Savings Program ACO Statistics: Now Available

On January 15th, CMS posted various Shared Savings Program ACO-related datasets to [Data.CMS.gov](#) for the performance year starting January 1, 2025:

- List of [ACOs](#), including certain identifying information;
 - ACO Coverage Map: Visit the [list of ACOs](#) and scroll down to “Search for an ACO” in the Visualization section.
- List of [ACO Participants](#); and
- List of [ACO SNF Affiliates](#).

CMS also posted the *Shared Savings Program Fast Facts* as of January 1, 2025. This file is accessible on the Shared Savings Program website via the [Program Data webpage](#).

To learn more, refer to the [CMS Moves Closer to Accountable Care Goals with 2025 ACO Initiatives](#) fact sheet.

Webinar on How ACOs Respond to Emergencies Materials: Now Available

This webinar showcased insights from a Shared Savings Program ACO, highlighting their emergency response and preparation strategies. The discussion covered how the ACO uses data and analytics to guide emergency planning, enhance patient outreach, coordinate care, and identify high-risk beneficiaries. The webinar also featured resources that ACOs can use to enhance their emergency preparedness strategies.

The slides, recording, transcript, and summary from the Shared Savings Program webinar, “[How ACOs Respond to Emergencies](#),” are now available and can be found by selecting the “Learning System” Resource Type in the Knowledge Library tab in [ACO-MS](#).

EVENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

CMS Web Interface Support Call

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2025, 1:00 P.M.–2:30 P.M. EASTERN TIME

- [Register Here](#)
- **Audience:** This webinar is for Shared Savings Program ACOs that are reporting data for the quality performance category through the CMS Web Interface for the 2024 performance period.
- **Description:** The support call will highlight important information, provide updates on reporting quality data, and offer an opportunity for ACOs to engage in Q&A sessions with CMS subject matter experts. To attend the support call, you must register by clicking on the link above.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR ACOs

Refer to the section below to determine which center to contact.

ACO Information Center

Click the SSP Helpdesk icon (located within the [ACO-MS](#) banner)

- Shared Savings Program operations and policy inquiries; technical inquiries related to program data, reports, and performance; ACO-MS; and assistance with user access to CMS systems, including password resets

Quality Payment Program Service Center

QPP@cms.hhs.gov

Hours: Monday–Friday, 8:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m. ET

- Inquiries related to MIPS, MACRA, CAHPS® for MIPS survey, CMS Web Interface, quality measures, quality reporting, and Promoting Interoperability measures
- 1-866-288-8292
- For hearing impaired customers, please dial 711 to be connected to a telecommunications relay service (TRS) Communications Assistant

[CCSQ Support Central](#): Request Support, Schedule a Call, Chat Support

ACO Coordinator

Please reach out to your ACO Coordinator if you require any further assistance.

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