

AT A GLANCE

UPCOMING DEADLINES

- **PY 2022 Public Reporting Deadline:**
February 11, 2022
- **CMS Web Interface Submission:**
March 31, 2022

EVENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Seeking ACO Speakers for an ACO Learning System Spring Webinar**
- **CMS Web Interface Data Submission Support Calls**
February 9th | 1:00–2:30 p.m. ET | [Register](#)
February 23rd | 1:00–2:30 p.m. ET | [Register](#)
March 9th | 1:00–2:30 p.m. ET | [Register](#)
March 23rd | 1:00–2:30 p.m. ET | [Register](#)

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RESOURCES

- [January 1, 2022 Shared Savings Program ACO Statistics: Now Available](#)
- [Third Snapshot of 2021 QP Status and APM Participation Data: Now Available](#)
- [CMS Web Interface: Open for 2021 Quality Reporting](#)
- [2022 Shared Savings Program Report Schedule: Now Available](#)

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RESOURCES

January 1, 2022 Shared Savings Program ACO Statistics: Now Available

On January 26th, CMS posted the following Shared Savings Program ACO public use files to [Data.CMS.gov](https://data.cms.gov) for the performance year starting January 1, 2022:

- List of [ACOs](#), including certain identifying information
- List of [ACO Participants](#)
- List of [ACO Skilled Nursing Facility \(SNF\) Affiliates](#)
- ACO Coverage Map: Visit the list of [ACOs webpage](#) and click “Visualize Data” to “Search for an ACO” in the interactive map.

CMS also posted the *Shared Savings Program Fast Facts* for January 1, 2022. This file is accessible on the Shared Savings Program website via the [Program Data webpage](#).

Third Snapshot of 2021 QP Status and APM Participation Data: Now Available

The [Quality Payment Program \(QPP\) Participation Status Lookup Tool](#) is now available. This tool is based on the third snapshot of data from Alternative Payment Model (APM) entities and includes data from Medicare Part B claims with **dates of service between January 1, 2021, and August 31, 2021**. The tool includes 2021 Qualifying APM Participant (QP) and Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) APM participation status.

To learn more about how CMS determines QP and APM participation status for each snapshot, please view the [2021 Learning Resources for QP Status and APM Incentive Payment](#) (zip) or visit the [Advanced Alternative Payment Models \(APMs\) webpage](#) on the [QPP website](#).

What Does QP Status Mean?

If your ACO is considered an Advanced APM, eligible clinicians in the ACO may qualify as a QP; this means the eligible clinicians in your ACO are eligible to receive a 5% [APM](#) incentive bonus and are also exempt from participating in [MIPS](#).

How Do I Check My QP or APM Participation Status?

To view your QP or APM participation status at the individual level, visit the QPP Participation Status Lookup Tool and enter your 10-digit National Provider Identifier (NPI).

To check the eligibility status of the clinicians in your APM entity, log into the QPP website. If you are the ACO's QPP Security Official or QPP Staff User contact in the [ACO Management System \(ACO-MS\)](#), you can sign in to the QPP website using your ACO-MS username and password. Refer to the user access instructions, titled *Medicare Shared Savings Program ACOs: Creating and Managing a HARP Account with a QPP Role in ACO-MS* (PDF), in the [QPP Access User Guide](#) (zip) for information on how to become an ACO's QPP Security Official or QPP Staff User contact in ACO-MS. Once logged into the QPP website, browse to the taxpayer identification number(s) affiliated with your entity. Lastly, access the details screen to view the eligibility status of every clinician based on their NPI.

If your ACO qualifies as a Partial QP, then the eligible clinicians in the ACO may choose whether or not to participate in MIPS but will not be eligible for the 5% incentive payment. To learn more, please view the [2021 Qualifying APM Participant \(QP\) Quick Start Guide](#) (PDF).

Learn More

For more information on APMs, visit the QPP [APMs Overview webpage](#). The document [Alternative Payment Models in the Quality Payment Program as of December 2021](#) (PDF) provides a comprehensive list of APMs. For additional materials, visit the [QPP Resource Library](#).

For questions, contact the QPP at 1-866-288-8292 or by e-mail at: QPP@cms.hhs.gov.

CMS Web Interface: Open for 2021 Quality Reporting

As a reminder, the CMS Web Interface submission period opened on January 3, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Eastern Time (ET) and closes on Thursday, March 31, 2022, at 8:00 p.m. ET. If you are the ACO's QPP Security Official or QPP Staff User contact in the [ACO-MS](#), you can sign in to the [QPP website](#) using your ACO-MS username and password to begin submitting data via the CMS Web Interface. During the submission period, you can take the following actions in the QPP website:

- Download your sample data.
- Upload your 2021 performance data.

Refer to the user access instructions, titled *Medicare Shared Savings Program ACOs: Creating and Managing a HARP Account with a QPP Role in ACO-MS* (PDF), in the [QPP Access User Guide](#) (zip) for information on how to become an ACO's QPP Security Official or QPP Staff User contact in ACO-MS.

CMS will accept the data entered by the end of the submission period. **All data entered as of March 31, 2022, at 8:00 p.m. ET will be considered your final submission.**

The following resources are available on the [QPP Resource Library](#):

- [2021 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services \(CMS\) Web Interface Frequently Asked Questions](#) (PDF)
- [2021 CMS Web Interface User Guide](#) (PDF)
- [2021 CMS Web Interface User Demo Videos](#)
- [CMS Web Interface Data Dictionary 2021 Performance Year](#) (PDF)
- [2021 CMS Web Interface Excel Template with Sample Data](#)
- [2021 CMS Web Interface Excel Template](#)
- [2021 CMS Web Interface Quick Start Guide](#) (PDF)
- [Performance Year 2021 APM Performance Pathway: CMS Web Interface Measures Benchmarks for ACOs](#) (PDF)

- [2021 CMS Web Interface Measure Specifications and Supporting Documents](#) (zip)
- [CMS Web Interface Support Calls for ACOs, Groups, and Virtual Groups Reporting 2021 Quality Data & CMS Web Interface Transition Webinars](#) (PDF)

CMS Web Interface Data Submission Support Calls

CMS is hosting a series of CMS Web Interface Support Calls for groups, virtual groups, and ACOs that are reporting data for the quality performance category through the CMS Web Interface for the 2022 performance period. The support calls will highlight important information, provide updates on reporting quality data, and offer an opportunity for ACOs to engage in question-and-answer sessions with CMS subject matter experts. To attend the following support calls, you must register for each by clicking on the links below. These calls are held from **1:00 p.m.–2:30 p.m. ET** on the following dates:

CMS WEB INTERFACE DATA SUBMISSION SUPPORT CALLS			
February 9, 2022	February 23, 2022	March 9, 2022	March 23, 2022

Additional Assistance

The QPP Service Center is available to answer questions related to the CMS Web Interface throughout the submission period. CMS encourages your group, virtual group, or ACO to submit questions early and often during the submission period. Contact the QPP Service Center at QPP@cms.hhs.gov or 1-866-288-8292 (Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. ET). Please consider calling during non-peak hours (before 10:00 a.m. and after 2:00 p.m. ET) to receive quicker assistance. Customers who are hearing impaired can dial 711 to be connected to a telecommunications relay service (TRS) Communications Assistant.

The QPP Service Center is projecting an increase in volume of calls and emails between January and March 2022 due to the opening of the 2021 MIPS data submission period, resulting in longer wait times.

To reduce wait times and ensure successful 2021 data submission, CMS recommends taking the following actions:

- **Use One Method to Report Issues:** Due to the increase in volume at the QPP Service Center and to minimize the backlog, CMS requests that you use only one method of reporting for the same issue (email or phone). Note: Cases are processed in the order in which they are received regardless of the manner in which the QPP Service Center was contacted. Please allow time for processing.
- **Submit Your Data Early:** It is encouraged that you submit your 2021 MIPS performance year data early during the submission period as this allows you plenty of time for any necessary QPP Service Center assistance.
- **Call the QPP Service Center at Off-Peak Hours:** CMS strongly recommends calling the QPP Service Center during off-peak hours (8:00–10:00 a.m. ET or 2:00–8:00 p.m. ET).
- **Contact Your ACO Coordinator:** For ACOs, please reach out to your Coordinators with your QPP Service Center ticket number to assist with resolving your inquiry.

2022 Shared Savings Program Report Schedule: Now Available

The [2022 Shared Savings Program Report Schedule](#) is available in the Program Operational Schedules section of the Knowledge Library tab in [ACO-MS](#) by searching “2022 Shared Savings Program Report Schedule.” This report schedule provides brief report descriptions and estimated report delivery dates. Report schedule dates are subject to change.

EVENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Seeking ACO Speakers for an ACO Learning System Spring Webinar on Behavioral Health Strategies to Support Beneficiaries With Depression

CMS will host an ACO Learning System webinar this spring highlighting ACOs’ strategies for identifying and supporting beneficiaries’ behavioral health needs, particularly depression. Topics may include—but are not limited to—approaches to depression screening, managing depression as a chronic condition, and strategies for appropriate referrals. CMS also invites ACOs to share ideas or innovations related to increasing access to mental health services.

Does Your ACO Have a Behavioral Health Story to Share?

Please express interest in presenting by emailing VBCLearningSystem@mathematica-mpr.com with the subject line “Spring Behavioral Health Webinar” and a brief description of your ACO’s behavioral health initiative and background by close of business on Friday, February 11th.

CMS Web Interface Data Submission Support Calls

- **Audience:** ACOs reporting quality data
- **Description:** CMS is hosting a series of CMS Web Interface Support Calls for groups, virtual groups, and ACOs that are reporting data for the quality performance category through the CMS Web Interface for the 2022 performance period. The support calls will highlight important information, provide updates on reporting quality data, and offer an opportunity for ACOs to engage in question-and-answer sessions with CMS subject matter experts.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2022, 1:00 P.M.–2:30 P.M. ET

- [Register Here](#)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2022, 1:00 P.M.–2:30 P.M. ET

- [Register Here](#)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 2022, 1:00 P.M.–2:30 P.M. ET

- [Register Here](#)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2022, 1:00 P.M.–2:30 P.M. ET

- [Register Here](#)

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR ACOs

ACO Coordinator

To help ACOs navigate questions regarding the Shared Savings Program **please contact your ACO Coordinator as your first line of contact.** These additional resources are also available:

ACO Information Center

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

Hours: Monday–Friday, 8:30 a.m.–7:30 p.m. ET

- Program operations and policy inquiries; technical inquiries related to program data and program reports; ACO-MS; and assistance with user access to CMS systems, including password resets
- 1-888-734-6433 (select Option 1) or 1-888-734-6563 (TTY/TTD)

Quality Payment Program Service Center

QPP@cms.hhs.gov

Hours: Monday–Friday, 8:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m. ET; non-peak hours: before 10:00 a.m. and after 2:00 p.m. ET.

- Inquiries related to MIPS, APMs, MACRA, CAHPS® for ACOs survey, quality measures, quality reporting for 2017 and future years, and CMS Web Interface
- 1-866-288-8292

Not for Public Dissemination: The ACO Spotlight Newsletter is a biweekly publication by CMS for ACOs participating in the Shared Savings Program. It is distributed by email only to ACO contacts listed in CMS’ ACO-MS. This newsletter is not intended to establish CMS policy and is for informational purposes only for the sole use of the individual(s) to whom it is addressed, and individuals associated with their ACO. The newsletter is not intended for public release. The ACO Spotlight Newsletter is published, produced, and disseminated at U.S. taxpayer expense. If you have received this in error, please notify the sender immediately by emailing SharedSavingsProgram@cms.hhs.gov.

Section 508 Disclaimer: This document and information contained therein may not adhere to Section 508 Compliance standards and guidelines for accessibility by persons who are visually impaired. Those who are visually impaired should contact the ACO Information Center at 1-888-734-6433 (Option 1) for assistance.