

## AT A GLANCE

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### UPCOMING DEADLINES

- **NOIA:** Closes June 7, 2022, at 12:00 p.m. ET
- **Change Request Cycle:** June 8–29, 2022
- **RFI-1 Period:** July 21 to August 4, 2022

### EVENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **SDOH Information Exchange: Technical Infrastructure and Interoperability**  
June 14<sup>th</sup> | 1:00–2:30 p.m. ET | [Register](#)

### PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RESOURCES

- [Submit Notice of Intent to Apply by Tuesday, June 7, 2022](#)
- [Actions Available During the Change Request Cycle Opening June 8<sup>th</sup> for PY 2023](#)
- [Managing Changes to ACO Governing Body in ACO-MS: New Functionality Available June 8<sup>th</sup>](#)

## PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RESOURCES

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### Submit Notice of Intent to Apply by Tuesday, June 7, 2022

**CMS is now accepting Notices of Intent to Apply (NOIAs) via the [ACO Management System \(ACO-MS\)](#) until Tuesday, June 7, 2022, at 12:00 p.m. (noon) Eastern Time (ET).** A NOIA submission does not bind your organization to submit an application; however, **you must submit a NOIA to be eligible to early renew your participation in the Shared Savings Program for a January 1, 2023 start date.**

Each ACO should only submit one NOIA. For more information, review the [How to Submit a NOIA in ACO-MS tip sheet](#).

For currently participating ACOs, you should only submit an Early Renewal NOIA if your ACO wants to voluntarily terminate your ACO Participation Agreement with an effective termination date of December 31, 2022, and apply for a new agreement period starting on January 1, 2023.

After you submit a NOIA, submit your application from June 8<sup>th</sup> through June 29<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 p.m. (noon) ET. Sample applications are available on the [Application Types & Timeline webpage](#) in addition to the [Application Toolkit](#) for the January 1, 2023 application cycle.

Please note that renewal and early renewal applicants will receive information and reminders throughout the application cycle via email to the following ACO-MS contacts: ACO Executive–Authorized Official, Application Contact (Primary and Secondary), Authorized to Sign (Primary and Secondary), CMS Liaison, and Financial Contact.

Information about the change request cycle will continue to be posted in the *ACO Spotlight Newsletter*.

### Actions Available During the Change Request Cycle Opening June 8<sup>th</sup> for PY 2023

The change request cycle for the performance year (PY) beginning on January 1, 2023, will open June 8, 2022. Currently participating ACOs may take the actions described in the [Change Request Cycle for Performance Year Beginning on January 1, 2023](#) (PDF) schedule, which can be found in the Program Operational Schedules section of the Knowledge Library tab in [ACO-MS](#).

### Modifications to an ACO's Participant List and/or SNF Affiliate List

ACOs may modify their ACO Participant and/or Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Affiliate Lists during the change request cycle for the performance year beginning January 1, 2023. CMS reviews change requests for ACO participant and/or SNF affiliate additions during the established review cycle, which includes CMS feedback and the opportunity for ACOs to correct deficiencies in advance of the upcoming performance year.

**Note: The final opportunity for ACOs to submit new change requests to add ACO participants and/or SNF affiliates is during the Phase 1 first request for information (RFI-1) submission period, which ends on August 4, 2022, at 12:00 p.m. (noon) ET.** ACOs will have the opportunity to correct deficiencies identified for RFI-1 submissions during the RFI-2 response period; CMS will issue dispositions on participant and/or SNF affiliate change requests after RFI-2.

## Participation Options

ACOs may submit a Participation Options change request to:

- Change the ACO's selected beneficiary assignment methodology.
- Voluntarily elect a higher level within the BASIC track's glide path.
- Select the minimum savings rate (MSR)/minimum loss rate (MLR) for the remainder of the ACO's agreement period (only for ACOs moving from one-sided to two-sided risk).

For more information, refer to the [Overview of Participation Options in ACO-MS tip sheet](#) (PDF), available in the Program Resources section of the Knowledge Library tab in ACO-MS.

## Repayment Mechanism

ACOs automatically advancing from one-sided to two-sided risk level (Level C, D or E) on the BASIC track's glide path will have a Participation Options change request automatically generated on their dashboard.

All ACOs moving to a two-sided risk level will need to submit a participation options change request to select their MSR/MLR; ACO-MS will automatically create a task for the ACO to submit draft repayment mechanism documentation. Within the task, ACOs can download template repayment documentation that will automatically populate some of the ACO's information. CMS strongly encourages ACOs to submit draft repayment mechanism documentation, preferably in a Microsoft Word document, early on in the change request cycle. This will allow additional time for reviewers to provide feedback on documentation and for the ACO to resolve any issues.

## SNF 3-Day Rule Waiver and/or BIP Applications

Eligible currently participating ACOs may apply for a SNF 3-Day Rule Waiver and/or to establish and operate a Beneficiary Incentive Program (BIP) without renewing their participation in the Shared Savings Program. To apply for a SNF 3-Day Rule Waiver, ACOs must elect to apply for a SNF 3-Day Rule Waiver application and must add SNF affiliates by the Phase 1 RFI-1 **deadline on August 4, 2022, at 12:00 p.m. (noon) ET.**

ACOs have the opportunity to submit a BIP application during Phase 2 of the application process.

## Additional Resources

The [Change Request Cycle for Performance Year Beginning on January 1, 2023](#) schedule outlines the actions available and deadline dates applicable to the change request cycle. Please note that all dates are subject to change. Additional resources can be found on the [Program Guidance & Specifications webpage](#), including the updated [ACO Participant List and Participant Agreement Guidance](#), [Skilled Nursing Facility 3-Day Rule Waiver Guidance](#), [Repayment Mechanism Arrangements Guidance](#), and [Beneficiary Incentive Program Guidance](#). CMS has also released updates to the [Submitting Change Requests in ACO-MS](#) and [Adding ACO Participants & SNF Affiliates in ACO-MS tip sheets](#) (PDFs). Both documents are available in the Program Resources section of the Knowledge Library tab in ACO-MS.

## Managing Changes to ACO Governing Body in ACO-MS: New Functionality Available June 8<sup>th</sup>

Starting June 8, 2022, ACOs can manage changes to their governing body throughout the year, including notifying CMS of any changes, by submitting a governing body change request in [ACO-MS](#).

This new functionality will be available to any ACO contact. To submit a governing body change request, the ACO contact may select the My ACOs tab in ACO-MS, navigate to the Agreement Details subtab for their ACO, and select the pencil icon within the new Governing Body section to view, edit, or add members to the ACO's governing body. ACOs that submitted an initial or renewal application for a start date of January 1, 2022, will have their governing body information

pre-populated within the change request. All other currently participating ACOs may select the “View existing governing body” option to refer to the ACO’s latest governing body information available in ACO-MS.

If the composition of the ACO’s governing body does not meet the 75 percent participant control or Medicare beneficiary requirements set forth in [42 CFR §§ 425.106\(c\)\(2\)](#) and [425.106\(c\)\(3\)](#), the ACO is required to upload an exception narrative (addressing the information specified in [42 CFR § 425.106\(c\)\(5\)](#)) within the change request.

ACOs cannot submit more than one governing body change request at a time. The pending change request must be approved or denied by CMS or withdrawn by the ACO before submitting another change request. Only the ACO contact who submitted the governing body change request and the ACO Executive, CMS Liaison, and Authorized to Sign (Primary and Secondary) contacts for the ACO may withdraw the change request once it is submitted for CMS disposition. Additionally, if an ACO elects to apply for renewal or early renewal, they will be unable to submit a governing body change request and should plan to submit any governing body changes for CMS’ review and disposition during Phase 2 of the Shared Savings Program Application Cycle.

For additional information on how to submit change requests in ACO-MS, ACOs may refer to the [Submitting Change Requests in ACO-MS tip sheet](#) (PDF), available in the Program Resources section of the Knowledge Library tab in ACO-MS.

As a reminder, when making changes to their governing body, ACOs should also plan to complete any necessary updates to their public reporting webpage, in accordance with [42 CFR § 425.308](#).

## EVENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### SDOH Information Exchange: Technical Infrastructure and Interoperability

TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2022, 1:00 P.M.–2:30 P.M. EASTERN TIME

- [Register Here](#)
- **Audience:** Shared Savings Program ACOs
- **Description:** Join the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology’s (ONC) Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Information Exchange Learning Forum, which will bring together health care providers, community-based organizations, government, payers, health information exchange networks, IT platform developers, innovators, and other partners to share lessons learned, promising practices, and challenges related to exchanging SDOH data. For additional information about the monthly series, visit the [ONC SDOH Information Exchange Learning Forum webpage](#).

## CONTACT INFORMATION FOR ACOs

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### 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](mailto: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 MIPS survey, quality measures, quality reporting for 2017 and future years, and CMS Web Interface
- 1-866-288-8292

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