

AT A GLANCE

UPCOMING DEADLINES

- **Application Submissions to Shared Savings Program for a January 1, 2024 Start Date**
Due: May 18–June 15, 2023

EVENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Shared Savings Program: Navigating the Application Webinar**

May 8th | 1:00 p.m.–2:30 p.m. ET | [Register](#)

- **SSP Learning System Shared Learning Webinar: Caring for Patients with Alzheimer's and Alzheimer's Disease Related Dementias**

May 25th | 3:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m. ET | [Register](#)

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RESOURCES

- [Updated Shared Savings and Losses, Assignment and Quality Performance Standard Methodology Specifications: Now Available](#)
- [Phasing Out the Shared Savings Program Telephone Support](#)
- [Summary of the VBC Learning System Webinar: Making the Business Case for Addressing Health Disparities](#)
- [Seeking ACO Speakers for Summer Virtual Learning Collaboratives](#)

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RESOURCES

Updated Shared Savings and Losses, Assignment and Quality Performance Standard Methodology Specifications: Now Available

CMS has posted Version 11 (V11) of the [Shared Savings and Losses, Assignment and Quality Performance Standard Methodology Specifications](#) on the Shared Savings Program's [Program Guidance & Specifications webpage](#).

This resource provides updates on the Shared Savings Program's beneficiary assignment and financial methodology, the quality performance standard, and application of the Health Equity Adjustment. This guidance is relevant to ACOs participating in a performance year beginning on January 1, 2023, and subsequent performance years, and incorporates applicable changes included in the [Calendar Year \(CY\) 2023 Physician Fee Schedule Final Rule \(87 FR 69404\)](#).

Phasing Out the Shared Savings Program Telephone Support

SSP Helpdesk support for the CMS Shared Savings Program via telephone number 1-888-734-6433 will end as of July 26, 2023. CMS will be launching a new and enhanced customer service system in the [ACO Management System \(ACO-MS\)](#) to support and assist ACOs. Assistance for the CMS Shared Savings Program will continue to be available by clicking on the SSP Helpdesk icon in ACO-MS, or through the ACO Information Center via email at SharedSavingsProgram@cms.hhs.gov to submit a ticket. Currently participating ACOs are encouraged to contact their ACO Coordinator for direct, one-on-one assistance.

Summary of the VBC Learning System Webinar: Making the Business Case for Addressing Health Disparities

This summary describes the cross-model health equity webinar, which focused on how value-based care (VBC) entities are building a business case for addressing health disparities in their beneficiary population. This webinar featured two entity speakers, Dialysis Clinic, Inc. (DCI) from the Kidney Care Choices (KCC) Model, and Temple Center for Population Health (TPCH) from the ACO Realizing Equity, Access, and Community Health (REACH) Model, who shared how they have approached this topic at their organizations.

The webinar summary and other materials can be found under the “Webinars” resource type by searching for “making the business case for addressing health disparities” in the Knowledge Library tab in [ACO-MS](#).

Seeking ACO Speakers for Summer Virtual Learning Collaboratives

The VBC Learning System is pleased to announce the summer virtual learning collaborative (VLC) series. The Learning System will host four VLCs in July and August, convening ACOs across the country to exchange ideas and collaborate on strategies to address health-related social needs (HRSNs) among their beneficiaries. CMS is seeking ACOs to participate in a panel discussion related to building HRSN-focused initiatives. Topics may include, but are not limited to, identifying beneficiary needs, ensuring leadership buy-in, building external partnerships, and establishing referral processes.

Does your ACO have a HRSN-focused story to share?

Please express interest by completing the [speaker interest form](#) by close of business Friday, May 19th. If your proposal is selected, a member of the VBC Learning System team will contact you to discuss a potential presentation. Please reach out to Juliana Conway (JConway@mathematica-mpr.com) with any questions.

Save the dates for the upcoming VLCs!

Registration details are forthcoming. ACOs are encouraged to register for the **one** meeting that works best for them. All meetings will occur virtually from 1:00–3:30 p.m. Eastern Time (ET):

- July 13, 2023
- July 27, 2023
- August 10, 2023
- August 24, 2023

EVENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Shared Savings Program: Navigating the Application Webinar

MONDAY, MAY 8, 2023, 1:00 P.M.–2:30 P.M. EASTERN TIME

- [Register Here](#)
- **Audience:** This event is open to any ACO interested in applying to the Shared Savings Program, but will specifically address the experience of **initial applicant ACOs** from registration through application certification in ACO-MS.
- **Description:** Learn how to use the [Application Toolkit](#) to prepare your application for the upcoming cycle. CMS will also discuss the new Advance Investment Payments option to encourage health care providers in rural and underserved areas to join together as ACOs.

SSP Learning System Shared Learning Webinar: Caring for Patients with Alzheimer’s and Alzheimer’s Disease Related Dementias

THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2023, 3:00 P.M.–4:00 P.M. EASTERN TIME

- [Register Here](#)
- **Audience:** This event is open to all Shared Savings Program ACO staff. Team members supporting patients with Alzheimer’s Disease and Alzheimer’s Disease Related Dementias (AD/ADRD) or participating in care management efforts may be most interested in attending.
- **Description:** Join us on Thursday, May 25th at 3:00 p.m. ET for a webinar highlighting how ACOs care for patients with AD/ADRD. ACO presenters will discuss how their teams structure care management specific to patients with AD/ADRD, engage family and caregivers in a patient’s care, and support the daily care of patients with AD/ADRD. Attendees will have an opportunity to ask questions during the webinar.

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 SSP 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

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, APMs, MACRA, CAHPS® for MIPS survey, quality measures, quality reporting for 2017 and future years, and CMS Web Interface
- 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

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