

## AT A GLANCE

---

### UPCOMING DEADLINES

- **CAHPS for MIPS Survey Vendor Authorization**  
Due: **September 13, 2023, at 8:00 p.m. ET**
- **Share Your Experiences Using Financial Performance Data**  
Due: **September 15, 2023**
- **Update ACO's Public Reporting Webpage**  
Due: **September 25, 2023**

### EVENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

- None

### PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RESOURCES

- [CAHPS® for MIPS Survey Vendor Authorization Tool: Opened August 8<sup>th</sup>](#)
- [Public Reporting Webpage Updates: Due September 25<sup>th</sup>](#)
- [Updates to SNF 3-Day Rule Billing Fact Sheet: Now Available](#)
- [Share Your Experiences Using Financial Performance Data](#)
- [HIPAA Breach Reporting Tool](#)
- [September CCLF Files](#)

## PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RESOURCES

---

### CAHPS® for MIPS Survey Vendor Authorization: Due September 13<sup>th</sup>

Your ACO's Primary Authorized to Sign (ATS) contact or their designee must authorize a vendor using the Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS) for Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) Survey web-based Vendor Authorization Tool by **Wednesday, September 13, 2023, at 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET)**.

Each ACO's Primary ATS contact should have received an individualized link to access the online Vendor Authorization Tool from [mips-cahps@rand.org](mailto:mips-cahps@rand.org) (if a Primary ATS was not designated, the link was sent to the Secondary ATS or ACO Executive).

The list of [2023 CAHPS for MIPS Survey Approved Vendors](#) is available in the [QPP Resource Library](#). If you have questions about selecting a survey vendor or completing the vendor authorization process, please contact [mips-cahps@rand.org](mailto:mips-cahps@rand.org), (888) 580-7732, or your ACO Coordinator.

### Public Reporting Webpage Updates: Due September 25<sup>th</sup>

Pursuant to [42 CFR § 425.308](#), ACOs participating in the Shared Savings Program are required to publicly report ACO organizational information and financial and quality performance results on a designated webpage. ACOs that received the *PY 2022 Unembargoed Financial Reconciliation Settlement and Quality Performance Reports* must update their public reporting webpage to reflect this information. The deadline to update your ACO's public reporting webpage is **Monday, September 25, 2023**.

ACOs must use the [PY 2023 Public Reporting Instructions and Template](#), Version 7 (V7), to update their public reporting webpage. This document, now located in the Public Reporting section of the CMS.gov [Program Guidance & Specifications webpage](#), includes instructions on how to populate the template and the locations of some ACO-specific information.

ACOs may contact their ACO Coordinators with any public reporting questions. In addition, refer to 42 CFR § 425.308 for details on public reporting requirements. All ACOs must update their public reporting webpage during the performance year when changes occur and make any necessary corresponding updates in the [ACO Management System \(ACO-MS\)](#).

## Updates to SNF 3-Day Rule Billing Fact Sheet: Now Available

In July, CMS updated the [Skilled Nursing Facility 3-Day Rule Billing Fact Sheet](#). The fact sheet can be found on the CMS.gov [Outreach and Education Medical Learning Network \(MLN\) Publications & Multimedia webpage](#) by entering “3 Day” in the “Filter On” search box.

In this latest version, CMS has added Place of Service (POS) code information, including the POS codes frequently associated with Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) extended care services. These contain inpatient hospital (code 21), SNF with Part A coverage (code 31), and nursing facility or SNF with no Part A coverage (code 32).

The *Skilled Nursing Facility 3-Day Rule Billing Fact Sheet* includes information on the following topics:

- Covered SNF services
- SNF 3-Day Rule Waiver options
- Communicating SNF services coverage rules
- Medicare SNF claims processing
- Examples of inpatient and non-inpatient hospital days and SNF claims reporting
- POS codes
- Financial responsibility without a qualifying stay
- Additional resources for SNF 3-Day Rule billing

## Share Your Experiences Using Financial Performance Data

The Quality Payment Program (QPP) Human-Centered Design (HCD) team wants to learn about how Medicare Shared Savings Program ACOs and their participating practices engage with financial performance data and control costs. Sign up by Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup> to [share your thoughts and experiences with the team](#).

## HIPAA Breach Reporting Tool

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Breach Reporting Tool (HBRT) is available to help healthcare entities better identify breaches of health information and learn how these breaches are investigated and resolved. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office for Civil Rights (OCR) created this tool to provide information about reported security breaches available to entities covered by HIPAA. The HBRT highlights breaches currently under investigation and reported within the last 24 months, as well as maintains an archive that includes all past breaches and information about how these breaches were resolved.

CMS encourages ACOs to share this tool with their participants to stay informed about current security threats and to use the tool if a breach occurs. If a breach occurs, ACOs can utilize the beneficiary Cross-reference (XREF) file (CCLF9) which provides a crosswalk between all old Medicare Beneficiary Identifiers (MBIs) and the most recent MBI for a beneficiary. For additional information on HIPAA breach notification, visit the [HIPAA Breach Notification Rule webpage](#).

## September CCLF Files

September Claim and Claim Line Feed (CCLF) files for the Performance Year (PY) 2023 assignable or prospectively assigned beneficiaries will be made available to ACOs in the Data Hub tab of [ACO-MS](#).

The delivery timeline for the CCLF, Exclusion, and MBI XREF files are as follows:

FILE	DELIVERY	FILE NAMING CONVENTION	DATA HUB PY	USER FRIENDLY FILE NAMING CONVENTION
PY 2023 Beneficiary Exclusion and MBI XREF files	Week of September 11 <sup>th</sup>	P.A****.ACO.MBIY23.Dyymmdd.Thhmsst P.A****.BNEX.Y23.Dyymmdd.Thhmsst	2023	Excluded Beneficiary MBI XREF File delivered in September 2023 (txt)  Beneficiary Data Sharing Exclusion File delivered in September 2023 (xml)

FILE	DELIVERY	FILE NAMING CONVENTION	DATA HUB PY	USER FRIENDLY FILE NAMING CONVENTION
PY 2023 CCLFs	Week of September 18 <sup>th</sup>	P.A****.ACO.ZCY23.Dyymmdd. Thhmsst	2023	CCLF delivered in September 2023 (zip)

ACOs should refer to V36 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 Program Resources section in the Knowledge Library tab of ACO-MS. For technical assistance, please contact the ACO Information Center using the SSP Helpdesk icon (located within the ACO-MS banner).

## CONTACT INFORMATION FOR ACOs

### ACO Coordinator

For questions regarding the Shared Savings Program, **your ACO Coordinator is your first line of contact**. For further assistance, reach out to the SSP Helpdesk or Quality Payment Program (QPP) Service Center. 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 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](mailto: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

*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](mailto:SharedSavingsProgram@cms.hhs.gov).*