



Louisiana Medicaid Electronic Health Records (EHR) Incentive Program

Money Available for Building, Enhancing Electronic Health Records Systems

The **Louisiana Medicaid Electronic Health Records (EHR) Incentive Program** will provide payments to eligible medical professionals and hospitals for adopting, implementing or upgrading certified EHR technology during their first year of participation and demonstrating meaningful use of EHR in subsequent years.

Through electronic health records, providers can enhance care coordination and patient safety, reduce their paperwork, improve efficiency and establish faster, more effective lines of communication across providers, payers and state lines.

Program highlights:

- ▶ Eligible providers and hospitals can register to participate in Louisiana's Medicaid EHR Incentive Program beginning in **January 2011**.
- ▶ An eligible provider can receive up to \$63,750 over six years under the program. Providers' EHR incentive payments are made by the state based on the calendar year. To receive the maximum payment, providers must enroll by 2016.
- ▶ An eligible hospital may begin receiving EHR incentive payments starting in FY 2011 through FY 2016, but payments will decrease for hospitals that start receiving payments in 2014 or later. Hospital payments are based on many factors, beginning with a \$2 million base payment. Hospital payments are made by the state based on the federal fiscal year.

What Should Providers/Hospitals Do to Get Started?

1. **Visit the eligibility page at www.cms.gov to determine if you meet the requirements for participation.** Eligible providers include physicians (primarily doctors of medicine or osteopathy), nurse practitioners, certified nurse-midwives, dentists, and physician assistants who practice in a federally qualified health center or rural health clinic led by a physician assistant. Eligible hospitals include children's hospitals and acute care hospitals.
2. **Make sure you have enrollment records in the appropriate systems:** National Provider Identifier; National Plan and Provider Enumeration System; and Provider Enrollment, Chain and Enrollment System.
3. **Get certified to use EHR technology.** Contact the Louisiana Health Information Technology Resource Center, provided through the Louisiana Health Care Quality Forum, at rec@lhcf.org to inquire about training and certification.

For more information about how to participate in this program and receive payments, contact Tyler Carruth, Louisiana Medicaid EHR Incentive Payment Program, at 225-342-4810 or tyler.carruth@la.gov, or visit www.lamedicaid.com.

