



Louisiana Medicaid Electronic Health Records Incentive Program

Through the Louisiana Medicaid Electronic Health Records (EHR) Incentive Program, eligible medical professionals and hospitals with qualifying Medicaid patient volume can receive incentive payments for adopting/ implementing/upgrading and meaningfully using certified EHR technology.

Eligible Professionals (EPs) are:

- Physicians
- Nurse Practitioners
- Certified Nurse-Midwives
- Dentists
- Optometrists
- Physician Assistants (in FQHC/RHC led by a physician assistant).

Eligible Hospitals include:

- Critical Access Hospitals
- Acute Care Hospitals
- Children's Hospitals.

To learn more about the program, click [here](#).

Important Dates for Providers

Program Deadline for 1st Time Participants is December 31, 2016

- **Deadline** to begin participation in the program is **December 31, 2016**. If the provider fails to attest for the first time by December 31st, he/she will not be able to participate in the future.
- A provider can participate in Program Year 2017 and beyond **only** if he/she has successfully attested during a prior program year.
- A provider can attest **only** to meaningful use in Program Year 2017 and beyond.

Program Year 2017		
	Start Date	End Date
Eligible Professional	April 1, 2017	March 31, 2018
Eligible Hospital	January 1, 2017	December 31, 2017

Important Dates for Collaborators

- **Deadline** to receive \$2,000 for facilitating a successful attestation for Adoption/Implementation/Upgrade is **December 31, 2016**. The provider must have submitted the successful attestation on or before December 31st for the collaborator to receive payment.
- Beginning January 1, 2017 and ending September 30, 2018, collaborators will receive a payment of \$3,500 for each facilitated Meaningful Use attestation.

What Should Providers Do to Get Started?

Before applying with Louisiana Medicaid for an incentive payment, a provider must first register with CMS. If the provider hasn't registered, click [here](#) to register with CMS. After registering, please allow 1 to 2 days for CMS to transfer registration information to Louisiana. To attest to the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program, the provider must go to laconnect.thinkhts.com and click on the red Provider Login button. **IMPORTANT:** Eligible Professionals (EPs) must log in using their individual Medicaid Provider ID or NPI. EPs must not log in using group or practice credentials. After successfully logging in, a provider will be able to access LAConnect. LAConnect is the online portal where Louisiana's eligible professionals and eligible hospitals can apply for EHR incentive payments.

Payment

Eligible Professionals can receive up to \$63,750 over a six-year period. The first payment of \$21,250 is received for either adoption/implementation/upgrade or meaningful use. All subsequent payments of \$8,500 are received for meeting certain meaningful use criteria established by CMS. Only one incentive payment is received annually or within a program year. A program year for an EP runs from April 1 through March 31.

Audit

Incentive payments are subject to review by Myers and Stauffer LC, an audit firm under contract with Louisiana Medicaid. Myers and Stauffer auditors are currently reviewing payments. If selected for review, you will receive a notification letter from Myers and Stauffer with instructions on required documentation. In addition to reviews conducted by Myers and Stauffer, incentive payments are subject to review and audit by external oversight bodies, such as Louisiana Legislative Auditor and Office of Inspector General. As a recipient of an incentive payment, you are required to comply with these reviews and grant access to the auditors as needed. You must retain documentation to support your eligibility for each payment for six years after receipt of your final incentive payment. Click [here](#) for EP Audit Tips.