



QPP Resource Center: MACRA Minute

February 2020



2019 Data Submission

On January 2, 2020, CMS opened the QPP Portal for submission of 2019 performance year data. Data can be submitted or updated any time until March 31, 2020 at 7 p.m. CST when the submission window closes. To submit data, sign into the [QPP Portal](#) with your HARP credentials.

Please Note:

There is no submit button to select after submitting your data. Make sure to print each category submission screen and the overview screen to ensure you have a record of all data submitted.

If you have questions, please reference the [2019 Data Submission FAQs](#), or the following videos:

- [Telligen Data Submission Presentation](#)
- [Introduction and Overview of 2019 Data Submission](#)
- [File Upload and Quality Scoring](#)
- [Manual Attestation of Improvement Activities](#)
- [Manual Attestation of Promoting Interoperability](#)

If you need help enrolling with HARP, please refer to the QPP Access User Guide.

2020 Payment Adjustments

MIPS payment adjustments for 2020 are now being applied to payments made for Part B covered professional services payable under the Physician Fee Schedule. These payments are based on MIPS eligible clinicians' 2018 final score.

Payment adjustments are determined by the final score associated with your Taxpayer Identification Number/National Provider Identifier combination.

In July 2019, each Merit-based Incentive Payment System eligible clinician received a 2018 MIPS Final Score and associated payment adjustment factor(s) as part of their 2018 MIPS performance feedback, available on the [Quality Payment Program website](#).

If you have questions, please refer to the 2020 MIPS Payment Adjustment Factsheet

Telligen Presentations

[Deep Dive Into MIPS Data Submission for Year 3](#)

This video provides an overview on how to successfully report Merit-based Incentive Payment System data for the Quality Improvement Activities and the Promoting Interoperability performance categories. It also provides answers to common questions surrounding MIPS data submission.

CMS Webinars



Please join the CMS February LAN event.

2019 MIPS Data Submission; Advice for Solo and Small Group Practices

- [Thursday, February 20, 2020 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. CST](#)

2020 MIPS Measures and Activities on the Explore Measures Tool on QPP Website



CMS has updated the [Explore Measures Tool](#) on the Quality Payment Program [website](#) for the 2020 performance period. The tool now includes 2020 MIPS measures and activities for the four performance categories:

- [Quality](#)
- [Cost](#)
- [Improvement Activities](#)
- [Promoting Interoperability](#)

New Resources: Available in the QPP Library

The following resources were updated or added in January:

- [2019 MIPS Scoring Guide](#)
- [2019 MIPS 101 Guide](#)
- [2020 MIPS Payment Adjustment Fact Sheet](#)
- [2020 Cost Quick Start Guide](#)
- [2019 Data Submission FAQs](#)
- [2020 Eligibility and Participation Quick Start Guide](#)
- [2020 Improvement Activities Quick Start Guide](#)
- [2020 Quality Quick Start Guide](#)

Quality Measures Tip: New Measures & Activities for 2020

Continuing our in-depth look at new measures and activities for the year, this month we will look at the new Improvement Activity:

Tracking of clinician's relationship to and responsibility for a patient by reporting MACRA patient relationship codes (IA_CC_19).

For this high-weighted activity, a MIPS eligible clinician must attest that he/she reported MACRA patient relationship codes using the applicable HCPCS modifiers on:

- 50 percent or more of their Medicare claims
- Continuous 90-day period at a minimum, within the performance period

Reporting patient relationship code modifiers enables:

- the identification of a clinician's relationship AND
- responsibility for a patient at the time of furnishing an item or service

CMS encourages providers to use these codes so patients and episodes can be properly attributed to clinicians. Since this is a high-weighted activity, small practices will earn the full 40 points for its completion.

CMS encourages you to submit Promoting Interoperability Measures and Improvement Activities for consideration for future years of the Merit-based Incentive Payment System.

The MIPS Annual Call for Measures and Activities process allows clinicians, professional associations and medical societies that represent clinicians, researchers, consumer groups and others identify and submit measures and activities. Currently, CMS is accepting submissions for:

- **Promoting Interoperability:** CMS is looking for specific measures that build on the advanced use of certified EHR technology using 2015 Edition Certification Standards and Criteria:
 - promote interoperability and health information exchange
 - improve program efficiency, effectiveness and flexibility
 - provide patients access to their health information
 - reduce clinician burden
 - align with MIPS Improvement Activities and Quality performance categories
- **Improvement Activities:** CMS is looking for activities that can be considered higher than the standard of care. Sets of practices or activities being proposed for consideration should exceed defined, commonly accepted guidelines for level of quality or attainment in clinical care or quality improvement guidelines. CMS will not accept duplicate concepts to existing or retired activities.

How to Submit Measures and Activities

If you're interested in proposing new measures and activities for MIPS, review the 2020 Call for Measures and Activities Overview Fact Sheet in this toolkit. Fill out and submit forms from the toolkit for the following performance categories during the submission period of, February 1-July 1 2020.

This material was prepared by Telligent QPP-SURS Resource Center, the Quality Payment Program for Iowa, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota, under contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. The contents presented do not necessarily reflect CMS policy. HHSM-500-2017-00012C.

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