

**441—79.16 (249A) Electronic health record incentive program.** The department has elected to participate in the electronic health record (EHR) incentive program authorized under Section 4201 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), Public Law No. 111-5. The electronic health record incentive program provides incentive payments to eligible hospitals and professionals participating in the Iowa Medicaid program that adopt and successfully demonstrate meaningful use of certified electronic health record technology.

**79.16(1) State elections.** In addition to the statutory provisions in ARRA Section 4201, the electronic health record incentive program is governed by federal regulations at 42 CFR Part 495 as published in the Federal Register, Vol. 75, No. 144, on July 28, 2010. In compliance with the requirements of federal law, the department establishes the following state options under the Iowa electronic health record incentive program:

*a.* For purposes of the term “hospital-based eligible professional (EP)” as set forth in 42 CFR Section 495.4 as amended to July 28, 2010, the department elects the calendar year preceding the payment year as the period used to calculate whether or not an eligible professional is “hospital-based” for purposes of the regulation.

*b.* For purposes of calculating patient volume as required by 42 CFR Section 495.306 as amended to July 28, 2010, eligible providers may elect to use either:

- (1) The methodology found in 42 CFR Section 495.306(c) as amended to July 28, 2010, or
- (2) The methodology found in 42 CFR Section 495.306(d) as amended to July 28, 2010.

*c.* For purposes of 42 CFR Section 495.310(g)(1)(i)(B) as amended to July 28, 2010, the “12-month period selected by the state” shall mean the hospital fiscal year.

*d.* For purposes of 42 CFR Section 495.310(g)(2)(i) as amended to July 28, 2010, the “12-month period selected by the state” shall mean the hospital fiscal year.

**79.16(2) Eligible providers.** To be deemed an “eligible provider” for the electronic health record incentive program, a provider must satisfy the applicable criterion in each paragraph of this subrule:

- a.* The provider must be currently enrolled as an Iowa Medicaid provider.
- b.* The provider must be one of the following:

- (1) An eligible professional, listed as:

1. A physician,
2. A dentist,
3. A certified nurse midwife,
4. A nurse practitioner, or
5. A physician assistant practicing in a federally qualified health center or a rural health clinic

when the physician assistant is the primary provider, clinical or medical director, or owner of the site.

- (2) An acute care hospital, defined as a health care facility where the average length of stay is 25 days or fewer, which has a CMS certification number with the last four digits in the series 0001-0879 or 1300-1399.

- (3) A children’s hospital, defined as a separately certified children’s hospital, either freestanding or a hospital-within-hospital, that predominately treats individuals under 21 years of age and has a CMS certification number with the last four digits in the series 3300-3399.

*c.* For the year for which the provider is applying for an incentive payment:

- (1) An acute care hospital must have 10 percent Medicaid patient volume.

- (2) An eligible professional must have at least 30 percent of the professional’s patient volume covered by Medicaid, except that:

1. A pediatrician must have at least 20 percent Medicaid patient volume. For purposes of this subrule, a “pediatrician” is a physician who is board-certified in pediatrics by the American Board of Pediatrics or the American Osteopathic Board of Pediatrics or who is eligible for board certification.

2. When a professional has at least 50 percent of patient encounters in a federally qualified health center or rural health clinic, patients who were furnished services either at no cost or at a reduced cost based on a sliding scale or ability to pay, patients covered by the HAWK-I program, and Medicaid members may be counted to meet the 30 percent threshold.

**79.16(3) *Application and agreement.*** Any eligible provider who wants to participate in the Iowa electronic health record incentive program must declare the intent to participate by registering with the National Level Repository, as developed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). CMS will notify the department of an eligible provider's application for the incentive payment.

*a.* Upon receipt of an application for participation in the program, the department will contact the applicant with instructions for accessing the EHR incentive payment program section of the Iowa Medicaid portal access (IMPA) Web site at <https://secureapp.dhs.state.ia.us/impa/>. The applicant shall use the Web site to:

- (1) Attest to the applicant's qualifications to receive the incentive payment, and
- (2) Digitally sign Form 470-4976, Iowa Electronic Health Record Incentive Program Provider Agreement.

*b.* For the second year of participation, the eligible provider must submit meaningful use and clinical quality measures to the department, either through attestation or electronically as required by the department.

*c.* The department shall verify the applicant's eligibility, including patient volume and practice type, and the applicant's use of certified electronic health record technology.

**79.16(4) *Payment.*** The department shall issue the incentive payment only after confirming that all eligibility and performance criteria have been satisfied. Payments will be processed and paid to the tax identification number designated by the applicant. The department will communicate the payment or denial of payment to the National Level Repository.

*a.* The primary communication channel from the department to the provider will be the IMPA Web site. If the department finds that the applicant is ineligible or has failed to achieve the criteria necessary for the payment, the department shall notify the provider through the Web site. Providers shall access the Web site to determine the status of their payment, including whether the department denied payment and the reason for the denial.

*b.* Providers must retain records supporting their eligibility for the incentive payment for a minimum of six years. The department will select providers for audit after issuance of an incentive payment. Incentive recipients shall cooperate with the department by providing proof of:

- (1) Eligibility,
- (2) Purchase of certified electronic health record technology, and
- (3) Meaningful use of electronic health record technology.

**79.16(5) *Administrative appeal.*** Any eligible provider or any provider that claims to be an eligible provider and who has been subject to an adverse action related to the Iowa electronic health record incentive program may seek review of the department's action pursuant to 441—Chapter 7. Appealable issues include:

- a.* Provider eligibility determination.
- b.* Incentive payments.
- c.* Demonstration of adopting, implementing, upgrading and meaningful use of technology.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 249A.4 and Public Law No. 111-5.