



EHR Incentive Programs

A program of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Idaho Medicaid EHR Incentive Program Overview

Through provisions of ARRA designed to encourage healthcare providers to use health information technology, CMS implemented incentive payments to EPs and EOs that are participating in Medicare and Medicaid programs and are meaningful users of CEHRT. The incentive payments are not a reimbursement; rather they are intended to encourage EOs to adopt, implement, or upgrade a CEHRT and use it in a meaningful manner.

Goals for the national program include:

- Reduce paperwork and improve efficiencies
- Enhance care coordination and patient safety
- Enable data sharing using the state HIE and the NHIN
- Facilitate electronic information sharing across hospitals, payers, and state lines

Achieving these goals will improve health outcomes, facilitate access, simplify care, and reduce the costs of health care nationwide. Idaho Medicaid will work closely with federal and state partners to ensure the Idaho Medicaid EHR Incentive Program fits into the overall strategic plan for the HIE exchange, thereby advancing national and Idaho goals for HIE.

The Medicaid EHR Incentive Programs provide incentive payments to EPs, EOs, and CAHs as they adopt, implement, upgrade or demonstrate MU of CEHRT. There are two EHR Incentive Programs. CMS oversees the Medicare EHR Incentive Program, and the state Medicaid agencies (IDHW) manage the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. The two programs are similar, but there are some differences between them. The Medicaid EHR Incentive Program provides incentive payments for certain Medicaid health care providers to adopt and use EHR technology in ways that can positively affect patient care.

For more information, see the presentation at https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/EHRIncentivePrograms/Downloads/EHR_Medicaid_Guide_Remediated_2012.pdf.

More information about the Idaho Medicaid EHR Incentive Program can be found at <http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/default.aspx?TabId=1405>.



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