

PECOS ENROLLMENT REQUIRED FOR MEDICARE ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD (EHR) INCENTIVE PROGRAM - ONE MORE REASON TO ESTABLISH YOUR ENROLLMENT RECORD IN PECOS

The Recovery Act of 2009 established CMS programs under Medicare and Medicaid to provide incentive payments for the “meaningful use” of certified EHR technology. These EHR incentive programs will provide incentive payments to eligible professionals and eligible hospitals as they demonstrate adoption, implementation, upgrading or meaningful use of certified EHR technology.

While more detail on the EHR incentive program is forthcoming in the impending final rule, CMS is announcing that Provider Enrollment, Chain and Ownership System (PECOS) records will be used to verify Medicare enrollment prior to making Medicare EHR incentive payments. **Your hospital’s enrollment information must be in PECOS, so act now if your hospital does not have an enrollment record in this system.**

Enrolled in Medicare before November 2003?

Medicare hospitals and critical access hospitals which enrolled in Medicare before November 2003 **AND have not updated Medicare enrollment information since then**, do NOT have an enrollment record in PECOS. **Act now to establish an enrollment record in PECOS.** For instructions, go to www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareProviderSupEnroll , click on “Tips to Facilitate the Medicare Enrollment Process” under “Downloads.”

If your hospital enrolled in Medicare after November 2003, or enrolled before November 2003 and has updated its Medicare enrollment information since November 2003, no further action is required.

If you are unsure, here are ways to verify that your hospital has an enrollment record in PECOS:

1. Use Internet-based PECOS to look for your hospital’s PECOS enrollment record. (You will need to first set up your access to Internet-based PECOS.) If no record is displayed, your hospital does not have an enrollment record in PECOS. Go to <http://www.cms.gov/MedicareProviderSupEnroll> , click on “Internet-based PECOS” on the left, for information on using Internet-based PECOS.
2. Contact your designated Medicare enrollment contractor and ask if your hospital has an enrollment record in PECOS. Go to <http://www.cms.gov/MedicareProviderSupEnroll> , click on “Medicare Fee-For-Service Contact Information” under “Downloads.”

Note: If you have submitted an enrollment application within the last 90 days, and your enrollment application has been accepted for processing by the fiscal intermediary or A/B MAC, you need not take any additional actions based on this listserv message.

Information on how to establish an enrollment record in PECOS can be found at http://questions.cms.hhs.gov/app/answers/detail/a_id/9909 on the CMS website.

The Medicare & Medicaid EHR incentive programs are designed to support providers in this period of Health IT transition and instill the use of EHRs in meaningful ways to help our nation to improve the

quality, safety and efficiency of patient health care. More information on Medicare & Medicaid EHR incentive programs can be found at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Recovery/11_HealthIT.asp on the web