



maryland
health services
cost review commission

EQIP Primary Care (EQIP PC) Q&A Session

July 31, 2024

Agenda

1. EQIP PC Overview

- EQIP PC Background
- Application Timeline
- Resources

2. Q&A Session

- Submitted Questions
- Live Questions

EQIP PC Overview

What is EQIP PC?

- HSCRC, in collaboration with MDH and MDPCP, has worked with partners and stakeholders to design EQIP PC with the goal of creating new primary care access in underserved areas of the state.
- Under the proposed program the State is seeking a small number of organizations for a multi-year commitment under which the organization would receive start-up infrastructure funding in return for adding advanced primary care capacity in the designated areas.
- To streamline the State's approach to advanced primary care, the MDH MDPCP Management Office (PMO) will be overseeing EQIP PC, while HSCRC provides programmatic support.

** We have not received final approval for EQIP PC and, therefore, acceptance into this program for 2025 is contingent upon final CMS approval.*

Application Timeline

- RFA
Announcement:
July 18, 2024
- RFA Q&A
Opportunity: July
31, 2024
- Application
Deadline:
August 30, 2024
- Award
Notification:
October 1, 2024

July 18, 2024	HSCRC releases EQIP PC Program Application
July 31, 2024	Opportunity for potential participants to ask questions regarding the application
August 30, 2024	Deadline for EQIP PC Program Application
September 1 – September 30, 2024	Review Panel evaluates applications
October 1, 2024	HSCRC notifies successful applicants
October 1 – October 31, 2024	Selected organization(s) complete program enrollment (it will not be required to identify participating providers to enroll the organization)
October 1 – June 30, 2024	Participating providers are identified and vetted by CMS and initial subsidy payments are made based on agreed upon schedule (it is anticipated organizations would have until half-way through the first year of the program to meet initial provider recruitment goals)
December 15, 2024	Target date for initial payments (assumes completed enrollment process)
January 1, 2025	EQIP-PC Program measurement start date

Resources

- Official RFA sent out on July 18th is the primary policy document, not the previous workgroup slide decks.
 - RFA Materials also located on the [EQIP PC Website](#).
 - Slidedecks/recordings from the workgroup are for reference only.
- **Friday, August 30th** is the deadline for applications (Any mention of August 31 is incorrect)
- Reach out with questions to EQIP.PrimaryCare@maryland.gov



Q&A Session

Advanced Written Submission Questions – General

- What are the funds / payments intended to cover? A provider's salary? An entire clinic's costs? Subsidizing losses typically incurred when taking care of a rural population?
- Funding template: Not clear how to estimate per beneficiary payments (see bolded line below) - How do you recommend we estimate attribution? What are the payment amounts? Do they vary by risk tier? Are they equal to MDPCP?
- What is the timeline for getting a new practice actually set up? (Will take considerable time to hire, find space, etc.) When is this expected to be complete?
- When do you anticipate to hear back from CMS about program approval?
- How will shared savings be determined?
- What will the reporting requirements consist of?

Advanced Written Submission Questions – General/Application

- Do you recommend including letters of support from community organizations, etc in the application?
- Is there a suggested word count? Is it better to include detail or exercise brevity?
- Is there a suggested template for the workplan?
- With \$19m, do you have an idea of how many practices you hope to fund?
- How much of the request can be for infrastructure?
- How frequently will practices report to the PMO or to program organizers?
- Will annual financial reporting be required on how dollars are being or have been spent?
- Will practice coaches be part of this program, as they are with MDPCP?
- Do you have any more information on program oversight. They mentioned administration and structure to MDPCP. Will Medchi or the MDH set up a portal that includes attribution and practice performance?

Advanced Written Submission Questions – MDPCP Overlap

- Can a practice participate in both EQIP PC and MDPCP (with different NPIs)?
- The slides state that MDPCP practices will not qualify for the EQIP per-beneficiary payments. Is this true even for EQIP beneficiaries who are not attributed to MDPCP? (The attribution methodologies are very different)
- In the past HSCRC indicated that practices already participating in MDPCP would not be eligible for the PBPM payment in EQIP PC. The RFA states that "MDPCP practices may or may not be eligible to receive the Beneficiary Payments but are eligible for the infrastructure payment and shared savings payment." How will MDPCP practices that apply for the program know whether or not their will be eligible for the PBPM? What are the criteria that will be used to establish which practices will be eligible for the PBPM?
- If an EQIP PC practice exits MDPCP at some point (or never enters to begin with), what would the implications be? Would they need to pay back EQIP funds?

Live Questions

- Please ask any additional clarifying questions.