

URGENT MESSAGE! To All Eligible Professionals seeking to avoid Medicare payment adjustments

The Department of Social Services has received the following guidance from CMS intended to help support providers seeking to avoid Medicare payment adjustments by utilizing the Alternate Attestation option. CMS has stated:

In order to avoid payment adjustments, EPs attesting for the FIRST TIME to Meaningful Use (MU) in Program Year 2015 should attest through the CMS Registration and Attestation (R&A) system using the alternate Medicare attestation method before the March 11th deadline (EPs should submit their attestations by March 8th the latest to meet this deadline) to avoid Medicare payment adjustments in 2016.

EPs participating in the Medicaid EHR Incentive program attesting to AIU for Program Year 2015 may be subject to the Medicare payment adjustment as AIU attestations do not qualify as meeting MU requirements and thus do not prevent payment adjustments.

Due to the evolving information from CMS, the Department of Social Services **strongly advises** all EPs who are subject to the Medicare payment adjustment and planning to attest to Medicaid Meaningful Use in Program Year 2015 to also complete the Medicare alternate attestation via the CMS' R&A System by **March 8, 2016**.

EPs applying for MU for the first time will then need to re attest to the CT Medicaid EHR Incentive Program once MAPIR is open (May 31, 2016) in order to receive their Medicaid EHR Incentive payment for the 2015 EHR program year.

Important Deadline: It is strongly advised that EPs submit their alternate attestation no later than March 8, 2016 to meet the March 11, 2016 deadline CMS has established. The process of submitting a registration on the CMS website and completing the Medicare MU attestation takes **2 days**. Any alternate attestations received after the March 11, 2016 deadline will not be accepted by CMS and providers will be at risk for the payment adjustment.

The Department of Social Services is aware of the inconvenience this may cause. If you have additional questions on the Medicare Alternate Attestation and Payment Adjustment, please contact CMS at 1-888-734-6433 or visit their [website](#).

For any questions on attesting to Connecticut's Medicaid EHR Incentive Program, please contact the Program's Education & Outreach Coordinator, Mike Flynn @ Michael.flynn@ct.gov or by phone at (860) 424-5265.