



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH & WELFARE**

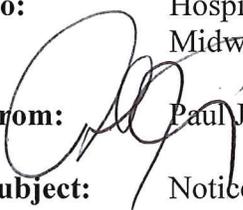
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July 10, 2012

**MEDICAID INFORMATION RELEASE MA12-10**

**To:** Hospitals, Physicians, Physician Assistants, Nurse Practitioners, Certified Nurse Midwives, and Dentists

**From:**  Paul J. Leary, Administrator

**Subject:** Notice of Electronic Health Records Incentive Payments

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), promotes adoption of Electronic Health Record (EHR) technology in documenting patient care. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has implemented, through provisions of ARRA, incentive payments to eligible Medicare and Medicaid professionals and hospitals. Providers participating in the Medicare and/or Medicaid EHR incentive programs must adopt, implement, or upgrade to certified EHR technology, and then use that technology in a meaningful way. The Medicare incentive program will be administered by CMS. The Medicaid incentive program is voluntary and will be administered by the states. The goals for the national program include:

- Enhancing care coordination and patient safety.
- Reducing paperwork and improving efficiencies.
- Facilitating electronic information sharing across providers, payers, and state lines.
- Enabling data sharing using the state Health Information Exchange and the National Health Information Network.

The CMS believes that achieving these goals will improve health outcomes, facilitate access, simplify care, and reduce the costs of health care nationwide.

The Idaho Department of Health & Welfare launched the Idaho Medicaid EHR Incentive Program on July 2, 2012. The Medicaid EHR Incentive Program will run through 2021. In order to receive full payment, all eligible providers must initiate the application/attestation for an incentive payment from Medicaid by 2016. Providers are encouraged to use the resources listed below to determine if they're eligible for an incentive payment and to learn the details of the application/attestation process.

The recipient of the EHR Incentive Program payment must be registered as a vendor with the state of Idaho. If the eligible professional is receiving the payment directly, that professional must be a vendor. If the eligible professional is reassigning the payment to the clinic, the clinic must be a vendor. Providers can call the EHR Help Desk at (208) 332-7989 to verify if they're currently a vendor. For more information, on how to become a vendor, please see the Idaho EHR website at [www.MedicaidEHR.dhw.idaho.gov](http://www.MedicaidEHR.dhw.idaho.gov).

### **Resources**

- [Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services EHR Incentive Program website](#). The site provides general and detailed information about the programs, including tabs on the path to payment, eligibility, meaningful use, certified EHR technology, and frequently asked questions.
- [Medicare and Medicaid Programs EHR Incentive Programs Final Rule, CFR 42](#).
- The [Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology-Certified Health Information Technology](#).
- [Idaho Medicaid EHR Incentive Program website](#). This site provides information for providers on how to apply for an incentive payment. It contains forms providers must use when applying as well as information on all aspects of program operations. There is also a feature that allows users to send an email directly to program staff.
- [Idaho Medicaid Eligible Professional and Eligible Hospital Attestation Portal: Idaho Incentive Management System \(IIMS\)](#).
- Idaho Medicaid EHR Program staff contact information:
  - E-mail: [EHRincentives@dhw.idaho.gov](mailto:EHRincentives@dhw.idaho.gov).
  - Idaho Medicaid EHR Program Help Desk: (208) 332-7989.

If you have questions or need additional information about this information release, please contact the Senior Financial Specialist, Office of Reimbursement, Division of Medicaid at (208) 364-1994.

Thank you for participating in the Idaho Medicaid Program.

PJL/rs