

Massachusetts eHealth eQuality Incentive Program RFP (Solicitation No. 2015-MeHI-03)

Frequently Asked Questions

Updated March 27, 2015

| | QUESTION | ANSWER |
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| 1. | Our organization uses non- CEHRT EHR product. Are we still eligible for the eQIP grant? | Achievement of Milestone 1 does not require an organization to have an EHR; however, to complete Milestones 2, 3 & 4, a certified EHR technology (2011 edition EHR certification or 2014 edition EHR certification) must be used to achieve the functions necessary to meet the required measures. We are, however, open to requests for exception (e.g., when no viable certified product exists for the function). The eQIP grant may be used to upgrade to a CEHRT model and/or add modules to become CEHRT. Details of how the organization plans to do so must be incorporated into the application proposal. |
| 2. | Our organization uses an EHR which has CEHRT modular certification for CPOE, maintaining medication lists, and maintaining medication allergy lists. Does this meet certification criteria? | We cannot answer questions about specific vendor EHR products or modules. To complete Milestones 2, 3 and 4, certified EHR technology (2011 edition EHR certification or 2014 edition EHR certification) must be used to meet the functions specified in each milestone. We are, however, open to requests for exception (e.g., when no viable certified product exists for the function). |
| 3. | Our organization spoke to a vendor who claims that they have a 2011 certification from CCHIT. The vendor was not listed on the CHPL website, though. Is a CCHIT certification still acceptable to apply for this grant? | CCHIT certification alone is insufficient to meet the needs of this Program. MeHI uses the ONC's CHPL website (http://oncchpl.force.com/ehrcert?q=chpl) to verify CEHRT status. If a vendor's product does not appear with a certification number on the CHPL list, it is not ONC Certified for purposes of this program. See also, answer to Q2, above. |
| 4. | If we have CEHRT, but also other systems for specific purposes, can we have a project that leverages/connects a related system - such as a separate decision support system? | The purpose of this funding is to mature the use of CEHRT, and interconnection through the Mass Hlway, in LTPAC Organizations. Organizations will be paid for meeting the criteria requirements of each Milestone. |



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| 5. | Under the "EHR Product" section, if the Applicant has an EHR, they should submit information about products used. Would this include current sub-systems, such as ADL's, Therapy, MMQ, or eMAR systems that Applicant intends to integrate into EHR? | As the part of the application, we request that you submit certain information on your EHR product(s). We recognize that organizations may have multiple products, so we ask that you submit information on all products that you intend to be used to meet the requirements of this program. |
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| 6. | Our organization has already accomplished more than 5 of the 9 items listed in the 'Advanced Use of CEHRT' of Milestone 3. Is our organization still eligible to apply? | Yes, the organization may apply. Grantees cannot get paid for Milestones 2 or 3 if they use all the functions indicated as part of those Milestones prior to submitting an Application. However, the milestone payment for Milestone 2 or 3 (but not both) may be allocated to the next Milestone (Milestone 3 or Milestone 4 (M-Hlway), as applicable), MeHI reserves the right to adjust total payments based upon a grantee's baseline. If the Applicant has met all the criteria for Milestones 2 and 3 and is deemed ineligible for Milestone 4, then the Applicant will be notified that it is ineligible to receive funding under the Incentive Program. Grantees are encouraged to identify other M-3 criteria to meet, beyond those already attained, if they have not already achieved all 9 items. |
| 7. | Our organization has already implemented an EMR system throughout all of its departments; however, we have not connected to the HIway. Are we still eligible to apply for the grant? | Yes. The "description of current environment", as included in the grant application by the grantee, will determine what milestone payments the grantee is eligible to receive. Grantees cannot get paid for Milestones 2 or 3 if they use all the functions indicated as part of those Milestones prior to submitting an Application. However, In this situation, the milestone payment for Milestone 2 or 3 (but not both) may be allocated to the next Milestone (Milestone 3 or Milestone 4 (M-Hlway), as applicable), MeHl reserves the right to adjust total payments based upon a grantee's baseline. If the Applicant has met all the criteria for Milestones 2 and 3 and is deemed ineligible for Milestone 4, then the Applicant will be notified that it is ineligible to receive funding under the Incentive Program. |



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| 8. | Is there a preference on eQIP's part that a provider install a standalone fully integrated EHR over an approach that ties together, or | The eQIP Grant requires certified EHR technology, with the ultimate goal of interoperability and connecting to the Mass HIway. |
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| | integrates, several unrelated systems into an EHR? | We do not suggest one method over another, but please keep milestone requirements in mind and the necessary steps to achieve each milestone as it relates to your organization. |
| 9. | What specifically is needed to get to aEMRAM Stage 5, (e.g., "Personal health record, online tethered patient portal")? | To achieve aEMRAM Stage 5, a grantee must have a portal, or a demonstrated ability to securely exchange data with the patient's untethered personal health record, that patients are able to log into and securely perform a range of functions, e.g., request appointments, receive follow-up reminders, communicate with their physician, receive test results. If the grantee is unable to perform such functions, they cannot achieve Stage 5. Patient engagement is a key component of aEMRAM, and the patient portal or personal health record is a key enabling technology. |