Primary Care First

It's Not Too Late to Apply!

It's not too late to apply to Cohort 2 of Primary Care First (PCF). Complete your application **by Friday, May 21st**! If you have questions about specific components of PCF or application next steps, please reference this guide and the additional resources below.

Do You Know If You're Eligible?
Refer to page 7-8 in the RFA

- In order to be eligible for PCF, practices must:
  - Be located in one of the **26 PCF regions,** eight of which are former CPC+ regions
  - Provide health services to at least **125 Medicare beneficiaries**
  - Have **experience with value-based payment** arrangements
- Both CPC+ and Non-CPC+ practices are eligible
- Practices are **not** eligible if they are a rural health clinic or a FQHC

Want More Information on Risk Groups?
Refer to pages 18-29 in the RFA

- Practices will be divided into **four risk groups** based on the average hierarchical condition category (HCC) risk score of their attributed Medicare beneficiaries
- Quality measures vary depending on risk group, with one set for those in Risk Groups 1 and 2 and a separate set for practices in Risk Groups 3 and 4
- Risk Group will impact payment, described below; however, the flat visit fee ($40.82) will be the same in all risk groups
- If selected, your practice will receive preliminary estimates of your projected risk group along with an estimated number of attributed beneficiaries. Practices will have an opportunity to review this information before signing a Participation Agreement (PA)

Questions on Payment Methodology?
Refer to pages 15-26 in the RFA

- The total primary care payment is **calculated on a quarterly basis.** It includes two main payment types: (1) a **population-based payment (PBP)** and (2) **a flat visit fee.** The PBP amount aligns to risk group
- If a practice meets **key performance standards**, they are eligible to receive an adjustment to their total primary care payment up to 50% through the Performance-Based Adjustment (PBA)
- CMS applies a **quarterly leakage adjustment** to reconcile the population-based payment when less than 100% of primary care services are delivered at a practice over a given year. This adjustment will first take effect in 2023 Quarter 3 based on services provided in 2022

Continue reading for more information on **Care Delivery Requirements** and the **Application Process!**

Have additional questions on these topics? Email PrimaryCareApply@Telligen.com

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Have final questions about the model or application next steps? Let this document be your guide!

Understand Care Delivery Requirements?

Refer to pages 14-15 in the RFA

- Care Delivery reporting will **occur annually**
- The **care delivery requirements in PCF will look similar to those in CPC+** as the primary care functions remain the same between both models; however, the PCF requirements are less prescriptive
- Practices will be **given flexibility** under the model to use their own individualized approaches to care delivery as long as they satisfy **a minimum threshold of care delivery requirements including:***
    - Provide 24/7 access to a care team practitioner with real-time access to the EHR
    - Provide risk-stratified care management
    - Ensure all PCF Beneficiaries receive timely follow-up contact from the PCF Practice after ED visits and hospitalizations
    - Integrate behavioral health into primary care services
    - Assess and support patients' psychosocial needs
    - Implement a regular process for PCF Beneficiaries and caregivers to advise PCF Practice improvement
    - Set goals and continuously improve upon key outcome measures

***Note**: There are a couple of additional requirements for practices in Risk Groups 3 and 4 (refer to Page 15 in the RFA for information on these requirements)

Ready to Complete Your Application?

Refer to Appendix A in the RFA

- For more details on **creating an account, logging into the application portal, and quick tips** refer to the PCF Application Guide
- Each practice interested in PCF participation must **submit a separate application**
- Completing an application is **not binding**. Accepted practices will receive **preliminary estimates of projected risk group** and **number of attributed beneficiaries** to review before signing the PA
- Note that the **SIP component of the model is not currently soliciting applications**

For More Information:
- Visit the CMS **Primary Care First Website**
- Check out the **Primary Care First FAQs** and the **Primary Care First FAQs Supplement**
- Review resources from prior Cohort 2 events: **Introduction to Primary Care First**, **Ready, Set, Apply**, and the **PCF Practice Office Hour**
- Additional Questions? Reach out to **PrimaryCareApply@Telligen.com**