



March 24, 2020

MIPS REPORTING REQUIREMENTS RELAXED DUE TO COVID-19

CMS recently announced that it will be relaxing MIPS data submission requirements due to the current public health emergency.

2019 Reporting Year

The 2019 MIPS data submission deadline has been extended from March 31, 2020 to April 30, 2020. Any clinicians who have already submitted data or submit data by April 30 may receive a MIPS payment incentive based on the data submitted (no penalties will be issued). MIPS eligible clinicians who do not submit any MIPS data by the deadline will **not** be penalized. Instead, those clinicians will automatically qualify for the extreme and uncontrollable circumstances policy and will receive no negative payment adjustment in 2021.

2020 Reporting Year

At this time, CMS is evaluating options for providing relief in connection with MIPS participation during the 2020 calendar year.

Please keep in mind that these changes will not impact any clinicians who are automatically exempt from participation in MIPS due to the low volume threshold or other applicable exemption.

Appended below is a copy of an IPRO QPP-MIPS Special Alert

CMS Announces Relief for Clinicians, Providers, Hospitals and Facilities Participating in Quality Reporting Programs in Response to COVID-19 Sunday March 22, 2020

2019 MIPS Submission Deadline Extended: Submit 2019 Data by April 30, 2020

The 2019 MIPS data submission deadline will be extended by 30 days to April 30, 2020. If you have already submitted MIPS data or if you submit MIPS data by April 30, 2020, you will be scored and receive a MIPS payment adjustment based on the data you submit. Many MIPS eligible clinicians have performed very well in the MIPS program in previous years. If you need to revise any data that has already been submitted you can still make changes by logging into qpp.cms.gov by the new deadline.

2019 MIPS Automatic Extreme and Uncontrollable Circumstances Policy Update

MIPS eligible clinicians who have not submitted any MIPS data by April 30, 2020 do not need to take any additional action to qualify for the automatic extreme and uncontrollable circumstances policy. These clinicians will be automatically identified and receive a neutral payment adjustment for the 2021 MIPS payment year. All four MIPS performance categories for these clinicians will be weighted at zero percent, resulting in a score equal to the performance threshold, and a neutral MIPS payment adjustment for the 2021 MIPS payment year. However, if a MIPS eligible clinician submits data on two or more MIPS performance categories, they will be scored and receive a 2021 MIPS payment adjustment based on their 2019 MIPS final score.

CMS will continue monitoring the developing COVID-19 situation and assess options to bring additional relief to clinicians and their staff so they can focus on caring for

patients.
For More Information

Please reference the **2019 QPP Data Submission User Guide**. CMS also has up to date information about its programs and response to COVID-19 on the **Current Emergencies** page.

For Quality Payment Program questions you can contact 1-866-288-8292, Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM-8:00 PM ET or by e-mail at: QPP@cms.hhs.gov.

*Customers who are hearing impaired can dial 711 to be connected to a TRS Communications Assistant.



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