



AHCCCS TARGETED INVESTMENTS PROGRAM

Frequently Asked Questions and Definitions

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DEFINITIONS

Ambulatory Behavioral Health Provider	An outpatient behavioral health provider classified by AHCCCS as Provider Type 77 or Integrated Clinic and which delivers outpatient counseling, medical (medication) management and/or case management services.
Applicant	An organization or entity applying to participate in the Targeted Investments Program.
Electronic Health Record	A health information technology system that allows for use and exchange of electronic health information from other systems without special effort on the part of the user.
Hospital	A specific location in which the hospital Targeted Investments project will take place. Hospitals can only participate in the hospital-based Targeted Investments project.
Participant	An organization or practice that has been accepted into the Targeted Investments Program. A participant can be an organization consisting of multiple entities, including hospitals, primary care practice sites and behavioral health practice sites or may be an individual or group of providers practicing at one single practice site that is not employed by a larger provider organization. An organization may submit multiple applications to participate in multiple projects and elect to participate in multiple areas of concentration.
Practice Site	A physical location in which ambulatory Targeted Investments projects will be conducted. Organizations or practices can select those sites in which they wish to participate. One practice site can participate in multiple Areas of Concentration.
Provider	In the context of Targeted Investments Program, the term "Provider" is not intended to mean an individual practitioner. Rather, it refers to a practice, organization, or entity.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

BACKGROUND

1. What is the Targeted Investments Program?

The Targeted Investments Program will provide financial incentives to participating AHCCCS registered providers to develop clinical processes for integrated care. Specifically, participants will receive incentive payments for increasing physical and behavioral health care integration and coordination for individuals with behavioral health needs. The Targeted Investments Program aims to reduce fragmentation that commonly occurs between acute care and behavioral health care, increase efficiencies in service delivery for members with behavioral health needs and improve health outcomes for the affected populations.

2. How long is the Targeted Investments Program?

The Targeted Investments Program provider participation will begin October 1, 2017 and conclude September 30, 2021.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE?

3. Who can participate in the Targeted Investments Program?

Eligible participants include primary care sites, ambulatory behavioral health sites, Integrated Clinics and acute and psychiatric hospitals contracted with AHCCCS managed care organizations (MCOs) to provide care to AHCCCS members. Ambulatory behavioral health participants are defined to include AHCCCS Provider Type 77 providers and Integrated Clinics.

- Primary care participants must have an AHCCCS member panel that meets a minimum defined number and operate an Electronic Health Record (EHR) with the capability to exchange electronic health information from other systems without special effort on the part of the user.
- Ambulatory behavioral health providers and hospitals must meet minimum AHCCCS member service volume threshold standards and meet the same EHR requirements as noted above for primary care participants.

4. Who is excluded from participation?

- Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and Rural Health Clinics (RHCs) have a federally-mandated reimbursement mechanism that facilitates investment in system transformation activities. Additionally, the federally mandated cost based reimbursement structure has led to significant increases for FQHCs since 2009 while other providers in the AHCCCS system still have rates below 2009 levels. As a result, FQHCs are not eligible to participate in TI. The only exception to this decision is related to FQHCs that are selected to participate in the Justice Area of Concentration. FQHCs that are selected by RBHAs to participate in the Justice Area of Concentration will also be instructed to participate in the Adult Ambulatory Project.
- BH Outpatient Clinics [Provider Type 77] whose services are limited to crisis line call centers do not provide the range of services necessary to meet the Targeted Investments requirements and are not eligible to participate in the TI Program.
- Indian Health Services Clinics and 638 facilities are not eligible to participate in the TI Program. Indian Health Services Clinics and 638 facilities may be eligible to participate

in a separate American Indian Medical Home program currently being developed by AHCCCS *[details are forthcoming]*.

5. Can an integrated health system participate in multiple projects with more than one physical location?

Yes. For example, an integrated health system may elect to have a hospital participate in the hospital project and have several primary care sites participate in the Areas of Concentration applicable to primary care (that is, Adults with Behavioral Health Needs Transitioning from the Criminal Justice System, Adults with Behavioral Health Needs — Primary Care, Children/Youth with Behavioral Health Needs — Primary Care). If participants would like to participate in different projects and Areas of Concentration, they will be required to complete multiple applications.

Integrated health systems may participate with as many or as few physical locations (or practice sites) as desired.

6. Do providers need a managed care organization (MCO) or Regional Behavioral Health Authority (together “MCO”) contract to participate?

Yes. Participants must be contracted with an AHCCCS MCO to participate in the Targeted Investments Program. To receive a Targeted Investments incentive payment, Primary care practice sites must have:

- A minimum number of AHCCCS members assigned in aggregate*, and
- A minimum number of AHCCCS members served through a particular MCO*.

**AHCCCS will be establishing MCO-specific patient volume thresholds for ambulatory behavioral health practices and hospitals.*

7. Are clinics that are contracted with Children’s Rehabilitative Services eligible to participate?

Yes, so long as the practice meets the established eligibility criteria.

8. Are new applicants accepted after the application closing date?

No. Participants must complete an application for the Targeted Investments Program by the initial application deadline to participate in the five-year program. Participants will not be admitted to the program on a rolling basis.

9. How are participants selected for the Justice Area of Concentration?

Participants that are interested in the Justice Area of Concentration, as defined in the Core Components, should discuss participation with a RBHA. Only a limited number of participants will be accepted into this project. In addition to completing the Core Components of the Justice Area of Concentration, these participants will also be required to complete the Core Components for the Adult Ambulatory Primary Care Project.

AREAS OF CONCENTRATION

10. Can participants be in more than one Project or Area of Concentration?

Yes, as noted above in response to question 5, participants can choose to engage in as many Projects and Areas of Concentration as they desire for which they are eligible.

11. Which Area of Concentration should a family practice primary care provider that sees both adults and children/youth participate?

Family practice primary care providers may elect to participate in the Adult with Behavioral Health Needs — Primary Care Provider and/or the Children/Youth with Behavioral Health Needs — Primary Care Provider Areas of Concentration.

12. In which Areas of Concentration should an Integrated Clinic that provides both primary care and behavioral health services, and sees both adults and children/youth, participate?

Integrated Clinics registered as Provider Type IC with AHCCCS may participate in both the Primary Care Provider and behavioral Health Provider Areas of Concentration for the population they choose (for example, adults, children/youth or both). In order to participate in the primary care Areas of Concentration, ICs must have a minimum number of AHCCCS members assigned by an MCO*.

**AHCCCS will be establishing MCO-specific patient volume thresholds for ambulatory behavioral health practices and hospitals.*

HOW PARTICIPANTS EARN INCENTIVE DOLLARS AND RECEIVE PAYMENT

13. How do Targeted Investments Program participants earn incentive dollars?

AHCCCS will direct payment of the financial incentives on an annual basis to participating eligible primary care, behavioral health and hospital providers based on requirements that vary over the five years of the Targeted Investments Program. For Year 1 (Year ending September 30, 2017) Targeted Investments participants will receive payment following acceptance into the program. For the next two years of the Targeted Investments Program, participants are required to implement Targeted Investments project “Core Components”, which are systems and resources that help to further integrate physical health and behavioral health services. Each Core Component has associated “Milestones”, which Targeted Investments participants must meet to receive incentive payments. For the final two years, Targeted Investments participating providers must meet quality performance metrics from an AHCCCS-defined clinical performance measure set to earn incentive payments (see question 14).

14. What are the AHCCCS defined Clinical Performance Measures?

AHCCCS is currently in the process of defining clinical performance measures, such as HEDIS and established AHCCCS quality measures.

15. How do participants know which Core Components and Milestones they must complete to earn incentive money?

Targeted Investments participants select the project(s) and Area(s) of Concentration in which they wish to participate (as applicable). The following table lists the projects and areas of concentration. See the TI page on the AHCCCS website for Core Components and Milestones.

16. If a participant fails to meet one or more milestones in Measurement Period 1, would that provider still be eligible for funding if they meet the milestones in Measurement Period 2?

Yes, a participant will be eligible for payment in Measurement Period 2 if you do not meet all of the period one milestones. It is possible that some milestones may not be met in Measurement Period one, but a participant will still get payment for the milestones achieved in period one. Measurement Period two payments will be based on achievement of the milestones for that period as well.

17. How much money can participants receive through participation in the Targeted Investments Program?

AHCCCS has allocated TI funds across each of the projects. Participants are able to estimate payments they could receive for meeting all Core Components through an on-line calculator. Actual eligible payments will be dependent on the number of accepted applicants, and the number of participants that meet Core Component requirements.

The calculator is available on the Targeted Investments page of the AHCCCS website.

18. How will Targeted Investments Program incentive payments be made?

Through the Targeted Investments Program, AHCCCS will direct contracted MCOs to make specific payments to participating Medicaid providers based on the provider’s completion of applicable milestones and reporting program requirements. Payments will be made to participants annually by MCOs to the TIN and its related billing address.

ROUTINE PAYMENTS AND MONITORING

19. Will the process for billing AHCCCS MCOs for services be any different?

Billing policies and procedures for services will not change under the Targeted Investments Program.

20. What is the process for reporting achievement of the milestones associated with the core components?

Participants will submit attestations through a portal on the Targeted Investments webpage on the achievement of core components on at least an annual basis

21. Will AHCCCS or the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) monitor how incentive funding is used?

It is CMS and AHCCCS' expectation that Targeted Investments dollars are spent by participants on the integration activities incentivized through the program. AHCCCS may conduct reviews of how funding is utilized to better understand successful strategies for integration and decreasing fragmentation.

TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

22. What are the training expectations for the Targeted Investments Program?

Training and education in some cases, will be required as part of a Core Component. More information will be provided on the website. Training may be made available through several sources. Some training may utilize online resources.

23. Will technical assistance be available?

Yes. Technical assistance will be available through AHCCCS and MCOs.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

24. Which self-assessment should my organization use?

AHCCCS has provided a list of recommended self-assessments that are available on the Targeted Investments webpage under the "Pre-Application Instructions" section.

25. Which application should my organization or practice use?

When you open the web-based application, you will find that there are four different application portals. To complete the application, you will select the appropriate portal(s) based on your AHCCCS registered provider type, and the Projects and Areas of Concentration in which you wish to participate.

The following chart provides a snap shot of the registered provider types and options for Areas of Concentration:

Project Type	Area of Concentration	Provider Type			
		Hospital	PCP	BH	IC
Integration for Hospital Transitions	Discharging with primary DX - Adults with Mental Illness and Substance Used Disorder	√			
Ambulatory Care	Adults with Behavioral Health Needs – Primary Care Provider		√		√
	Adults with Behavioral Health Needs – Behavioral Health Provider			√	√
	Children/Youth with Behavioral Health Needs – Pediatric Primary Care Provider		√		√
	Children/Youth with Behavioral Health Needs – Pediatric Behavioral Health Provider			√	√
	Adults with Behavioral Health Needs – Providers Serving Individuals Transitioning from the Justice System*		√	√	√

For more details on how to apply for specific organizations and practices, see the “Application Instructions” document on the Targeted Investment webpage.