

# February 2020 QPP Fast Facts

## **Call for measures is open until February 7th**

CMS is accepting recommendations from stakeholders for potential consideration of new specialty measure sets and/or revisions to existing specialty measure sets for the 2021 program year. In addition, recommendations will be accepted based on potential new MIPS measures that are being considered for implementation in the 2021 program year.

- Submissions of recommendations for a new specialty measure set and/or revisions to the current 2020 specialty measure sets should be sent to the PIMMS Quality Measures Support mailbox:
  - [PIMMSQualityMeasuresSupport@gdit.com](mailto:PIMMSQualityMeasuresSupport@gdit.com)
  - CMS specifically requests stakeholder feedback on applicable quality measures for the following specialties: Addiction Medicine, Critical Care (Intensivists), Hospice and Palliative Care Medicine, Medical Genetics and Genomics, Pain Management/Interventional Pain Management and Sleep Medicine.
- Each recommendation **must** include the following in order to be considered:
  - The quality measure ID
  - Measure title
  - Supporting rationale and/or documentation that would support inclusion or exclusion of the current quality measure(s) from existing specialty measure sets or inclusion in new specialty measure sets.
- **Submissions accepted until Close of Business on Friday, February 7th, 2020**
- More information found here: <https://qpp-cm-prod-content.s3.amazonaws.com/uploads/851/2020%20Call%20for%20Quality%20Measures.zip>

## **Need Help?**

The QPP Service Center (Help Desk) is the best place to direct folks who have practice-specific questions:

Telephone: 1-866-288-8292

Email: [QPP@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:QPP@cms.hhs.gov)

Website for [access help & support](#)

[SURS Contractors](#) for local support for solo/small practice and underserved/rural practices

Due to the opening of the 2019 MIPS data submission period, the Quality Payment Program (QPP) Service Center is projecting an increase in volume of calls and emails between January and March 2020, resulting in longer wait times.

CMS recommends the following to minimize wait times and ensure successful 2019 submission:

- **Use One Method to Report Issues**— Due to the increase in volume at the QPP Service Center and to minimize backlog, please use only one method of reporting for the same issue (email or phone). Note: Cases are processed in the order which they are received

# February 2020 QPP Fast Facts

regardless of the manner in which the Service Center was contacted. Please allow time for processing.

- **Submit Your Data Early**— We encourage you to submit your 2019 MIPS performance period data early during the submission period. Early submission will allow you plenty of time for Service Center assistance if needed.
- **Call the Service Center at Off-Peak Hours**— We strongly recommend calling the Service Center during off-peak hours (8:00 AM-10:00 AM ET *OR* 2:00 PM-8:00 PM ET).

## **Check Your Initial 2020 MIPS Eligibility on the QPP Website**

You can now use the updated CMS [Quality Payment Program Participation Status Lookup Tool](#) to check on your initial 2020 eligibility for the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS). Just enter your National Provider Identifier, or NPI, to find out whether you need to participate in MIPS during the 2020 performance period.

## **Low Volume Threshold Requirements**

To be eligible to participate in MIPS in 2020, you must:

- Bill **more than \$90,000** a year in allowed charges for covered professional services under the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (PFS), **AND**
- Furnish covered professional services to **more than 200** Medicare Part B beneficiaries, **AND**
- Provide **more than 200** covered professional services under the PFS.

If you **do not exceed all three of the above criteria** for the 2020 performance period, you are excluded from MIPS. However, you have the opportunity to opt-in to MIPS and receive a payment adjustment if you meet or exceed one or two, but not all, of the low-volume threshold criteria. Alternatively, you may choose to voluntarily report to MIPS and not receive a payment adjustment if you do not meet any of the low-volume threshold criteria or if you meet some, but not all, of the criteria.

## **Find Out Today**

[Find out](#) whether you're eligible for MIPS today. Prepare now to earn a positive payment adjustment in 2022 for your 2020 performance.

**Note:** The 2020 Eligibility Tool Update for QPs/APMs will be updated at a later time. Additionally, the tool will be updated in late 2020 to indicate final MIPS eligibility.

## **For More Information**

- Visit the [How MIPS Eligibility is Determined webpage](#) on the [Quality Payment Program website](#).
- View the [2020 QPP Final Rule Overview Fact Sheet](#).

## **Questions?**

- Contact the Quality Payment Program at 1-866-288-8292, Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM-8:00 PM ET or by e-mail at: [QPP@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:QPP@cms.hhs.gov). To receive assistance more quickly, consider calling during non-peak hours—before 10 AM and after 2 PM ET.

# February 2020 QPP Fast Facts

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

## **Upcoming Deadlines**

**January 2, 2020: Submission Window Opens for Performance Year 2019**

**March 31, 2020: Submission Window Closes for Performance Year 2019**

**July 1, 2020: Performance Feedback Available**

CMS will provide you with performance feedback based on the data you submitted for Performance Year 2019. You will be able to use this feedback to improve your care and optimize the payments you receive from CMS.

Targeted Review Opens Once Your Payment Adjustment Information is Available

**August 31, 2020: Targeted Review Closes**

## **Don't miss these upcoming event!**

Tuesday February 25, 2020 -- Colorado QPP Coalition Office Hours webinar; What to expect for 2020; Noon to 1 PM. [REGISTER](#)

**TMF Events: Check out upcoming events [HERE](#)**

Let's Talk QPP! Use the TMF MIPS Toolbox for Success  
Wednesday, Feb. 5, noon – 1 p.m. CT [REGISTER](#)

## **New QPP Resources Released!**

New QPP resources on the QPP website can be found on the Resource Library page at <https://qpp.cms.gov/about/resource-library>

New resources include:

- Video: Introduction and [Overview of 2019 Data Submission](#)
- Document: The [2019 Data Submission FAQs](#)
- If you, or fellow community practices need a reminder on how to access the Quality Payment Program (QPP) Portal, please review the [Quality Payment Program Access User Guide](#).

## **2019 Performance Year**

[2019 MIPS Scoring Guide](#) Updated 01/29/2020

Guide providing details about how scores are calculated for the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) in the 2019 performance year.

# February 2020 QPP Fast Facts

## [2019 MIPS 101 Guide](#) Updated 01/29/2020

Guide provides a detailed overview of the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) for 2019.

## [Manual Attestation of Promoting Interoperability Measures](#) Created 01/15/2020

This video provides an overview on how to successfully report Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) data to the Promoting Interoperability performance category and meet the reporting requirements criteria for the 2019 MIPS data submission period. It also explains how to modify the Promoting Interoperability score by manually attesting to measures.

## [2019 MIPS Data Validation Criteria](#) Updated 01/14/2020

Lists the 2019 criteria used to audit and validate data submitted in each of the Merit-based Incentive Payment (MIPS) performance categories.

## [2019 CMS Web Interface User Guide](#) Updated 01/09/2020

This user guide shows you how to access the CMS Web Interface, report data, view quality data reporting progress, and how to get help using the CMS Web Interface.

## [File Upload and Quality Scoring](#) Created 01/09/2020

This video explains how to upload and review Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) Quality performance category data in the Quality Payment Program portal and provides an overview of how Quality data is scored during the 2019 MIPS data submission period.

## [Introduction and Overview of 2019 Data Submission](#) Created 01/09/2020

This video provides an overview of how to submit Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) data through the QPP website for the 2019 performance period.

## [Manual Attestation of Improvement Activities Measures](#) Created 01/09/2020

This video provides an overview of how a third-party intermediary, such as a Qualified Registry, can report MIPS data on behalf of a group within the Quality Payment Program portal, as well as how to modify the Improvement Activity score by manually attesting to measures.

## [Opt-in as a QPP Eligible Clinician](#) Created 01/09/2020

This video explains how to report Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) data as an opt-in eligible clinician for the 2019 performance period of the Quality Payment Program. Please note that the opt-in decision is permanent and cannot be changed in the future.

## **2020 Performance Year Quick Start Guides**

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### [2020 MIPS Quick Start Guide](#) Updated 01/14/2020

A guide to help clinicians get started participating in the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) during the 2020 performance period.

### [2020 Cost Quick Start Guide](#) Updated 01/07/2020

## February 2020 QPP Fast Facts

A guide to help clinicians get started participating in the Cost performance category of the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) during the 2020 performance period.

[2020 Promoting Interoperability Quick Start Guide](#) Updated 01/14/2020

A guide to help clinicians get started participating in the Promoting Interoperability performance category of the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) during the 2020 performance period.

[2020 Improvement Activities Quick Start Guide](#) Updated 01/14/2020

A guide to help clinicians get started participating in the Improvement Activities performance category of the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) during the 2020 performance period

[2020 Quality Quick Start Guide](#) Updated 01/29/2020

A guide to help clinicians get started participating in the Quality performance category of the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) during the 2020 performance period.

[2020 Part B Claims Reporting Quick Start Guide](#) Updated 01/03/2020

A guide to help clinicians in small practices get started with using Medicare Part B claims to report participation in the Quality performance category of the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) during the 2020 performance period.

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