

CHART Model

Community Transformation Track Bulletin

CMS Offers the Opportunity to Improve and Transform Rural Health Through the CHART Model

The deadline to apply to CMS' Community Health Access and Rural Transformation (CHART) Model Community Transformation Track is May 11, 2021. See the message below for more information on the Model and the Community Transformation Track.

CHART Model Background and Community Transformation Track Details

The CHART Model is a voluntary model that will test whether aligned financial incentives, operational and regulatory flexibilities, and robust technical support will help rural providers transform care on a broad scale.

The Model consists of two tracks for rural Communities to implement Alternative Payment Models (APMs) to improve access to high quality care and reduce costs:

- 1) **The Community Transformation Track:** Communities receive upfront funding, predictable finances through a Capitated Payment Amount (CPA), and operational flexibilities through benefit enhancements and beneficiary engagement incentives. CMS released a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for this track in the fall of 2020 and applications are due by May 11, 2021.
- 2) **The Accountable Care Organization (ACO) Transformation Track:** Rural ACOs receive advance shared savings payments to participate in the Medicare Shared Savings Program (Shared Savings Program). CMS anticipates releasing the CHART ACO Track Request for Applications in spring 2021.

Community Transformation Track Timeline

Important upcoming dates for the Community Transformation Track include:

- **April 14, 2021:** Optional Letters of Intent (LOI) Due
- **May 11, 2021:** Community Transformation Track **Application Deadline**
- **Fall 2021:** Award Recipient Selection
- **October 2021 – December 2022:** Pre-Implementation Period

Note: Dates are subject to change. Please sign up for the CMS [listserv](#) to receive direct announcements about the CHART Model.

Community Transformation Track Overview

The CHART Model Community Transformation Track aims to catalyze transformation of rural health delivery systems. A few key terms and policies for this track are below:

Lead Organizations are the recipient of the cooperative agreement funding and responsible for submitting an application. CMS will select up to 15 Lead Organizations

for the Community Transformation Track. Eligible Lead Organizations may include state Medicaid agencies (SMAs), State Offices of Rural Health (SORHs), local public health departments, Independent Practice Associations (IPAs), Academic Medical Centers (AMCs), and health systems. Lead Organizations work closely with key model participants (e.g., Participant Hospitals and the SMA) and drive health care delivery system redesign by leading the development and implementation of Transformation Plans with their Community Partners.

The **Community** is a geographic area, defined by the Lead Organization in its application, which must encompass either (a) a single county or census tract or (b) a set of contiguous or non-contiguous counties or census tracts. Each county or census tract must meet the definition of “rural” established by the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy’s list of eligible counties and census tracts used for its grant programs. Communities must also include a minimum of 10,000 Medicare Fee-for-Service beneficiaries with a primary residence within the Community.

Participant Hospitals will work closely with Lead Organizations, SMAs, and Community Partners to redesign health care delivery and drive population health improvement. Individual Participant Hospitals may be included in the initial application, by signing a Letter of Intent, or recruited and added to a Community after CMS has announced award recipients. Each Participant Hospital will enter into a Participant Agreement with CMS and will receive a CPA directly from CMS. We encourage hospitals to contact potential Lead Organizations in their Community who may be suitable applicants today.

State Medicaid agency (SMA) participation is required under the Community Transformation Track. SMAs will enter into capitated payment arrangements with Participant Hospitals to implement this APM, either as the CHART Model award recipient (i.e., a Lead Organization) or in conjunction with the Lead Organization.

Please refer to the resources below for additional information about the Model and the CHART Model application process.

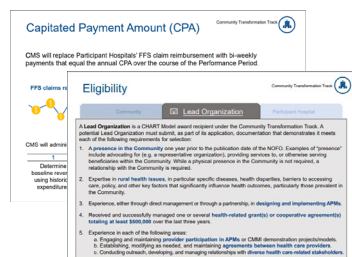
CHART Model Community Transformation Track Resources

The [CHART Model website](#) has resources to answer questions and help potential Lead Organizations prepare to submit an application. Visit the website to access the following resources:

CHART Model Webinars

CMS has hosted several events to provide information about the Model and answer questions on a variety of topics. Access event resources using the following links:

- Model Overview Webinar – [Recording](#) | [Slides](#)
- Community Transformation Track Webinars:
 - Application Support – [Recording](#) | [Slides](#)
 - FAQ Office Hour – [Recording](#) | [Slides](#)
 - Payment – [Recording](#) | [Slides](#)



Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

The CHART NOFO provides in-depth information about the Community Transformation Track, including eligibility criteria; program requirements; benefit enhancements; and application submission instructions.

State Medicaid Participation Factsheet

The factsheet provides background on the CHART Model for SMAs, including general obligations, types of roles, and a timeline of SMA activities.

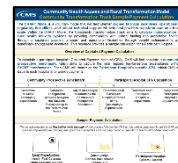
Payment Fact Sheet

This is a graphical representation of the benefits of the CHART Model's Community Transformation Track, the components of the CPA calculation, and important considerations for applicants.



Sample Payment Calculation

This is an illustrative walkthrough of how a Participant Hospital's CPA is calculated and used to transform community health. It also includes details on how Lead Organizations define their Community, recruit Participant Hospitals, and implement Transformation Plans.



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Includes an extensive list of Frequently Asked Questions – covering application, payer participation, and award questions for the Community Transformation and ACO Transformation Tracks.

Subscribe

If you would like to receive additional information and updates directly from CMS about the CHART Model, please subscribe to the listserv [here](#).

Questions

If you have a question about the CHART Model, please email it to CHARTModel@cms.gov to receive direct CMS guidance, or visit the model website at <https://innovation.cms.gov/innovation-models/chart-model>.