

How to Apply? – Guide for New Applicants

The Bundled Payments for Care Improvement Advanced (BPCI Advanced) Model started on October 1, 2018 and was originally planned to last 6 years. It has now been extended for 2 more years and will end on December 31, 2025. CMS released the BPCI Advanced Model Year 7 (MY7) Request for Applications (RFA) and opened the Application Portal on February 21, 2023. The Application Portal will stay open for 100 days and close on May 31, 2023 at 5:00 pm EDT.

The MY7 RFA provides the necessary information to potential applicants to allow an informed decision on Model participation. ***This is your opportunity to join the BPCI Advanced Model from the CMS Innovation Center!***

Updated April 2023: Target Prices and baseline data review period extended to at least 8 weeks.

Timeline for Application Process



Types of Participants and Who can Apply?

A Participant is an entity that enters into a BPCI Advanced Model Participation Agreement with CMS. There are two kinds of Participants:



A **Non-Convener Participant** is an Acute Care Hospital (ACH) or Physician Group Practice (PGP) that is an Episode Initiator (EI) and bears financial risk only for itself.



A **Convener Participant** must be a Medicare-enrolled provider or supplier, or a Medicare Accountable Care Organization (ACO) that brings together at least one Downstream EI that is an ACH or PGP. Conveners bear and apportion financial risk.

The kind of organization you are will determine your options when applying to participate in the BPCI Advanced Model.



Non-Convener Applicants must be an ACH or a PGP.



New Convener Applicants must be Medicare-enrolled providers or suppliers, or Medicare ACOs.

All Applicants must be Medicare-enrolled in active status at the time the Application Portal closes on May 31, 2023.

Organizations that participated in the Model in previous years are welcome to apply as either a Non-Convener, Convener, or an EI under a Convener Applicant.

Active Participants in Model Year 6 (2023) have several options if they are interested in participating during the 2-year extension. Please review the decision tree on the first page of **“MY7 Options for Active Model Participants”** for consideration before deciding how to apply.

The types of entities eligible to be a Non-Convener Participant have not changed, but the requirements for Convener Participants are different for this application opportunity than in previous years. Please refer to the MY7 RFA for details.

Ready to Apply?

Unsure If You Want to Commit?

The application is not a legally binding document that commits Applicants to participate in BPCI Advanced, nor does it guarantee Applicants will be offered to sign a Participation Agreement by CMS. We encourage organizations to apply before the **deadline – May 31, 2023 at 5:00 pm EDT.**

- 1 **Review the MY7 RFA and the [Model Overview Fact Sheet- Model Year 6 \(PDF\)](#)** and watch a short [Model Overview animated video](#) for important details about the Model.
- 2 **Register for the BPCI Advanced Application Portal** – the only way to apply. <https://app.innovation.cms.gov/bpciadvancedapp/IDMLogin>
- 3 **Download the Application template (PDF)** and prepare your answers in a Word document first; then, cut/paste answers into the online application.
- 4 **Download the Participating Organizations template (CSV)**, if you are a Convener Applicant or a Non-Convener Applicant that is a PGP.
- 5 **Complete the Data Request and Attestation (DRA) Form (PDF)**, if you wish to receive historical claims data from Medicare.

Tips for Success When Applying

- **Save as you go.** The Application Portal times out after 30 minutes of inactivity. Unsaved text will be lost.
 - **Cloning Applications:** If you're submitting multiple applications of the same Participant type (Convener or Non-Convener) for an organization, you may clone a SUBMITTED application. Click the "Clone" button next to the submitted application on the Home page of the Application Portal. Applicants will still need to update the information as applicable, plus individually certify and sign various fields in the cloned application.
 - **Participating Organizations template:** When populating the Excel form: [1] Convener Applicants will provide information on all potential Downstream EI; for any Downstream EI that is a Physician Group Practice (PGP) please list only one practicing physician associated with that PGP; [2] A Non-Convener Applicant that is a PGP will list only one practicing physician associated with that PGP; [3] Also enter all the hospital CMS Certification Numbers (CCNs) where the potential PGP EI (not the practicing physician) expects to trigger Clinical Episodes.
- Upon uploading the Participating Organizations form to the Application Portal, you will be asked to validate the data. If there are errors in the file, you can review the fields highlighted in red or you can select "Download Errors" to see a Validation Errors document with the row and column where the error is occurring, along with an error description.
- **Net Payment Reconciliation Amount (NPRA) Section:** In the application, CMS is interested in Applicant's proposed methodology for NPRA Sharing but is not asking for the list of organizations or individuals you will enter into Financial Arrangements with if participating in the Model for MY7 (2024). That information is reported in the Financial Arrangements List (FAL), which is a required deliverable for Participants that wish to engage with other providers and share the savings earned by participating in BPCI Advanced.

Application Resources

To access all the materials listed below, please visit the Applicant Resources webpage - <https://innovation.cms.gov/innovation-models/bpci-advanced/applicant-resources>

- MY7 Request for Applications (RFA)
- Application Process Questions and Answers
- Timeline - Application Process in 2023
- Application Portal "How-To" Guide
- Model Overview Fact Sheet (Model Year 6)
- MY7 Application Template
- Model Overview Animated Video
- Participating Organization Template
- Why Should You Participate in BPCI Advanced?
- Physician Fact Sheet

BPCI Advanced Application Portal: <https://app.innovation.cms.gov/bpciadvancedapp/IDMLogin>