



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Dennis R. Schrader, Secretary

Frequently Asked Questions for the Small Rural Pharmacy Grants Program FY 22

1. Which MCO's are eligible for consideration in the “# of MCO Rxs filled in CY2020” question on the Grant Application Form and for consideration for the grant award funds?

- Claims from all of the **9 HealthChoice MCOs** are eligible for consideration for the grant funds:
 - **Aetna Better Health**
 - **Amerigroup Community Care**
 - **CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield Community Health Plan**
 - **Jai Medical Systems**
 - **Kaiser Permanente**
 - **Maryland Physicians Care**
 - **MedStar Family Choice**
 - **Priority Partners**
 - **UnitedHealthcare**

The eligible **BIN**, **PCN**, and **Group #s** for these MCO's that meet the eligibility requirements of the program are listed on **Page 10** of the [Maryland Pharmacy Program's Provider Manual](#). This information can also be found under **Attachment 9** of the *Request for Applications (RFA)* packet.

2. How will the Program confirm the number of MCO prescriptions our pharmacy has filled for CY2020 in order to determine our pharmacy's grant award amount?

- The Program will be using MCO prescription volume data for each pharmacy from reports provided by the Medicaid Pharmacy Claims Processing vendor (referenced by the pharmacy's **NPI #**) and will ultimately be using this data to determine each pharmacy's award amount for the grant funds. If the number of prescriptions on your application differs significantly from the number the Program has from its reports, we will contact you to discuss these differences. Please refer to **Question 1** above for information on what MCOs and BIN, PCN, and Group #s are eligible for consideration in determining your grant award amount.

3. Am I eligible for a grant if I filled more than 30,000 MCO prescriptions in CY2020? If not, can I still get funding for 30,000 prescriptions filled by my pharmacy for MCO's?

- No, you are not eligible for this grant program if your pharmacy filled more than 30,000 MCO prescriptions in CY2020. However, if when running your reports to find the number of MCO prescriptions your pharmacy filled for CY2020, you find that the number is not significantly higher than 30,000, please contact Deanna Beebe to compare your prescription volume with the Program's reported number for your pharmacy. As indicated in **Questions 1 and 2** above, the Program will be using MCO prescription volume data for each pharmacy from reports provided by the Medicaid Pharmacy Claims Processing vendor. If the vendor's data indicate that your store's volume is 30,000 prescriptions or less, you may still qualify for the grant.

4. Does "30,000 prescriptions or fewer" mean MCO prescriptions only, not total prescriptions, for the pharmacy?

- Correct, the "30,000 prescriptions or less filled in CY2020" eligibility requirement relates to MCO prescriptions only. This does not include the Medicaid fee-for-service prescriptions for participants who only have the "red and white" Medical Assistance Card, Medicare prescriptions, or prescriptions covered by commercial or private insurance carriers. Please refer to **Question 1** above for information on eligible MCOs and BIN, PCN, and Group #'s for consideration in counting your MCO prescription numbers for CY2020.

5. How can I apply if I have multiple eligible store locations under the same ownership?

- As long as you only have three (3) or fewer stores under the same ownership, and each of your store locations meets the Program's eligibility criteria, each store location is eligible for its own grant award. You must submit a separate grant application for each eligible store location in order for each location to receive a grant award. Store locations **cannot** share grant funds.

6. Am I still eligible to apply if I live in a "rural" area but my pharmacy is not located within one of the zip codes on CMS's 8/13/21 "Zip Codes to Carrier Locality" File or the list on Attachment 8 of the Request for Applications (RFA) document?

- No, your pharmacy is not eligible for the grant program if your pharmacy's address is not within one of the zip codes indicated as rural on [CMS's 8/13/21 "Zip Codes to Carrier Locality" File](#) or listed in **Attachment 8** of the *Request for Applications (RFA)* packet. There are **no** exceptions to this eligibility requirement.

7. What are the appropriate uses for grant funds?

- Grant funds must be used to cover the costs and fees directly related to dispensing prescriptions. If you are concerned about whether your potential use for grant funds meets these criteria, please contact **Deanna Beebe** at deanna.beebe@maryland.gov or **(410) 767-5701** to discuss your ideas further.

8. What is the process and the submission deadline for submitting a grant application?

- A completed and signed **Grant Application Form** and your pharmacy's current **W-9 Form** must be electronically submitted **via email** to **Deanna Beebe** at deanna.beebe@maryland.gov by **5:00 PM EST on Friday, October 15th, 2021**. If you cannot email us your application documents, please email or call Deanna Beebe at deanna.beebe@maryland.gov or **(410) 767-5701** ***no later than 48 hours before the submission deadline*** in order to determine a way to still submit your application documents on time for consideration for grant funds.