

Next Generation ACO Model



*Open Door Forum:
Letter of Intent (LOI)
and Application*

April 14, 2015

Agenda

- Preliminary Application and Selection Timeline
- Letter of Intent
- Application

Preliminary Round One Application and Selection Timeline

Milestone	Date
LOI Due Date	May 1, 2015
Application Due Date (including submission of Next Generation Providers/Suppliers list)	June 1, 2015
Finalists Identified	Late Summer 2015
Agreements Signed	Fall 2015
Start of 1 st Performance Year	January 1, 2016

Next Generation / Shared Savings Program Application Interactions

- ACOs applying to the Next Generation ACO Model who are also contemplating entering the Shared Savings Program for a first or second agreement period beginning January 1, 2016, should submit the required indication of intent and application to *both* initiatives to be considered for either.
- An ACO will be allowed to participate in only *one* of these initiatives (Shared Savings Program or Next Generation) and will therefore be required to withdraw one of their applications during the application review period later this summer.

Milestone	Next Generation ACO Model	Shared Savings Program
Letter/Notice of Intent to Apply	Due: May 1, 2015	Accepted: May 1, 2015 – May 29, 2015 Due: May 29, 2015 at 8:00 pm ET
Application Due Date	Due: June 1, 2015 <i>(including submission of Providers/Suppliers list)</i>	Accepted: July 1, 2015 – July 31, 2015 Due: July 31, 2015 at 8:00 pm ET
Final Determination	Late Summer 2015 <i>Finalists Identified</i>	Fall 2015 <i>Approval or Denial Decision Sent to Applicants</i>

Letter of Intent

The screenshot shows the CMS.gov website for the Next Generation ACO Model Letter of Intent. It includes a warning box about not using the browser's back button, a contact email address, and a form section for organization and contact information with fields for name, business name, type, and TIN/EIN.

CMS.gov
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Next Generation ACO Model

Letter of Intent

Organizations interested in applying to the Next Generation ACO Model must submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) no later than May 1, 2015. LOIs will be used only for planning purposes, and the content of the LOI will not be binding. CMS will not consider applications from organizations that do not submit a timely LOI.

⚠ DO NOT use your browser's back page function or navigate away from this page while completing your LOI. Doing so will cause you to lose information that you have entered into your LOI. If you navigate away from this page, all information that you entered will be lost.

Questions about the LOI should be directed to NextGenerationACOModel@cms.hhs.gov.

Section A. Organization and Contact Information

*All fields in **bold** are required.*

1. Applicant Name

Organization Name:

Doing Business As (If applicable):

Organization Type:

Organization TIN/EIN:

- LOI due 5/1/15
- LOI cannot be saved while in progress—do not press back button or navigate away from page.
- Primary contact will receive confirmation e-mail with LOI #.
- LOI # required to access application.

Access LOI at: <http://innovation.cms.gov/initiatives/Next-Generation-ACO-Model/>.
Text version of the LOI available in Appendix A of the Request for Applications (RFA).

Rural ACOs

- Rural ACO defined in Appendix B of RFA.
- Applicant ACO considered rural if any of its primary service areas are located in a rural county.
 - More information on primary service area: <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/sharedsavingsprogram/Calculations.html>
- Counties not designated as parts of Metropolitan Areas by the Office of Management and Budget, census tracts with Rural Urban Commuting Area Codes (RUCA) 4 through 10, and micropolitan areas will be considered rural for the purposes of the Next Generation Model.
 - More information on RUCA codes: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/rural-urban-commuting-area-codes.aspx>

Accessing the Application

CMS.gov
Centers for Medicare & Medicare Services

Next Generation ACO Model Login

Username
Email

Password
Password

Login

[Forgot Password?](#)

[Request for Application Access](#)

- Access via Next Generation Model webpage.
- First time logging in? Click “Request for Application Access.”

CMS.gov
Centers for Medicare & Medicare Services

Next Generation ACO Model Login
Request for Application

LOI Confirmation #
LOI Confirmation #

Email
Email

Submit

- Enter LOI # and e-mail address of primary contact.
- Create username and password .

Application Home Screen

CMS.gov
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Welcome **Jane Eilbacher**

Application for the Next Generation ACO Model

Application Status: In Progress

Next Generation ID: V138

Welcome to the Next Generation ACO Model online application. Next Generation ACO Model applications must be submitted electronically no later than 11:59 p.m. EDT on June 1, 2015. Any questions that arise during the application process may be directed to the Next Generation ACO Model mailbox: NextGenerationACOModel@cms.hhs.gov.

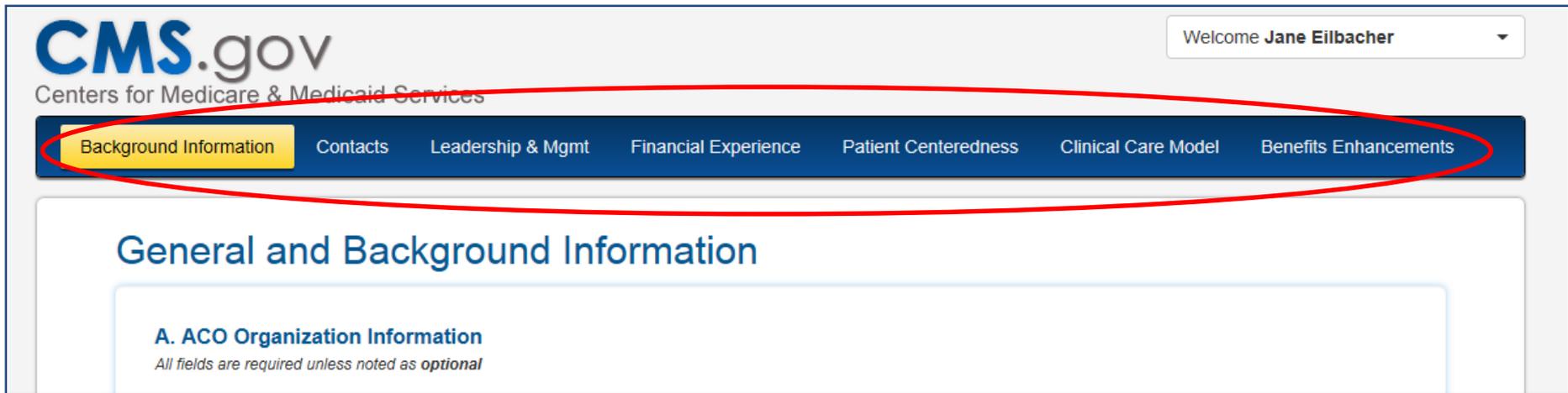
To enter your responses, please select the "Go to Application" button below. Once you have entered your responses, click Save. You may enter responses into the application, save your answers, and come back to complete it at a later date. Your application will not be considered complete until the Submit Application button has been selected. Once an application has been completed you will not be allowed to change your responses. Upon submission of the application you will receive a confirmation number. Please retain this for your records.

Click on the button below to access your application.

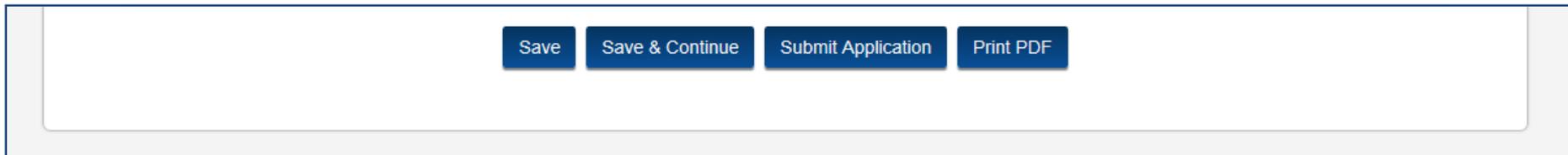
Go to Application

- Home screen displays application instructions, application status, and Next Generation ID (same as LOI confirmation #).
- Return to the home screen at any time using drop down menu in upper right hand corner.
- Text version of application available in Appendix G of RFA.

Navigating the Application



- Application contains seven sections, users can toggle between sections by clicking on navigation bar.



- These buttons are found at the bottom of each page.
- Cannot submit application until user has checked "I Accept" box on final page.

Application Submission

By checking "I Agree" below and clicking submit, I acknowledge that my application is final and that it has been completed to the best of my knowledge.

I Agree

Save

Submit Application

Print PDF

- Must check "I Agree" to submit application.
- Application will screen for errors after the "Submit Application Button" is pressed. Errors will appear at the top of the screen in red.

CMS.gov

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Welcome **Jane Eilbacher**

Background Information

Contacts

Leadership & Mgmt

Financial Experience

Patient Centeredness

Clinical Care Model

Benefits Enhancements

Application Errors

Error: You must select a value. (Tab: Background Information. Section: B. ACO Organization Profile)

Error: You must select a value (Tab: Contact Information. Section: C. IT/Technical Contact)

Error: You must select a value (Tab: Contact Information. Section: B. ACO Executive Contact)

- Clicking on the error message brings the user to the specific question to resolve the error.
- After submission, primary contact will receive confirmation e-mail.

Providers/Suppliers Lists

(Background Information, B. ACO Organization Profile, 6 and 7)

- Application requires two lists:
 - Next Generation Providers/Suppliers to be used for alignment;
 - All Next Generation Providers/Suppliers in ACO.
- Intent: accurate and complete information on all providers participating in ACO, even if not used for alignment.
- If a provider that could be used for alignment (e.g., a PCP) is on the “All Providers/Suppliers List” but not the “Alignment Providers/Suppliers List,” that provider will still be used for alignment.
- Application does not require submission of Preferred Provider and/or Affiliate lists.

Governing Body

(Leadership and Management, B. Governing Body)

B. Governing Body

All fields are required unless noted as optional

1. For Next Generation ACOs that comprise two or more Next Generation Providers/Suppliers, each of which is identified by a unique TIN, the ACO governing body must be separate and unique to the ACO and not the same as any other entity's governing body. If a Next Generation ACO is an existing legal entity (e.g., Alpha Health System is Alpha ACO), the ACO governing body may be the same as that of the existing legal entity, provided all other requirements are met.

Please Select One

Applicant ACO is an existing entity and the governing body will be the same as the existing entity's governing board.
Applicant Next Generation ACO's governing body will be separate and unique to the ACO.

- Governing body requirements described in RFA Section V.C.
- Regardless of answer to question 1, applicant required to answer question 2 and complete table with governing body members.

2. Please complete the table below with information specific to the Applicant ACO's proposed governing body.

Add Governing Body

No Data Found.

- Click "Add Governing Body."
- Fill out fields in pop-up box (check relevant box if member is a beneficiary or consumer advocate) and click save changes.

Benefit Enhancements

(Benefit Enhancements Implementation, A-D)

- Questions specific to proposed implementation of a variety of benefit enhancements.
 - For each benefit enhancement, Applicant ACO selects:
 - Yes, interested in participating in enhancement;
 - No, not interested in participating in enhancement; or
 - Maybe in PY2, or later.
 - If yes, additional description required. Responses used for assessing interest and planning for implementation.
- Acceptance into Model not contingent upon an ACO implementing any particular benefit enhancement.
- ACOs accepted into Model will be required to provide CMS with implementation plans for each benefit enhancement selected by the ACO.

Outcomes-Based Contracts

(Financial Experience and Information, B. Risk Sharing Experience, 3 and 3.i.)

- Requirements described in RFA Section V.G.
- Outcomes-based contracts must include:
 - Financial accountability;
 - Patient experience evaluations; and
 - Substantial quality performance incentives.
- Application asks for percentage (may be estimation) of revenue derived from outcomes-based contracts.
- ACO's total revenue includes payments received by all Next Generation Providers/Suppliers for clinical services, not just payments to ACO entity itself.

State Licensure

(Financial Experience and Information, C. Financial Plan if Selected, 1)

- Requirements described in RFA Section V.F.
- Applicants attest to one of three options:
 - Applicant ACO has been licensed as a risk-bearing entity in state in which it will operate;
 - Upload license/documentation.
 - Applicant is required to obtain licensure, but has not yet been licensed as a risk-bearing entity; or
 - Describe plans and timeline to become licensed.
 - N/A (e.g., state does not have licensure requirement for ACOs or ACO not required to be licensed as risk-bearing entity).

Application Scoring

- Described in Section XII and Appendix F of RFA.
- Applications scored on five domains:
 1. Organizational structure;
 2. Leadership and management;
 3. Financial plan and experience with risk sharing;
 4. Patient centeredness; and
 5. Clinical care model.
- Additionally, applicants must demonstrate that organizational structure and provider/supplier composition meets goals of model.
- If participated in previous CMS model/program, must demonstrate good performance and conduct.

Questions?

Next Generation ACO Model Webpage:
<http://innovation.cms.gov/initiatives/Next-Generation-ACO-Model/>

E-mail: NextGenerationACOModel@cms.hhs.gov
Technical Support: CMMIForceSupport@cms.hhs.gov