

CMS CERTIFIED ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD TECHNOLOGY (CEHRT) FLEXIBILITY FINAL RULE

The rule, issued August 29, 2014, allows providers (EPs) and hospitals (EHs) attesting in Program Year 2014 to meet meaningful use (MU) with electronic health records (EHRs) certified to either the 2011 or the 2014 edition criteria, or a combination of both editions.

FLEXIBILITY RULE GUIDELINES

Flexibility is only available to EPs and EHs unable to fully implement 2014 Edition CEHRT due to delays in 2014 Edition CEHRT availability.

Acceptable reasons for inability to fully implement include:

- Software development and update delays
- Insufficient staff training, testing, and workflow development time
- Inability to meet Stage 2 Summary of Care measures due to 2014 CEHRT issues

Unacceptable reasons for inability to fully implement include:

- Financial issues or refusal to purchase necessary software
- Inability to meet one or more MU measures
- Staff turnover or change
- Delayed vendor engagement for installation or upgrade

The rule only applies to Program Year (PY) 2014. Providers and hospitals need to use 2014 CEHRT to attest for AIU for PY 2014. Program Year 2015 attestations must be submitted using 2014 Edition CEHRT. The rule does not allow MU objectives and CQMs to be mixed and matched from different years.

TO UTILIZE THE CEHRT FLEXIBILITY FINAL RULE

Follow these steps to apply to use the Flexibility Rule:

Fill out the survey to signal your intent to use the CEHRT Flexibility Rule:

Eligible Hospitals: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MD8TQ78>

Eligible Providers: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/HRSZFT2>

After completing the survey, you will receive an email requesting supporting documentation to demonstrate your qualification for the Flexibility Rule. Submit required documentation to Maryland Medicaid.

If Maryland Medicaid determines your practice or hospital qualifies to use the Flexibility Rule, you will receive an approval letter.

When you are ready to attest, follow the link to the **CEHRT Flexibility Attestation Wizard**. Select your scheduled MU Stage, choose a preferred CEHRT MU option, and obtain the linked fillable forms.

Complete the forms and submit with appropriate documentation, including Medicaid's approval letter to:

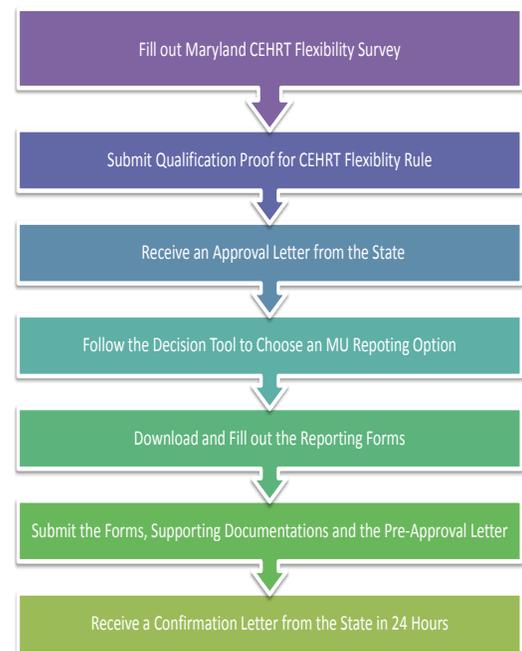
dhmh.marylandehr@maryland.gov.

Attestation submitted via email should expect the fastest response. Submit one attestation for each provider when attesting by group proxy.

Use the CEHRT Flexibility Attestation Wizard as a tool to determine your MU Stage:

<https://meaningfuluse.crisphealth.org/flexibility/>

CEHRT Flexibility Attestation Process



PY 2014 ATTESTATION DEADLINES

- Eligible Hospitals - December 31, 2014
- Eligible Providers - March 31, 2015

For more information about the CEHRT Flexibility Final Rule, please see the **CMS Quick Guide**.

CMS 2014 CEHRT Flexibility Rule Chart
Other CEHRT Flexibility Rule Resources

For Meaningful Use support, please contact CRISP:
<http://meaningfuluse.crisphealth.org>
Phone: 877-952-7477
Fax: 443-817-9587
support@crisphealth.org