

Burden Impact: The changes to this application do not reflect proposals in the CY2021 Physician Fee Schedule (PFS) Proposed Rule for the Quality Payment Program. There are no impacts to burden as a result of these changes.

Change # 1: Exceptions Application Access

Summary of Change: Authenticated Experience- Still accessed through the QPP Website – the end user will now sign into access and submit Exceptions Applications.

Reason for Change: An Authenticated Login ensures the submitter has the proper credentials to submit the application on behalf of the Clinician(s) or Group and provides an efficient way for to track and document submitted applications including: Status changes – Pending Review, Approved, Denied, Withdrawn or Information Requests.

Corresponding Figures:

PY2019 Application: 1

PY2020 Application: 1 & 2

Change # 2: Application Selection

Summary of Change: Exception application selection has been condensed into one area that allows the end user to select either the Promoting Interoperability (PI) Hardship or the Extreme and Uncontrollable Circumstances (EUC) Exceptions Application from the same screen depending on their circumstances.

Reason for Change: Reduces the number of places that the end user must go to submit their request.

Corresponding Figures:

PY2019 Application: N/A

PY2020 Application: 3

Change # 3: Application Filing Level (Individual, Group or Virtual Group)

Summary of Change: The addition of radio buttons clearly shows the level under which an application can be submitted. Based on the selection the application additional prompts have been added to request the NPI, TIN, or VG ID, the entry of one of these requirements will initiates a data pull identifying the clinician or group by name as well as their practicing credentials (MD,DO,PA, ect).

Reason for Change: Allows parts of the application to be pre-populated with information regarding the Clinician or Group connected to the exception application.

Corresponding Figures:

CY2019 Application: 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5

CY2020 Application: 4, 4a, 4b, & 4c

Change # 4: Submitter Information

Summary of Change: The submitter is NO LONGER required to enter their First Name, Last Name or Company/Organization Name- it is now tied automatically to the information provided in association with their Authenticated QPP Login.

Reason for Change: The use of the Authenticated login allows portions of the application to be pre-populated reducing the amount of information the submitter needs to provide during the application process.

Corresponding Figures:

CY2019 Application: 6

CY2020 Application: 6

Change # 5: Additional Access

Summary of Change: The new “Additional Access” section allows the submitter to designate additional staff who can help to manage the form and receive program announcements.

Reason for Change: Helps to ensure that status update can be managed by more than one person within the organization – preventing errors in the event of staff changes or un-expected absences on the part of the submitter.

Corresponding Figures:

CY2019 Application: N/A

CY2020 Application: 7

Change # 6: Selection of an Extreme and Uncontrollable Event Type

Summary of Change: Radio buttons have been added which enables all acceptable EUC Exception reasons to be displayed on one screen.

Reason for Change: By streamlining the EUC Exception scenarios into one place and giving providing a list of potential situations that may be considered Extreme and Uncontrollable, leave less room for interpretation, reducing the number of invalid applications submitted.

Corresponding Figures:

CY2019 Application: 7

CY2020 Application: 8

Change # 7: Selection of Impacted Performance Categories

Summary of Change: Definitions of the Performance Categories, as well as direction on when to select the category as impacted have been added as “Call-Outs” within this section.

Reason for Change: “Call-Outs” will provide the submitter a better understanding of how each performance category may or may not be impacted by their particular circumstances, reducing the number of EUC applications selecting ALL categories for an event that may have only impacted 1 or 2 categories.

Corresponding Figures:

CY2019 Application: 8

CY2020 Application: 9

Change # 8: Submission and Certification of Application

Summary of Change: Upon completion of all of the required portions of the Exceptions application the submitter will click a “Submit for Review” button and be presented with a final Certification and Review screen providing them the opportunity to review each section of the application for accuracy prior to submission, this section includes all Notices and Disclosures required.

Reason for Change: Adding the Final Review along with the Certification and Attestation Statements at the end of the application ensures that any errors within the application have had the opportunity to be corrected by the submitter prior to going into the review process.

Corresponding Figures:

CY2019 Application: 9

CY2020 Application: 10 & 10a

Change # 9: Submission Confirmation and Application Status Tracking

Summary of Change: After the submitter has clicked “Certify & Submit” they will be provided with an immediate application status: Submitted for Review, Approved or Denied. the submitter can also track applications from submission to final disposition through the Authenticated QPP Login

Reason for Change: Implementing the application process through the Authenticated QPP Login reduces the burden on submitters trying to track the submission and status of multiple exceptions applications.

Corresponding Figures:

CY2019 Application: N/A

CY2020 Application: 12, 13 & 13a