

Equity and Practice Transformation (EPT) Payment Program

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is implementing a one-time \$700 million primary care provider practice transformation program to advance health equity and reduce COVID-19-driven care disparities by investing in up-stream care models and partnerships to address health and wellness and funding practice transformation.

These efforts, aligned with value-based payment models, will allow Medi-Cal providers to better serve the state's diverse Medi-Cal enrollee population. To align with the goals of the DHCS Comprehensive Quality Strategy and Equity Roadmap, these funds will pay for delivery system transformation payments to primary care practices focused on advancing DHCS' equity goals in the **"50 by 2025: Bold Goals" initiative** and to prepare providers to participate in alternative payment models.

These funds will be allocated in three separate pathways throughout the phases of the program year(s):

1. Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan (MCP) Initial Provider Planning Incentive Payments (\$25 million over 1 year)
2. EPT Provider Directed Payment Program (\$650 million over 5 years)
3. The Statewide Learning Collaborative (\$25 million over 5 years)

Medi-Cal MCP Initial Provider Planning Incentive Payments

Through the MCP Initial Provider Planning Incentive Payments, small-to medium-sized independent practices can receive support from Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan to develop practice transformation plans and prepare for their application to the larger EPT Provider Directed Payment Program.

- Eligible practices - small or medium-sized independent practices not associated with a healthcare system or FQHC (with the exception of Indian Health Services or Rural Health Centers)
 - Small includes up to 25 providers
 - Medium includes 26 to 50 providers

These small and medium-sized practices should contact us at EPT@blueshieldca.com before applying to the EPT Provider Directed Payment Program.

EPT Provider Directed Payment Program

All Primary Care practices are invited to apply to the directed payment program. To apply you must be:

- In the Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan network
- A Primary Care practice providing the following services:
 - Pediatrics, Family Medicine or Internal Medicine, OR
 - Primary Care OB/GYN, OR
 - Behavioral Health providers providing integrated behavioral health services in a primary care setting
- Serving at least 1,000 Medi-Cal members

EPT Provider Directed Payment Program Application

For your review, here is a link to the application instructions for this program: [Provider Directed Payment Program Application Instructions](#). To be considered for this program, you must apply through the web-based application at <https://forms.office.com/g/PRe9f2mbjQ>. Applications must be completed in one sitting. Your application is **due to DHCS on October 23, 2023, at 11:59 p.m.** Blue Shield Promise will review all applications from providers who indicated that they want to work with the plan. The plan will review and select which applications to forward to DHCS.

Blue Shield Promise Contact

If you meet the eligibility criteria and have questions about participating in the EPT program, please send an email to EPT@blueshieldca.com.