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Primary Care ACO deadline pushed back

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The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) announced on July 24 that the deadline for submitting an application for the Primary Care Flex Model accountable care organization model (ACO) would be moved from Aug. 1, 2024, to Aug. 23, 2024.

The model is offered to Medicare Shared Savings Program (MSSP) ACOs that are "low revenue" — that is, for which annual revenue is less than 35% of total Part A and Part B fee-for-service expenditures — and includes a \$250,000 prospective payment for primary care services (PBN 4/1/24).

"What I wouldn't take away from this announcement is that CMS didn't have enough takers, and it is re-marketing," says Theresa Hush, CEO and co-founder of Roji Health Intelligence in Chicago. "The extension simply isn't long enough for an ACO not considering this avenue to whip up an application and get approval from stakeholders." Hush thinks CMMI may need the time for processing due to issues with an individual proposal, or summer vacations.



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