



Incentives News Update

Reminder about the new PIP Quality Improvement Incentive

The PIP Quality Improvement (QI) Incentive starts on **1 August 2019**.

It's a payment to general practices who participate in activities that support continuous quality improvement in patient outcomes and the delivery of best practice care.

There are **two components** a general practice needs to meet to qualify for a PIP QI Incentive payment:

1. PARTICIPATE IN CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

The PIP QI Incentive will reward practices for participating in continuous quality improvement activities in partnership with their local Primary Health Network (PHN). Practices may undertake quality improvement activities that focus on specified Improvement Measures. There are no set targets for the Improvement Measures. Practices can also choose to focus their activities on other areas. These areas must be informed by their clinical information system data and meet the needs of their practice population.

2. PROVIDE THE PIP ELIGIBLE DATA SET TO YOUR LOCAL PHN

General practices must provide to their local PHN the PIP Eligible Data Set from their general practice clinical information system. The PIP Eligible Data Set is the data collected against the specified Improvement Measures. PHNs will use the de-identified data to provide feedback to general practices. This will help the practices identify key priority areas and quality improvement activities.

We encourage you to contact your local PHN to make sure you're prepared for these changes. Go to health.gov.au/phn and select the contact tab to find your local PHN.

To understand the PIP QI requirements and PIP data governance arrangements, the following documents will be available online shortly:

- PIP QI Guidelines
- Improvement Measures
- PIP Eligible Data Set Data Governance Framework

The Australian Government has decided to retain the Aged Care Access Incentive. This means that on **1 August 2019**, when the PIP QI commences, only four incentives will cease on **31 July 2019**. These are:

- Asthma Incentive
- Quality Prescribing Incentive
- Cervical Screening Incentive
- Diabetes Incentive.

These seven incentives do not change:

- eHealth Incentive
- After Hours Incentive
- Rural Loading Incentive
- Teaching Payment
- Indigenous Health Incentive
- Procedural General Practitioner Payment
- General Practitioner Aged Care Access Incentive.

You'll be able to **register for the PIP QI Incentive online** through HPOS from **1 August 2019** using your Provider Digital Access (PRODA) account. If you don't have a PRODA account you can register for one. Go to humanservices.gov.au/hpos to log on and get more information.



PIP Cervical Screening Incentive— one-off payment

On **1 December 2017**, the National Cervical Screening Program changed. The two yearly Pap test for people aged 18 to 69 changed to a five yearly human papillomavirus (HPV) test for people aged 25 to 74.

The Department of Health recognises some practices may have needed more time to adjust their processes to align with the new Cervical Screening Test requirements.

This means some practices didn't meet the 70% screening targets to qualify for the PIP Cervical Screening Incentive Outcomes Payment between **May 2018** and **February 2019**.

Practices that didn't qualify for a payment in the **May 2018—February 2019** quarters may be eligible for a one-off payment. To get this payment, the practice must have qualified for a payment in one or more of the quarters in the previous year between **May 2017** and **February 2018**.

We'll calculate the amount based on the payment the practice received in the corresponding quarters between **May 2017** and **February 2018**. Eligible practices will get the payment by **30 June 2019**.

PIP Teaching Payment claims process

On **1 November 2018**, we introduced a new process to claim the PIP Teaching Payment. The new process reduces payment delays, as universities don't need to verify teaching sessions after training.

As a reminder, we won't accept old claim forms for teaching sessions conducted after **1 February 2019**. Please make sure universities give your practice the new PIP Teaching Payment claim form when they refer students to your practice.

We'll only accept an old claim form if the teaching sessions took place **before 1 February 2019**.

You can find the Teaching Payment guidelines and claim form online. Go to humanservices.gov.au/pip

Workforce Incentive Program to start 1 January 2020

The introduction of the Workforce Incentive Program (WIP) is deferred until **1 January 2020**. This will allow more time for practices to adjust to the changes in their transition to the WIP.

The WIP will replace the Practice Nurse Incentive Program (PNIP) and the General Practice Rural Incentives Program (GPRIP):

- general practices (in PNIP) will automatically transition to the WIP – Practice Stream
- medical practitioners (in GPRIP) will automatically transition to the WIP – Doctor Stream.

The Department of Health is developing the WIP Program Guidelines. These will provide information about program arrangements, including incentive payments, rural loadings and eligibility requirements.

We'll let you know when the guidelines are available.

Accreditation assistance payment

We'll continue to pay eligible practices the accreditation assistance payment until the WIP starts. This payment supports new practices to achieve accreditation. Under the WIP, the accreditation assistance payment will cease.

More information

Go to the Health website at health.gov.au/workforceincentiveprogram for WIP factsheets and questions and answers.

Go to doctorconnect.gov.au for information on the Modified Monash Model (MMM) geographic classification and to determine your practice's MMM location.



Confirm practice details on your confirmation statements

We send confirmation statements so you can verify practice and payment details, and we can keep your practice details up-to-date.

As an approved practice you'll get one or both of the following:

- an annual PIP statement in May
- a quarterly PNIP statement by the 15th of the point-in-time month.

Please review the information on each page including the list of practitioners who work at your practice and those in payee provider arrangements.

To confirm the details on your confirmation statement are correct:

- go to humanservices.gov.au/hpos and log on
- select **PIP Online**, then **confirmation statement** from the menu options on the left to confirm your **PIP details**
- select **PNIP Online** then **quarterly confirmation statement** from the menu options on the left to confirm your **PNIP details**
- read and complete the **declarations** then select the **confirm** button.



If you don't return your confirmation statement/s by the due date, we'll withhold your PIP and/or PNIP payments.

We'll release payments when you return your completed confirmation statement/s.

If your payments are withheld for three consecutive quarters, your practice's incentive payments will stop and we'll withdraw your practice from the PIP and/or PNIP.

If your practice is withdrawn, you forfeit any withheld payments. You'll need to apply to re-join the PIP and/or PNIP. To be eligible, you must be fully accredited at the time you apply.

If you re-apply, you'll start getting payments again from the payment quarter following the date your practice meets all eligibility requirements and is approved to participate in the PIP and/or PNIP.

Do you know your practice ID number?

Find your practice ID number next to 'Our Reference' in your quarterly payment advice.

We don't accept forms with an incorrect or missing practice ID number. If this happens, we'll write and ask you for the correct practice ID before we process your request.

Linking your RA number

If you choose to receive your confirmation statement/s, payment advice/s, and update your PIP/PNIP details online, you need to link your Registration Authority (RA) number from your PRODA account to your practice.

If you're a new practice or haven't had access to PIP or PNIP Online before, call **1800 222 032** to have your PRODA RA number linked to the practice.

If you already have access to PIP or PNIP online, to link an RA number to your practice:

- select **PIP** or **PNIP** in HPOS
- select **Practice Staff System** from the main menu
- select the staff member whose RA number you're updating
- enter the staff member's RA number in the RA Number column
- select **Grant Access**.

Eligibility for PNIP payments

If you've given us consent to use your PIP information for the PNIP, you must stay eligible in the PIP to keep getting your PNIP payments. If you withdraw from the PIP or we withdraw you because you're no longer eligible, we'll also withdraw you from the PNIP. If your practice wants to participate in either program after being withdrawn, you'll need to make sure you meet the eligibility requirements before re-applying.

Reminder to use the address registered on the PIP/PNIP profile on forms

Please make sure you use the same address registered on your PIP/PNIP profile when you submit forms to us. We can't process forms if the addresses don't match. If this happens, we'll write and ask you to update the practice address online through HPOS. You can also update the address using the *Practice Incentives change of practice details* form (IP005), available at humanservices.gov.au/pip

It's also important that the address for general practitioner (GP) and nurse practitioner (NP) provider numbers match the address on your PIP/PNIP profile. We can't process the *Practice Incentives Individual general practitioner or nurse practitioner details* form (IP003) if the address registered against the provider number is different to the PIP/PNIP profile address.

These addresses must also match if your practice registers GPs and NPs through HPOS.

Talk to us through HPOS

Did you know you can contact us online through HPOS?

If you're a practice owner or authorised contact, use the HPOS mail centre to ask general questions.

Please remember to include your PIP/PNIP practice ID number, your practice name and the name of the person sending the enquiry. This helps us to identify you and respond.

Use the HPOS mail centre for:

- general enquiries about the program or individual incentives
- enquiries specific to your practice details
- accessing your annual PIP and quarterly PNIP confirmation statements

Have your say on the Indigenous Health Incentive

You're invited to have your say on how the Indigenous Health Incentive can better support you to provide high quality chronic disease care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Public consultation is now underway, following initial stakeholder consultation by the Department of Health.

You can read the consultation paper and further details at consultations.health.gov.au. There'll also be workshops and opportunities to engage with the Department of Health online—more details will be published online soon.

Don't miss the opportunity to have your say and share with your networks. Submissions close **10 June 2019**.

For details contact Anna Osland from the Department of Health on **02 6289 9659** or email Anna.Osland@health.gov.au



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Go to humanservices.gov.au/healthprofessionalsnews

PIP Updates

Latest updates

New Practice Incentives Additional practice branch form (IPO25)

From **31 August 2019**, we won't accept the old versions of the *Practice Incentives Additional practice branch form (IPO25)*. If you're adding a practice branch, please use the latest version of the form. You can find it at humanservices.gov.au/pip

Reminders

- Please complete your *Practice Incentives Program Teaching Payment claim form (IPO06)* correctly. Please make sure:
 - the date of certification from the university is on or before the date of the first teaching session
 - the GP has signed each teaching session
 - the student declaration and practice declaration are dated after all the teaching sessions have occurred.
- Use the correct fax number if you fax your forms to us. Only PIP and PNIP forms should be faxed to **1300 587 696**. Forms for other programs will have a different fax number.
- Remember to send each form to us as a separate fax so we can process each request.
- Has your practice relocated? Remember to complete a *Practice Incentives change of practice details form (IPO05)* and submit it to us with supporting documentation. You need to do this within seven days of the change. You can find the form at humanservices.gov.au/pip
- If your practice name has changed, send us the details of the change on a company letterhead and signed by a practice owner.

Find out more

Go online to humanservices.gov.au/pip and humanservices.gov.au/pnip

Email pip@humanservices.gov.au or pnip@humanservices.gov.au

Call **1800 222 032*** (8.30 am to 5.00 pm Monday to Friday, Australian Central Standard Time)

*Call charges apply from mobile and pay phones only.

Please be aware that there may be risks with sending personal information through unsecured networks or email channels.