# Medicaid EHR Incentive Program*
## Timelines for Program Year 2020 and 2021



\* A Promoting Interoperability Program

## THIS GUIDE IS INTENDED TO:

HELP YOU UNDERSTAND THE PROGRAM TIMELINES AND REQUIREMENTS FOR PROGRAM YEARS 2020 AND 2021

COMMUNICATE THE REASON BEHIND THE ACCELERATED PROGRAM TIMELINES, ADJUSTED ATTESTATION PERIODS, AND EARLY DEADLINES

CONVEY A SENSE OF URGENCY WHILE MINIMIZING STRESS AND ANXIETY

ENABLE YOU TO SUCCESSFULLY PARTICIPATE IN THE FINAL TWO YEARS OF THE MEDICAID EHR INCENTIVE PROGRAM

**MeHI**
MASSACHUSETTS
eHEALTH INSTITUTE

**Earn up to**

# $63,750

over 6 years of program participation

## Medicaid EHR Incentive Program

(A Promoting Interoperability Program)

Participation years do not need to be consecutive. EPs can skip years without penalty

**2011** — **2016** — **2021**

Medicaid EHR Incentive Program began

Last year to initiate participation

Program will sunset. All EHR Incentives must be paid by December 31, 2021

## Program Sunset

Federal law requires all incentives be paid by December 31, 2021

The PY2021 deadline must be well before the end of 2021, so that **all incentives** can be paid by December 31, 2021

Adjustments were made to the deadlines for both PY2020 and PY2021 to prepare for the Program Sunset

MAPIR will allow more than one active application to be open simultaneously (Provided the EP has at least two payment years left)
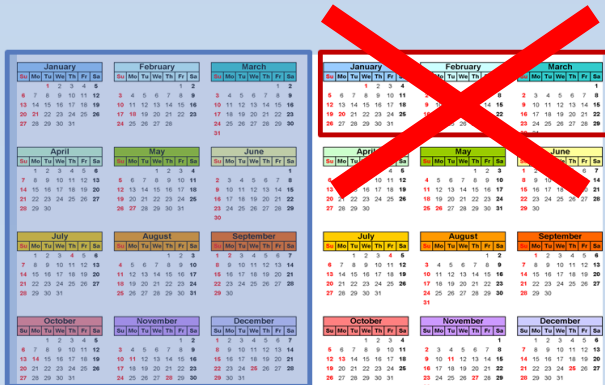
# Timelines: PY2020 and PY2021

*The attestation periods and deadlines for PY2020 and PY2021 are different from previous years*

The PY2020 attestation period is **October 1, 2020—February 2, 2021**

The deadline to submit PY2020 applications is **February 2, 2021**

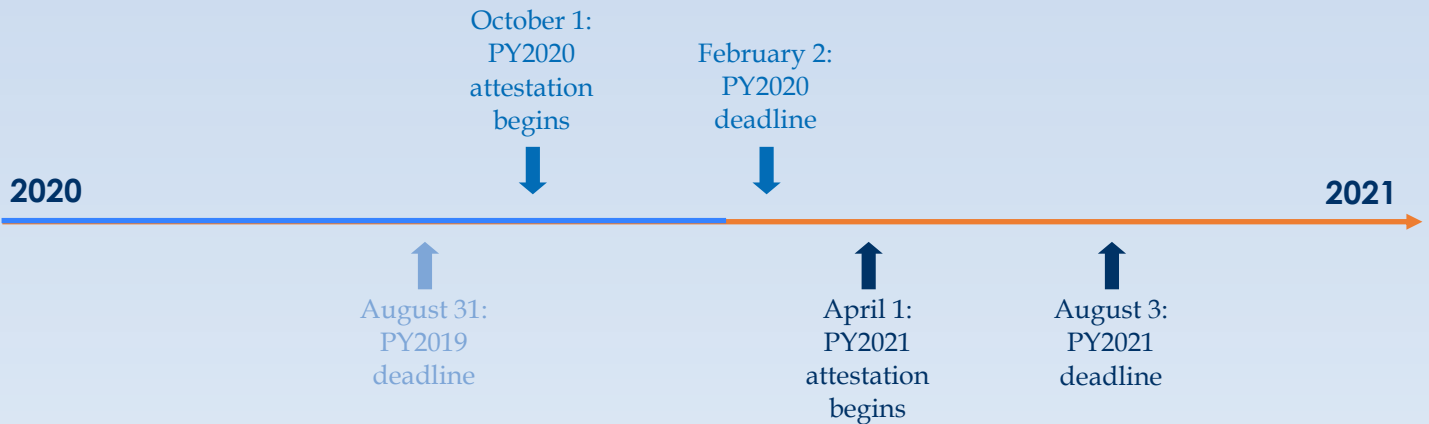The PY2021 attestation period is **April 1, 2021—August 3, 2021**

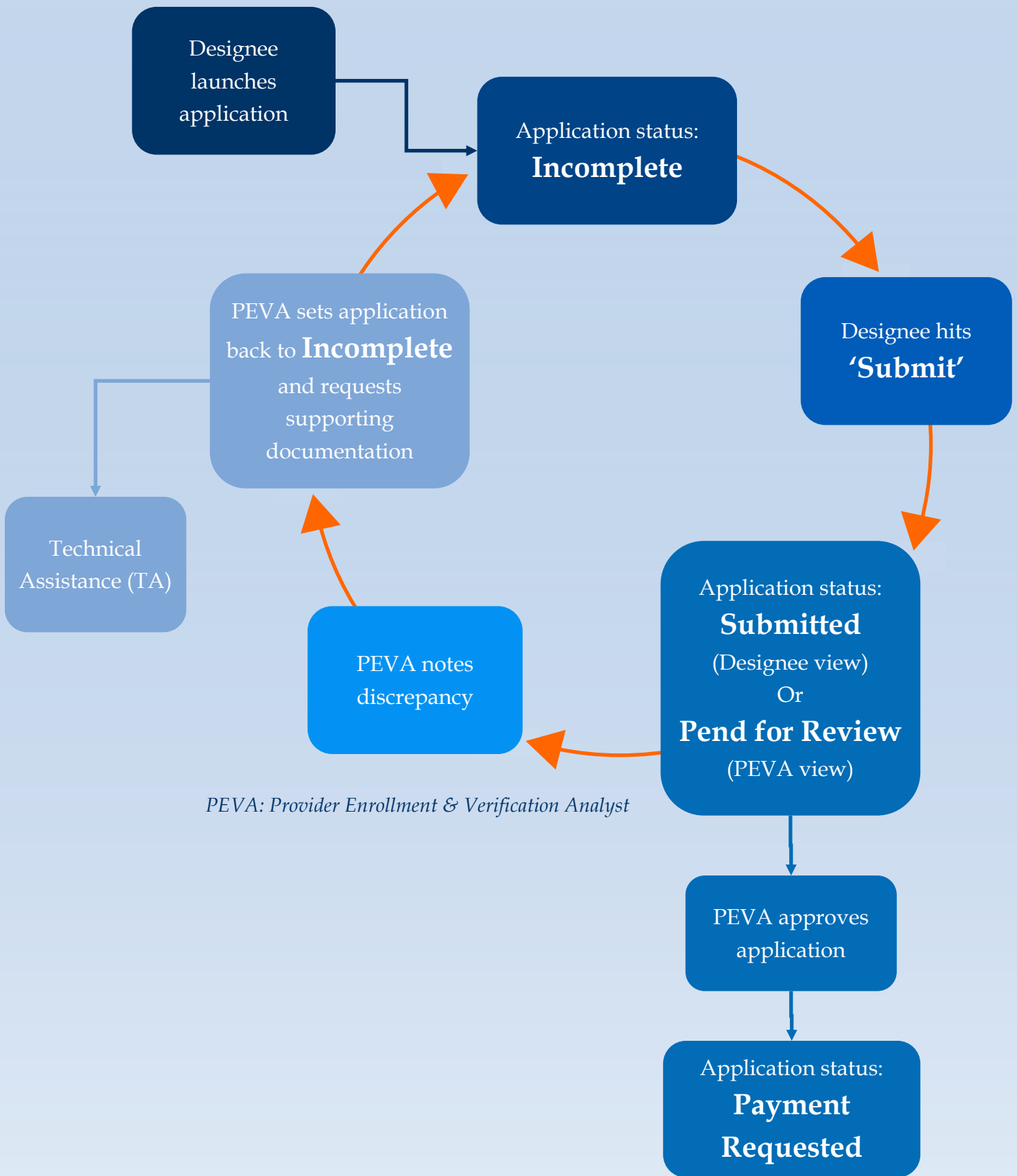The deadline to submit PY2020 applications is **August 3, 2021***

Attestation Tail

Program Year

*\* Program Years 2020 and 2021 do not have an attestation tail that extends to March 31st of the following year. **All PY2021 applications must be submitted by August 3, 2021.***

2020

October 1:
PY2020
attestation
begins

February 2:
PY2020
deadline

2021

August 31:
PY2019
deadline

April 1:
PY2021
attestation
begins

August 3:
PY2021
deadline

# Validation Process: Application Cycling

**Designee launches application**

Application status:
**Incomplete**

Designee hits
**'Submit'**

PEVA sets application back to **Incomplete** and requests supporting documentation

Technical Assistance (TA)

PEVA notes discrepancy

*PEVA: Provider Enrollment & Verification Analyst*

Application status:
**Submitted**
(Designee view)
Or
**Pend for Review**
(PEVA view)

PEVA approves application

Application status:
**Payment Requested**

# One Payment Year Remaining

⇒ Carefully select which year to attest to and focus entirely on that year, **or**

⇒ Attest to PY2020 (keeping in mind that if needed, you have the option to abort your PY2020 application and attest to PY2021 instead)

## Step 1

⇒ Select which program year to attest to

♦ Attesting to PY2020 allows you to attest earlier and have more time to resolve potential issues

♦ Planning to attest to PY2021 allows you more time to prepare for attestation and avoid potential issues altogether, but the timelines are even tighter than PY2020

## Step 2 (Optional)

⇒ Abort your PY2020 application (if EP failed to meet program requirements)

♦ If you abort your PY2020 application so you can attest to PY2021 instead, you must abort your PY2020 application **and** submit your PY2021 application **by the PY2021 deadline of August 3, 2021**

# Two Payment Years Remaining

⇒ Complete and submit your PY2020 application by the February 2, 2021 deadline
⇒ Launch and complete your PY2021 application any time after April 2, 2021
⇒ Resolve any discrepancies with your PY2020 application as quickly as possible
⇒ If EP failed to meet program requirements, abort your PY2020 application as soon as possible, to allow PEVAs to move on to reviewing your PY2021 application

## Step 1

⇒ Complete and submit* your PY2020 application

♦ Submit during the PY2020 attestation period: **October 1, 2020—February 2, 2021**

\* Submitted means that you have hit the 'submit' button at least once. If you submit your PY2020 application and then a PEVA sets it back to Incomplete, that still counts as Submitted

## Step 2

⇒ Complete and submit your PY2021 application

♦ Submit during the PY2021 attestation period: **April 1, 2021—August 3, 2021**

♦ The PY2020 application **does not** have to be approved/paid before launching the PY2021 application

♦ MAPIR allows EPs in this scenario to have two active applications open at the same time

## Step 3

⇒ Resolve issues with your PY2020 application

♦ The TA team is available to help you prepare for the PY2020 attestation and reduce application cycling later

♦ The PEVA team will work on your PY2020 applications first before moving on to PY2021

♦ If you submit your PY2021 application while your PY2020 application is still incomplete, the PY2021 application will remain in either Submitted/Incomplete status until the PY2020 application is either approved for payment or aborted

## Step 4 (Optional)

⇒ If you decide to abort your PY2020 application, we advise you to do so as soon as possible, so the PEVAs can start validating your PY2021 application

♦ Your PY2021 application cannot be approved until your PY2020 application is either approved or aborted

♦ Your PY2021 application must be fully processed and payment issued by **December 31, 2021**

# Things to Consider

## 2019

- Use the [Supporting Doc Guide](#) as a checklist
- Minimize application cycling, discrepancies, and missing supporting documentation
    - If you have already submitted a 2019 application, correct any discrepancies as soon as possible (contact MeHI to request that it be set back to 'Incomplete')
    - If you haven't yet submitted a 2019 application, ensure your application is as complete as possible before submitting to avoid application cycling

## 2020

- PY2020 attestation begins in **October of 2020**
- All EPs will have a 90 day reporting period for CQMs
- All EPs must demonstrate that an SRA/SRR was completed **within the calendar year**
    - If you've already completed your SRA/SRR for PY2020, you can attest as soon as October 1, 2020
    - If you plan to attest before the end of this year, keep in mind that you need to complete your SRA/SRR **prior to attestation**

## 2021

- All EPs will have a 90 day reporting period for CQMs
- PVT reporting periods cannot overlap
    - The August 3, 2021 deadline means there are limited options for a 90 day PVT reporting period if the EP selects from the 12 months prior to attestation
    - The best strategy is to use a PVT reporting period from the previous calendar year for both PY2020 and PY2021 to avoid potential overlap
- EPs will be allowed to complete an SRA/SRR after the date of attestation but must pledge to complete it by the end of calendar year 2021. Designees will be required to attest as such in MAPIR

# Stay Connected

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