

What's New for Agents and Brokers for Plan Year 2017 Federally-facilitated Marketplace (FFM) Registration?

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has made it easier for agents and brokers to complete FFM registration and training for plan year 2017.

What's New with FFM Registration in Plan Year 2017?

While most of the registration steps are the same as in plan year 2016, there are a few new features for plan year 2017:

Topic	Plan Year 2017	Plan Year 2016
Registration Completion Certificates	Registration Completion Certificates will include the date that the agent or broker completes the plan year 2017 FFM registration requirements.	Registration Completion Certificates did not include the date that the agent or broker completed the FFM registration requirements.
Registration Completion and Termination Lists	CMS will post updates to the Agent and Broker FFM Registration Completion and Termination Lists on a daily basis. You can now access the lists at Data.HealthCare.gov (https://data.healthcare.gov/fim_ab_registration_lists), or via the hyperlink on the Agents and Brokers Resources webpage (http://go.cms.gov/CCIOAB).	CMS updated the Agent and Broker FFM Registration Completion and Termination Lists to the Agents and Brokers Resources webpage twice monthly.
Identity Proofing	Identity proofing must be completed before an agent or broker is able to access the Marketplace Learning Management System (MLMS).	Identity proofing could be completed before or after completing FFM registration training.
MLMS Profile	The MLMS profile will capture details regarding an agent's or broker's hours of operation to provide a greater level of detail in the "Find Local Help" tool.	MLMS did not ask for an agent's or broker's hours of operations.
State Licensure	Per the Individual Marketplace General Agreement, agents and brokers must maintain licensure in at least one state.	Per the 2016 Individual Marketplace General Agreement, agents and brokers were required to be licensed in every state in which the agent or broker offered a qualified health plan.
Small Business Health Option Program (SHOP) Marketplace	Agent and broker information will automatically populate in the SHOP Marketplace Agent/Broker Portal. Agents and brokers may also edit the information displayed in the portal through the MLMS.	Agents and brokers had to establish a profile on the SHOP Marketplace Agent/Broker Portal and, only some information was editable through the portal.

What's New with FFM Training in Plan Year 2017?

While most of the training content is the same as in plan year 2016, there are a few new features for plan year 2017:

Topic	Plan Year 2017	Plan Year 2016
Streamlined Refresher Training	Agents and brokers who successfully completed FFM registration for plan year 2016 are eligible to take a streamlined Refresher Training for the Individual Marketplace (estimated two hours for completion) via the MLMS or a CMS-approved vendor. New agents and brokers who complete the full plan year 2017 FFM registration and training requirements for the Individual Marketplace will be eligible to take the streamlined Refresher Training for returning agents and brokers next year.	Agents and brokers who participated in the FFMs for the previous plan year had to retake the full agent and broker training for the current plan year (estimated four hours for completion).
Vendor Training	The MLMS will receive verification directly from the CMS-approved vendors when an agent or broker completes training. Agents and brokers do not need to enter a code to verify their completion.	Agents and brokers who opted to take FFM training via CMS-approved vendors needed to enter a code into the MLMS to verify that they completed vendor training.
Training Curricula	Agents and brokers will enroll in curricula (i.e., Individual Marketplace, Individual Marketplace Refresher, SHOP Marketplace); module-level enrollment will not be available.	Agents and brokers could enroll by training module, potentially leading to confusion about which modules to enroll in to complete the registration training requirements for the Individual or SHOP Marketplaces.

To access the CMS Enterprise Portal visit: <https://portal.cms.gov/>. For more information on the changes, refer to the online resources available at the [Agents and Brokers Resources](#) webpage. If you want to be added to the distribution list for CMS emails and newsletters on these topics, send your request to: [FFM Producer Assister Help Desk](#).