

## Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Quality Program Extraordinary Circumstances Exceptions (ECE) Request Form

A facility may request an exception, as specified by CMS, for the submission of quality reporting and value-based purchasing program data due to extraordinary circumstances beyond the facility's control. These circumstances may include (but are not limited to) natural disasters (such as a severe hurricane or flood), issues with CMS-designated information systems that directly affect the ability of the facility to submit data, or extreme circumstances that prevent facilities from electronic clinical quality measure (eCQM) or electronic health record (EHR)-based reporting. Please refer to the *Federal Register* and *Code of Federal Regulations* for program-specific rules on availability of this exception. To request an exception, please complete and submit this form.

For extraordinary circumstances affecting the submission of data, this form must be submitted **within 90 calendar days of the extraordinary circumstance, except in cases related to the submission of eCQMs under the Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting and Hospital Outpatient Quality Reporting Programs which have an ECE Request deadline of April 1** following the end of the reporting period. At the latest, you should submit your ECE form no later than 90 days from the submission deadline for the quarter requested.

**An asterisk (\*) indicates required fields. All sections must be complete and specific in order for the CMS to consider the request.**

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### **Facility Contact Information**

\*Facility Name \_\_\_\_\_

\*CMS Certification Number (CCN) \_\_\_\_\_

\*National Provider Identifier Number (NPI) (ASC only) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Place additional NPIs in Additional Comments section.)

### **\*CEO/Designee Contact Information**

\*Name \_\_\_\_\_ \*Title \_\_\_\_\_

\*Address (must include physical street address) \_\_\_\_\_

\*City \_\_\_\_\_ \*State \_\_\_\_\_ \*Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

\*Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ \*Extension \_\_\_\_\_

\*Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

### **Additional Contact Information**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Address (must include physical street address) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Extension \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

### **\*Dates**

\*Date of Request \_\_\_\_\_ \*Date of Extraordinary Circumstance \_\_\_\_\_

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### **\*Program(s) and Program Requirement(s) for Which Facility is Requesting Exception**

Please indicate which program requirement(s) and reporting period(s) for each requirement which you are requesting exception for an extraordinary circumstance.

Program	Measure and/or Program Requirement	Reporting Periods
Ambulatory Surgical Center Quality Reporting (ASCQR) Program	<input type="checkbox"/> National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Measures	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Web-based Measure(s)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Patient-Reported Outcome-Based Performance Measure(s) (PRO-PMs)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Outpatient and Ambulatory Surgical Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (OAS CAHPS)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify): _____	
End-Stage Renal Disease Quality Incentive Program (ESRD QIP)	<input type="checkbox"/> In-Center Hemodialysis Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (ICH CAHPS) Survey	
	<input type="checkbox"/> National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> ESRD Quality Reporting System (EQRS)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Validation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify): _____	
Hospital-Acquired Condition (HAC) Reduction Program	<input type="checkbox"/> National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Measures	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Validation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify): _____	
Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting (IQR) Program	<input type="checkbox"/> Chart-abstracted Measure(s)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Electronic Clinical Quality Measures (eCQMs)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Hybrid Measure(s)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Patient-Reported Outcome-Based Performance Measure(s)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) Survey	
	National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Measures	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Influenza Vaccination Coverage Among Healthcare Personnel	
	<input type="checkbox"/> COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage Among Health Care Personnel	
<input type="checkbox"/> Patient Safety Structural Measure		
<input type="checkbox"/> Web-based Measure(s)		

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Program	Measure and/or Program Requirement	Reporting Periods
	<input type="checkbox"/> Population and Sampling	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Chart-abstracted Validation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> eCQM Validation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify): _____	
Hospital Outpatient Quality Reporting (OQR) Program	<input type="checkbox"/> Chart-abstracted Measure(s)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Web-based Measure(s)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Measures	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Electronic Clinical Quality Measures (eCQMs)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Patient-Reported Outcome-Based Performance Measure(s)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Outpatient and Ambulatory Surgical Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (OAS CAHPS)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Validation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify): _____	
Hospital Readmissions Reduction Program (HRRP)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify): _____	
Hospital Value-Based Purchasing (VBP) Program	<input type="checkbox"/> Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) Survey	
	<input type="checkbox"/> NHSN Healthcare-associated infection (HAI) Measure(s)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Severe Sepsis and Septic Shock Management Bundle (Composite Measure)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify): _____	
Inpatient Psychiatric Facility Quality Reporting (IPFQR) Program	<input type="checkbox"/> Chart-abstracted Measure(s)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Web-based Measure(s)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Measure(s)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify): _____	
Rural Emergency Hospital Quality Reporting (REHQR) Program	<input type="checkbox"/> Chart-abstracted Measure(s)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Web-based Measure(s)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify): _____	

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Program	Measure and/or Program Requirement	Reporting Periods
PPS-Exempt Cancer Hospital Quality Reporting (PCHQR) Program	<input type="checkbox"/> Web-based Measure(s)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) Survey	
	<input type="checkbox"/> National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Measure(s)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify): _____	

**Exception or Extension Request Information**

\*Date ECE relief would end \_\_\_\_\_

\*Provide justification for the ECE end date.

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**\*Enter specific reasons for requesting an exception. Please include the specific requirements or data for which you are seeking an exception. Please indicate how the extraordinary circumstance prevented your facility from submitting accurate data for the measure(s) for which an exception is being sought (if applicable). Attach supporting documentation when necessary.**

**\*Provide evidence of the impact of the extraordinary circumstance including (but not limited to) photographs, web links, newspaper, and other media articles. Attach supporting documentation when necessary.**

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**Additional Comments (Attach additional documentation/comments if necessary.)**

\*CEO/Designee Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Extraordinary Circumstances Exceptions Request Form Submission Instructions**

Complete and submit this form, via the *Hospital Quality Reporting Secure Portal*, Managed File Transfer to [QRFormsSubmission@hsag.com](mailto:QRFormsSubmission@hsag.com). You may instead submit via email to [QRFormsSubmission@hsag.com](mailto:QRFormsSubmission@hsag.com) or secure fax to (877) 789-4443.

**For ESRD QIP only**, please complete and submit this form to the ESRD QIP mailbox at [esrdqps-admin@arborresearch.org](mailto:esrdqps-admin@arborresearch.org).

Following receipt of the request form, CMS will (1) Provide a written acknowledgement using the contact information provided in the request, to the CEO and any additional designated facility personnel, notifying them that the facility's request has been received and (2) provide a formal response to the CEO and any additional designated facility personnel using the contact information provided in the request notifying them of our decision. CMS will strive to complete its review of each ECE request within 90 calendar days of receipt of the request.

**PRA Disclosure Statement**

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is **0938-1022 (Expires 01-31-2026)**. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. If you have comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to CMS, 7500 Security Boulevard, Attn: PRA Reports Clearance Officer, Mail Stop C4-26-05, Baltimore, MD 21244-1850. **\*\*\*\*CMS Disclosure\*\*\*\* Please do not send applications, claims, payments, medical records, or any documents containing sensitive information to the PRA Reports Clearance Office. Please note that any correspondence not pertaining to the information collection burden approved under the associated OMB control number listed on this form will not be reviewed, forwarded, or retained. If you have questions or concerns regarding where to submit your documents, please contact the Inpatient and Outpatient Healthcare Quality Systems Development and Program Support at (844) 472-4477.**