

Ambulatory Specialty Model (ASM)

Participant Office Hour

April 8, 2026

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services | Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation



Housekeeping and Logistics



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Office Hour Format



Address **common operational questions** and overview of **next steps for ASM participants**



Answer **pre-submitted questions** and **live questions**



Please type your questions in the **Q&A box**

On Today's Call



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Model Snapshot

ASM is a **mandatory model** with five performance years (2027–2031).

ASM Participants: Individual heart failure and low back pain specialists that meet specific eligibility criteria

Heart Failure Cohort Specialists: Cardiology

Low Back Pain Cohort Specialists: Anesthesiology, Interventional Pain Management, Neurosurgery, Orthopedic Surgery, Pain Management, and Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

ASM Beneficiaries: Original Medicare (fee-for-service) patients receiving treatment from an ASM participant for heart failure or low back pain

ASM Participant Eligibility



ASM participants are identified by a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) and National Provider Identifier (NPI) combination

- Physicians may be selected as ASM participants under multiple TINs.



Participation in ASM is **mandatory**. Selected physicians are required to meet ASM's requirements if they meet all participant eligibility criteria.

Physicians that meet the following criteria are considered ASM participants

Criteria	Details
Billing	Bills under Medicare Physician Fee Schedule
Specialty	Heart Failure: Cardiology Low Back Pain: Anesthesiology, Interventional Pain Management, Neurosurgery, Orthopedic Surgery, Pain Management, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
Episodes	≥20 attributed episode-based cost measure (EBCM) episodes for relevant condition
Geography	Practice in a selected mandatory geographic area

Episode Attribution & Specialty Determination



Episode Threshold

- ASM participants must have **≥ 20 attributed episodes** from the heart failure or low back pain EBCM
- Based on **calendar year (CY) data from 2 CYs prior** to the applicable performance year
 - *Example:* ASM participants for the 2027 performance year are identified using CY 2025 data
- Attribution is based on whether the clinician bills a set of condition-specific triggering and confirming claims, as well as the volume of services provided by an individual clinician.



Specialty Type

- CMS assigns specialty type based on the **most common specialty code on Medicare Part B claims**

Service Location Determination



ASM participants must practice in one of the ASM-selected mandatory geographic areas

- Core-based statistical areas (CBSA)
- Metropolitan divisions



CMS determines an ASM participant's service location for each performance year

- Assigns each attributed EBCM episode a service location ZIP Code using Part B claims
- Maps each episode's ZIP Code to a single CBSA or metropolitan division
- Assigns the ASM participant to the most common CBSA or metropolitan division from their episodes

ASM Participant List



Preliminary 2027 ASM Participant List

- Released February 2026
- Based on CY 2024 data
- View the ASM Participants dataset [here](#)



Final 2027 ASM Participant List

- Expected late summer 2026
- CMS will verify participant eligibility using CY 2025 data
- CMS will only remove participants; no new participants will be added.

Scenario	What to Expect
Organizational affiliation change	May be reflected in final participant list
Organizational change not reflected in final list	Further guidance on notification process forthcoming
New participant addition	Not planned

Promoting Interoperability Requirements Submission



Promoting Interoperability

Reporting Requirements

- To receive a score greater than zero in the Promoting Interoperability (PI) performance category, ASM participants must
 - Attest to using Certified Electronic Health Record Technology (CEHRT) during the performance year.
 - Fulfill all PI Measures and Objectives
 - Report at the practice (TIN) level

PI Guidelines

- Unlike the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS), ASM does not offer automatic reweighting of the PI performance category for certain clinicians and does not offer a PI-specific hardship application.

Data Submission

- CMS plans to release further guidance on data submission during the first performance year, beginning January 1, 2027.

Improvement Activities



Improvement Activities

Reporting Requirements

- ASM participants must attest to completing two ASM-specific improvement activities
- Attestation at the TIN level is required to confirm the improvement activity was completed by all ASM participants
- CMS may audit attestations. ASM participants must retain documentation showing IA activities were implemented and maintained.

Performance Category Score & Final Score Adjustment

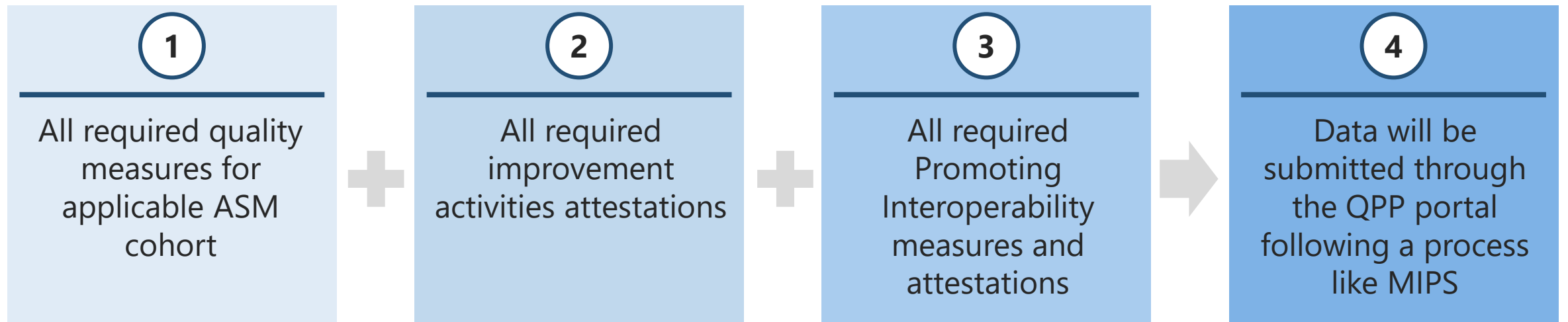
- Complete both improvement activities = No adjustment
- Complete one improvement activity = -10 points
- Do not complete either improvement activity = -20 points

Data Submission

Submission Deadline

- All required ASM data is due March 31 of the year following the performance year
- *Example:* Data submission for the 2027 performance year is due March 31, 2028

What Data to Submit



Additional guidance and resources for ASM data submission will be released during 2027.

Model and Program Overlap

Concurrent Participation in Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs)

ASM participants can remain in ACOs (e.g., Medicare Share Savings Program) and receive financial incentives from them.

Concurrent Participation in Other Models

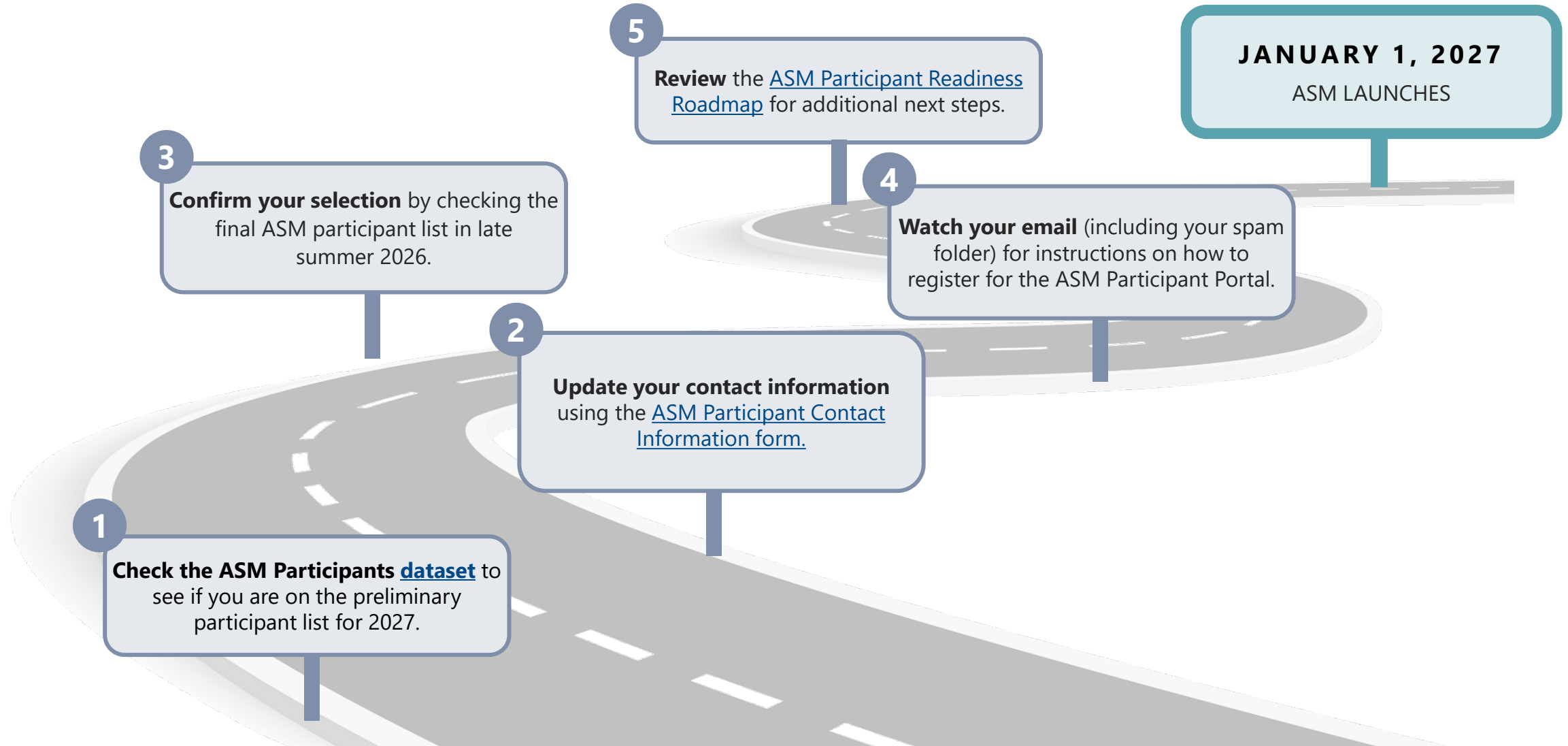
ASM participants can participate and receive financial incentives through other Innovation Center models, including Advanced Alternative Payment Models (AAPMs).

Exemption from MIPS Reporting

ASM participants are not required to complete MIPS reporting for any ASM performance year they meet ASM participant eligibility criteria.

ASM Participant Next Steps

ASM participants should follow these steps to confirm their 2027 participation, receive key updates, and prepare for model launch on January 1, 2027.



ASM Participant Contact Information



Action Required

Submit the [ASM Participant Contact Information form](#) if you

- Received a notification that your email on file matches another ASM participant's email
- Are listed in the ASM Participants dataset but did not receive a participant notification email from AmbulatorySpecialtyModel@cms.hhs.gov



Email Requirements

- Each ASM participant **must provide a unique email address**
- Duplicate email addresses are not permitted for ASM Participant Portal registration
- Someone may complete the form on behalf of a provider (e.g., office manager)



Why this Matters

- Failure to provide a unique email will limit model registration and restrict access to critical information, guidance, and technical assistance



Coming Soon

ASM Participant Portal Registration

- Participant Portal registration is expected late summer 2026
- Additional contacts can be added to portal accounts once registration opens



Open Q&A

Please type your question in the **Q&A box**.

If we do not get to your question, we welcome you to email the ASM Team at AmbulatorySpecialtyModel@cms.hhs.gov. We will aim to answer unaddressed questions via emails and upcoming FAQs.



We appreciate your time and interest!

Contact the ASM model team via email at
AmbulatorySpecialtyModel@cms.hhs.gov

Additional Resources

- [ASM Webpage](#)
- [ASM Participants Dataset](#)
- [Participant Roadmap](#)
- [ASM Overview Webcast](#)
- [ASM Participant Contact Information form](#)
- [Overview Factsheet](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [ASM Regulations](#)