

## Key Dates for the Direct Contracting Model (Global and Professional)

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is publishing the updated calendar below reflecting the revised model start date to provide stakeholders with the timing of key activities associated with the Direct Contracting Model. Please note that these dates are subject to change.

**Table 1 Direct Contracting Model Calendar**

Month	Direct Contracting (Global and Professional) Milestones
<b>June 2020</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 6/4: Application opens for participation beginning in Performance Year (PY) 2021 (April 1, 2021) (“2021 starters”)</li> </ul>
<b>July 2020</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 7/6: Application closes for 2021 starters</li> <li>▪ Early July: CMS will select applicants to begin participation during the Implementation Period (IP) (“IP starters”)</li> </ul>
<b>August 2020</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Early Aug: IP starters can update DC Participant and Preferred Provider Lists for the IP (optional)</li> </ul>
<b>September 2020</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Early Sept: IP Participation Agreement (PA) released</li> <li>▪ Sept through Nov: CMS will publish a series of specification papers providing additional detail on the financial methodology for the Model Performance Period, including the publication of the adjusted Medicare Advantage (MA) Rate Book used for the Direct Contracting Model (Global and Professional)</li> <li>▪ Late Sept: CMS will select 2021 starters to begin participation in PY2021</li> <li>▪ 9/28: Proposed PY2021 DC Participant and Preferred Provider Lists due from IP starters; 1<sup>st</sup> revision of DC Participant and Preferred Provider Lists is due for 2021 starters</li> <li>▪ Late Sept: Deadline for IP starters to sign IP PA</li> </ul>
<b>October 2020</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 10/1: 6-month IP begins</li> <li>▪ 10/23: Final DC Participant and Preferred Provider Lists for PY2021 due to CMS (deadline for IP starters and 2021 starters to add or drop DC Participant Providers for PY2021)</li> </ul>
<b>November 2020</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ CMS will publish the final specification paper (series started in September)</li> </ul>
<b>December 2020</b>	<i>No major milestones</i>
<b>January 2021</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Jan-Mar: Application window to begin participation in PY2022 (1/1/22 start)</li> </ul>
<b>February 2021</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Late February / early March:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ PY2021 PA released</li> <li>○ PY2021 preliminary performance year benchmarks issued</li> <li>○ Quality strategy guidance document is released</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>March 2021</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Late March: Deadline for IP starters and PY2021 starters to sign PY2021 PA</li> </ul>
<b>April 2021</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 4/1: PY2021 begins for 2021 starters and IP starters</li> </ul>

