

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid
Services 7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



DATE: November 16, 2018

TO: All Medicare Advantage Organizations, Prescription Drug Plans, Cost Plans, PACE Organizations, and Demonstrations

FROM: Cara James
Director, CMS Office of Minority Health

SUBJECT: CMS Health Equity Award: Submit Nominations by December 7

CMS recognizes that all beneficiaries should be able to achieve their highest level in care and works to ensure that disparities in health care quality and access are eliminated. Starting in 2018, CMS began recognizing organizations demonstrating a similar commitment to health equity by reducing disparities among the CMS beneficiaries they serve, particularly among racial and ethnic minorities, individuals with disabilities, sexual and gender minorities, and those living in rural areas.

CMS looks forward to recognizing another organization who can demonstrate results. The successful organization will be reducing disparities in health care quality, access, or outcomes for a priority population, including: racial and ethnic minorities, individuals with disabilities, sexual and gender minorities, or individuals living in rural areas.

Please read the criteria and complete one Nomination Form per nominee for the CMS Health Equity Award, to be given at Quality Conference 2019. Information about the award and nomination form are available at: <https://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/OMH/equity-initiatives/equity-awards.html>.

All Nomination Forms are due to Alexandra Bryden (HealthEquityTA@cms.hhs.gov) no later than December 7th, 2018.