



Performance Threshold & Payment Adjustments

How does CMS determine the payment adjustment?

Performance Threshold & Payment Adjustments

- ▲ 30 point performance threshold (changes annually)
 - Minimum number of points needed to avoid a negative payment adjustment and earn a neutral payment adjustment
- ▲ Additional performance threshold for exceptional performance set at 75 points
- ▲ CMS compares your MIPS final score to the performance threshold (and exceptional performance threshold) to determine your payment adjustment
- ▲ Payment adjustment *could be* up to +7% or as low as -7% (2021 payment year)
 - But remember this is a “budget neutral” program
 - To ensure budget neutrality, positive MIPS payment adjustments are likely to be increased or decreased by an amount called a “scaling factor”
 - The amount of the scaling factor depends on the distribution of final scores across all MIPS eligible clinicians
 - Year 1 top end increase of +4% was scaled back to +1.88% (max increase in 2019 payment year)
 - As the performance threshold increases, so will the # of penalized participants

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Point Breakdown and Payment Adjustment

Final Score 2019	Payment Adjustment 2021
>75 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive adjustment greater than 0% • Eligible for additional payment for exceptional performance —minimum of additional 0.5%
30.01-74.99 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive adjustment greater than 0% • Not eligible for additional payment for exceptional performance
30 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neutral payment adjustment
7.51-29.99	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negative payment adjustment greater than -7% and less than 0%
0-7.5 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negative payment adjustment of -7%

Note:

- ▲ The performance threshold has incrementally increased each program year
- ▲ For the 2022 performance year, the performance threshold (the number in the green box) will be based on the mean or median of the final scores for all MIPS eligible clinicians in the previous year
- ▲ This means we will likely see a 2022 minimum performance threshold somewhere in the range of 70-85 points
- ▲ Participants will need to achieve scores that are today considered “exceptional performance” in order to avoid a Medicare penalty