

## § 425.218

both correct any deficiencies and comply with all applicable Shared Savings Program requirements.

(ii) The ACO's performance will be monitored and evaluated during and after the CAP process.

(2) CMS may terminate the ACO's agreement if the ACO fails to submit, obtain approval for, or implement a CAP, or fails to demonstrate improved performance upon completion of the CAP.

### § 425.218 Termination of the agreement by CMS.

(a) *General.* CMS may terminate the participation agreement with an ACO when an ACO, the ACO participants, ACO providers/suppliers or other individuals or entities performing functions or services related to ACO activities fail to comply with any of the requirements of the Shared Savings Program under this part.

(b) *Grounds for termination by CMS.* CMS may terminate the participation agreement for reasons including, but not limited to the following:

(1) Non-compliance with eligibility and other requirements described in this part.

(2) The imposition of sanctions or other actions taken against the ACO by an accrediting organization, State, Federal or local government agency leading to inability of the ACO to comply with the requirements under this part.

(3) Violations of the physician self-referral prohibition, civil monetary penalties (CMP) law, Federal anti-kickback statute, antitrust laws, or any other applicable Medicare laws, rules, or regulations that are relevant to ACO operations.

(c) CMS may immediately terminate a participation agreement without taking any of the pre-termination actions set forth in § 425.216.

(d) *Notice of termination by CMS.* CMS notifies an ACO in writing of its decision to terminate the participation agreement.

### § 425.220 Termination of an agreement by the ACO.

(a) *Notice of termination.* An ACO must provide at least 60 days advance written notice to CMS and its ACO par-

## 42 CFR Ch. IV (10-1-13 Edition)

ticipants of its decision to terminate the participation agreement and the effective date of its termination.

(b) *Payment consequences of early termination.* The ACO will not share in any savings for the performance year during which it notifies CMS of its decision to terminate the participation agreement.

### § 425.222 Re-application after termination.

(a) An ACO that has been terminated from the Shared Savings Program under § 425.218 or § 425.220 may participate in the Shared Savings Program again only after the date on which the term of the original participation agreement would have expired if the ACO had not been terminated.

(b) To be eligible to participate in the Shared Savings Program after a previous termination, the ACO must demonstrate in its application that it has corrected the deficiencies that caused it to be terminated from the Shared Savings Program and has processes in place to ensure that it will remain in compliance with the terms of the new participation agreement.

(c) An ACO under the one-sided model whose agreement was previously terminated may reenter the program only under the two-sided model unless it was terminated less than half way through its agreement under the one-sided model in which case it will be allowed to re-enter the one-sided model. An ACO under the two-sided model whose agreement was terminated may only re-apply for participation in the two-sided model.

## Subpart D—Program Requirements and Beneficiary Protections

### § 425.300 Compliance plan.

(a) The ACO must have a compliance plan that includes at least the following elements:

(1) A designated compliance official or individual who is not legal counsel to the ACO and reports directly to the ACO's governing body.

(2) Mechanisms for identifying and addressing compliance problems related to the ACO's operations and performance.

(3) A method for employees or contractors of the ACO, ACO participants, ACO providers/suppliers, and other individuals or entities performing functions or services related to ACO activities to anonymously report suspected problems related to the ACO to the compliance officer.

(4) Compliance training for the ACO, the ACO participants, and the ACO providers/suppliers.

(5) A requirement for the ACO to report probable violations of law to an appropriate law enforcement agency.

(b)(1) ACOs that are existing entities may use the current compliance officer if the compliance officer meets the requirements set forth in paragraph (a)(1) of this section.

(2) An ACO's compliance plan must be in compliance with and be updated periodically to reflect changes in law and regulations.

**§ 425.302 Program requirements for data submission and certifications.**

(a) *Requirements for data submission and certification.* (1) The ACO, its ACO participants, its ACO providers/suppliers or individuals or other entities performing functions or services related to ACO activities must submit all data and information, including data on measures designated by CMS under § 425.500, in a form and manner specified by CMS.

(2) *Certification of data upon submission.* With respect to data and information that are generated or submitted by the ACO, ACO participants, ACO providers/suppliers, or other individuals or entities performing functions or services related to ACO activities, an individual with the authority to legally bind the individual or entity submitting such data or information must certify the accuracy, completeness, and truthfulness of the data and information to the best of his or her knowledge information and belief.

(3) *Annual certification.* At the end of each performance year, an individual with the legal authority to bind the ACO must certify to the best of his or her knowledge, information, and belief—

(i) That the ACO, its ACO participants, its ACO providers/suppliers, and other individuals or entities per-

forming functions or services related to ACO activities are in compliance with program requirements; and

(ii) The accuracy, completeness, and truthfulness of all data and information that are generated or submitted by the ACO, ACO participants, ACO providers/suppliers, or other individuals or entities performing functions or services related to ACO activities, including any quality data or other information or data relied upon by CMS in determining the ACO's eligibility for, and the amount of a shared savings payment or the amount of shared losses or other monies owed to CMS.

(b) [Reserved]

**§ 425.304 Other program requirements.**

(a) *Beneficiary inducements.* (1) ACOs, ACO participants, ACO providers/suppliers, and other individuals or entities performing functions or services related to ACO activities are prohibited from providing gifts or other remuneration to beneficiaries as inducements for receiving items or services from or remaining in, an ACO or with ACO providers/suppliers in a particular ACO or receiving items or services from ACO participants or ACO providers/suppliers.

(2) Consistent with the provisions of paragraph (a)(1) of this section and subject to compliance with all other applicable laws and regulations, ACO, ACO participants and ACO providers/suppliers, and other individuals or entities performing functions or services related to ACO activities may provide in-kind items or services to beneficiaries if there is a reasonable connection between the items and services and the medical care of the beneficiary and the items or services are preventive care items or services or advance a clinical goal for the beneficiary, including adherence to a treatment regime, adherence to a drug regime, adherence to a follow-up care plan, or management of a chronic disease or condition.

(b) *Screening of ACO applicants.* (1) ACOs, ACO participants, and ACO providers/suppliers will be reviewed during the Shared Savings Program application process and periodically thereafter with regard to their program integrity