

2026 Medicare Shared Savings Program (MSSP) Compliance Training

July 2026

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Objectives

At the end of this presentation participants will be able to:

- Identify the importance of an ACO
- Gain an in-depth understanding of MSSP compliance requirements and how to report non-compliance
- Understand what to know about Tufts Medicine Integrated Network compliance policies



Compliance and MSSP

- ACOs are required to have a compliance plan in place
- The plan must include an education and training component (which assists in ensuring compliance)

Why is this important?

- A compliance plan is an ACO's first line of defense for preventing, detecting, and correcting non-compliance and can assist the ACO in identifying risk, which may also reduce the potential for fraud, waste, and abuse
- Assists in ensuring integrity of the MSSP program
- Assists in ensuring protection of rights and care of Medicare beneficiaries



MSSP Compliance Requirements – 5 key Elements





MSSP Regulations - *Background*

- MSSP is led by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) under the authority of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- Code of Federal Regulations for MSSP:
<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-42/chapter-IV/subchapter-B/part-425>
- CMS annually issues a Medicare Physician Fee Schedule that can include regulatory changes



MSSP Agreements - *Background*

MSSP Participation Agreement:

- Signed between CMS and our ACO
- Binds the ACO to participation in MSSP
- Includes compliance with all federal and state laws and regulations

MSSP Practice Participant Agreement (PPA):

- Signed between our ACO and each ACO Participant (i.e., practice)
- Binds each practice, and all who bill under the Tax Identification Number (TIN), to the ACO and to comply with MSSP rules

'Compliance with Laws. Participant shall comply with all federal, state and municipal laws, statutes, ordinances, orders and regulations applicable to the conduct of the activities of ACO Participants, Preferred Providers and ACO Providers/Suppliers, including the Medicare Shared Savings Program, federal criminal law, the False Claims Act, the anti-kickback statute, the civil monetary penalties law and the physician self-referral law.' ***This section addresses the requirements of 42 C.F.R. § 425.116(a) (3)***

Business Associate Agreement (BAA):

- Signed between our ACO and each ACO participant; contains privacy and HIPAA requirements



Designated MSSP Compliance Officer



Garrett Gillespie - Tufts Medicine's VP, Chief Compliance Officer

Responsibilities include:

- Overseeing and monitoring the implementation and operation of the compliance program;
- Advising the ACO board on compliance matters



Reporting Potential Compliance Issues

E-mail: compliance@tuftsmedicine.org

Call: [hotline \(833\) 66 TUFTS](tel:(833)66TUFTS) or [\(833\) 688-8387](tel:(833)688-8387)

- The Hotline is operated by a third-party company that provides toll-free telephone answering, reporting and tracking of telephone calls of compliance concerns
- This Hotline is an integral component of the Tufts Medicine's Corporate Compliance Program ("Compliance Program") and is designed to assist in the identification of possible unethical, illegal or questionable behavior by workforce members, Board Members, physicians, individuals or organizations with which Tufts Medicine does business

ACO Policies





MSSP Compliance Policies

The following policies support compliance efforts and help identify and monitor risks within Wellforce ACO, LLC.

Policy Title	Policy Purpose
Annual Certification to CMS	Supports accurate, timely, and complete submission of all required annual certifications to CMS.
Avoidance of at-risk beneficiaries	Affirms that the ACO will not take actions that discourage or avoid treating at-risk beneficiaries, including patients with multiple hospitalizations, chronic conditions, disabilities, or dual Medicare/Medicaid eligibility.
Beneficiary Inducements	Establishes when the ACO may and may not offer free items or services to beneficiaries.



MSSP Compliance Policies

Policy Title	Policy Purpose
Compliance Training and Education	Provides guidance on the mandatory compliance education and training program to integrate a culture of compliance and ethical conduct into the ACO's operations.
Conflict of Interest	Enables affected individuals to understand, identify, manage and appropriately disclose actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest.
False Claims Act	Outlines the applicability and requirements of the False Claims Act to certain financial arrangements.
Notification of Beneficiaries	Provides guidance on the proper notifications to be provided to Medicare beneficiaries regarding their care providers participation in the MSSP.



MSSP Compliance Policies

Policy Title	Policy Purpose
Notifying CMS	Outlines the process for managing changes to the ACO program during the participation agreement with CMS.
Record Retention	Outlines requirements for maintaining and retaining ACO records in accordance with 42 CFR § 425.316(b).
Referrals and Cost Shifting	Specifies that entities performing functions for the ACO may not restrict Medicare beneficiaries from choosing to receive care from providers or organizations outside the ACO.
Use of Beneficiary Identifiable Data	Specifies that the ACO and its related entities must use CMS beneficiary-identifiable data appropriately and follow all applicable laws protecting the privacy and confidentiality of health information.



Compliance Education

Next Steps:

- Review Code of Conduct
- Sign attestation that you have reviewed this presentation and the Code of Conduct
- This presentation will be posted on the TMIN webpage:
<https://www.tuftsmedicine.org/physicians/webinar-series>

Future compliance training and education will continue to be enhanced under the greater Tufts Medicine compliance efforts



Compliance is
EVERYONE's
Responsibility.

Questions?

MSSP Questions:

E-mail Mary Pistorino@ mary.pistorino@tuftsmedicine.org

Reporting Compliance Issues:

Email: compliance@tuftsmedicine.org

Or call: hotline (833) 66 TUFTS or (833) 688-8387

Thank You

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