

Frequently Asked Questions

Meaningful Use Stage 2 Measures for Public Health: General Questions

1. How do I get started with Stage 2?

Eligible hospitals (EH) and eligible professionals (EP) interested in sending data to ODH to meet Meaningful Use Stage 2 must register their intent to do so at www.OhioPublicHealthReporting.info before the 60th day of their reporting period. This can be done at one time for [immunization registries](#), [reportable laboratory results](#), [syndromic surveillance](#) and [cancer reporting](#). After registration, ODH may invite you to begin the onboarding process immediately. You will be invited separately for each measure. It is also possible, depending on resources, that you will be placed in a queue for onboarding at a later time. In either situation, the Meaningful Use measure is met, and you will receive an email indicating your current status. You may also log into www.OhioPublicHealthReporting.info to see your current status at any time.

2. Does my facility need to be sending production data to ODH for public health measures by the end of the reporting period to meet Meaningful Use Stage 2?

No. Ongoing submission is one of the four ways to meet the Stage 2 Meaningful Use public health reporting requirements. An EH or EP must attest YES to meeting one of the following criteria under the umbrella of ongoing submission:

1. Ongoing submission was already achieved for an electronic health record (EHR) reporting period in a prior year and continues throughout the current EHR reporting period.
2. Registration with ODH of intent to initiate ongoing submission was made by the deadline (within 60 days of the start of the EHR reporting period) and ongoing submission was achieved during the reporting period.
3. Registration of intent to initiate ongoing submission was made by the deadline and the EP or EH is still engaged in testing and validation of ongoing electronic submission.
4. Registration of intent to initiate ongoing submission was made by the deadline and the EP or EH is awaiting invitation from ODH to begin testing and validation.

3. If my facility is not sending production data by the end of the first year of Stage 2 Meaningful Use because we are awaiting an invitation from ODH or we are in the testing and validation stage, do I need to re-register intent for the second year of Stage 2 Meaningful Use?

No. ODH does not require facilities to re-register intent for any subsequent reporting period.

4. When will ODH invite my facility to begin testing and validation?

This depends on several factors including the volume of data to be sent by your facility, whether you can send data in one of ODH's preferred transport methods, how familiar ODH is in working with your EHR, and availability of ODH resources.

5. How do I determine my current onboarding status for attestation purposes?

Go to www.OhioPublicHealthReporting.info to view your current status. Log in using the username and password created when you registered your intent and follow the prompts to find your current status. In addition, ODH will send you an email when you are officially invited to begin the onboarding process. You will also get an email when you are moved to the testing and validation phase and when ODH determines that you have met ongoing submission to production. ODH recommends that providers retain these communications as they may be helpful in the event of an audit.

6. My medical facility is located in another state but we serve Ohio residents. Are we required to send data for Meaningful Use to Ohio?

No. To meet Meaningful Use, providers need to send data to the jurisdiction where their facility is located.

In some cases, ODH would be interested in accepting data from an out-of-state facility that serves Ohio residents, but this is not required for Meaningful Use. However, providers should follow all applicable rules for Ohio public health reporting as

outlined in Chapters 3701-3 and 3701-4 of the Ohio Administrative Code (<http://codes.ohio.gov/oac/3701>).

7. Do each of my EPs need to enroll, register, test and onboard separately?

No. ODH enrolls locations, not providers. A representative from a location or a group of locations can create an account at www.ohiopublichealthreporting.info to request enrollment and formally register intent to send electronic data to ODH.

8. Is the reporting period for Stage 2 Meaningful use 90 days or 365 days?

For 2015, the reporting period for Stage 2 MU is 365 days which means that all EPs should have registered intent by March 1, 2015. However, on January 29, 2015, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced its intent to engage in rulemaking for EHR Incentive Programs changes for 2015. As part of the changes, CMS is considering shortening the 2015 reporting period to 90 days, which if adopted through the rulemaking process, would make March 1, 2015 the deadline for the first EP 90-day reporting period. There would be additional deadlines corresponding to subsequent 90-day reporting periods in 2015.

9. Where can I find additional information on Meaningful Use/EHR incentive programs?

The [website for the Medicare and Medicaid Electronic Health Records \(EHR\) Incentive Programs](#) is a good place to start for general information. If you are attesting through Medicaid, the [Ohio Department of Medicaid website](#) has Ohio-specific information.

