



DROP IN ARTICLES

Why Open Payments Matters to You

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Promoting A More Transparent and Accountable Healthcare System

The [Open Payments](#) program within the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is a national disclosure program that provides transparency into financial relationships between pharmaceutical and medical device companies and certain health care providers. Types of providers covered by Open Payments include teaching hospitals, physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, certified nurse anesthetists, anesthesiologist assistants, and certified nurse midwives.

Since 2013, Open Payments has published \$59.52 billion in payments and 78.52 million total records from more than 2,000 reporting entities.

Any payments or transfers of value made to [covered recipients](#) are required to be reported to CMS by drug or medical device companies or their distributors. The reported data is released to the public by CMS each year in June. Transactions that can be reported include, but are not limited to: payments for consulting and speaking fees; honoraria, gifts and royalties; grants and research charitable contributions; entertainment, travel, lodging, food, and beverage; faculty compensation; and space rental or facility fees.

Physicians, physician assistants, advanced practice nurses, and teaching hospitals can review payments or transfers of value that may have been reported about them before CMS publishes them by registering in the [Open Payments system](#). Registration is open year-round and gives providers the opportunity to review and, if necessary, dispute any data believed to be inaccurate before it becomes public.

Covered recipient registration and review of data is voluntary but highly encouraged to ensure the information in the database is as accurate as possible. Stay connected with the program by signing up for emails on the [Contact Us page](#) so you are ready to register and participate in pre-publication review this April. You can also visit cms.gov/OpenPayments for more information.



The Open Payments Review & Dispute Process

Is Open Payments Data About You Correct?

It's Time to Review Your Data

The [Open Payments](#) program within the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is a national disclosure program that provides transparency into financial relationships between pharmaceutical and medical device companies and certain healthcare providers. Each year, pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturers and distributors must report to CMS payments or transfers of value for research, meals, travel, gifts, speaking fees, and more they made to physicians, physician assistants, certain advanced practice nurses and teaching hospitals ([covered recipients](#)).

CMS makes this data available to the public at OpenPaymentsData.CMS.gov, where anyone can search for health care providers and see the payments they received, when they received them, and the companies that made the payments. Prior to the data publication, covered recipients are offered an opportunity to review, affirm and, if necessary, dispute data attributed to them that they believe is inaccurate or incomplete in any way. The review and dispute process is voluntary, but strongly encouraged as this helps ensure the accuracy of the data the public sees about them.

Between April 1 and May 15, covered recipients are encouraged to check the accuracy of data that companies have submitted about them – and affirm or dispute it – prior to publication when it is made available to the public on June 30 in the Open Payments database. In order to check the data for payments attributed to them, covered recipients must be registered in Open Payments. More information about the registration process is available [here](#).

You can learn more about the Open Payments program cms.gov/OpenPayments and stay connected by signing up for emails on the [Contact Us page](#).



Using the Open Payments Database

How to Use the Open Payments Database

The [Open Payments](#) program within the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is a national disclosure program that provides transparency into financial relationships between company transactions with certain healthcare providers and teaching hospitals. Each year, pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturers and distributors must report to CMS payments or transfers of value for research, meals, travel, gifts, speaking fees, and more they made to physicians, physician assistants, certain advanced practice nurses and teaching hospitals ([covered recipients](#)).

This publicly available data includes millions of records, representing billions of dollars in payments to various healthcare providers. CMS has indexed the Open Payments data so that it is easy for anyone to conduct searches by provider or company information, as well as by medical specialty and other parameters.

You can search the Open Payments database at openpaymentsdata.cms.gov. By typing the name of the provider or company you are interested in researching, the database will return a search that includes any records that have at least part of the name or entity for which you are searching. Each provider and reporting entity has a profile page that includes relevant data that can be further filtered by year, payment type, and other criteria. It is important to note that all data provided by reporting entities is published exactly as attested. CMS does not alter the data in any way.

This data is released publicly every year in June. Prior to the data publication, covered recipients are offered an opportunity to review, affirm, and, if necessary, dispute data attributed to them that they believe is inaccurate or incomplete in any way. The review and dispute process is voluntary, but strongly encouraged as this helps ensure the accuracy of the data.

You can learn more about the Open Payments program cms.gov/OpenPayments or view a video about the program [here](#).