

How Will CMS Score Clinicians Under MIPS?

For 2018, eligible clinicians will receive a **MIPS Final Score** based on their performance on the Quality, Cost, ACI, and IA categories.

MIPS Final Scores will be based on a scale of 0-100 points. Clinicians will be able to earn up to a certain number of points based on their performance in each category. As shown below, each category contributes a different weight toward the overall score.

MIPS Performance Category	Total Possible Points
Quality	50
Advancing Care Information	25
Improvement Activities	15
Cost	10
TOTAL MIPS COMPOSITE SCORE	100

In addition to including performance in the above categories in the MIPS Final Score, CMS may also add, as applicable, the following bonuses to the MIPS Final Score:

- Small Practice Bonus for submitters who are part of small practices
- Complex Patient Bonus, as applicable, to reflect the relative complexity of the patient population

The MIPS Final Score is subject to a cap of 100 points.

How will 2018 MIPS Composite Scores Translate into Payment Adjustments in 2020?

CMS will provide negative payment adjustments for MIPS scores that are below the MIPS performance threshold (set at 15 points for performance year 2018). The maximum negative adjustment will be 5% for payments in 2020, based on performance in 2018. This maximum negative adjustment will apply to any MIPS eligible clinician or group who receives a MIPS Final Score of 0 to 3.75 points. Scores of 3.76 or higher but under the performance threshold will receive negative adjustments between 5% and 0% based on the MIPS Final Score.

CMS will provide positive payment adjustments on a linear sliding scale such that scores at the MIPS performance threshold (15 points for performance year 2018) will receive a neutral adjustment and those with a score of 100 will receive the highest upward adjustment assigned to that year. That amount is set at 5% for payments in 2020, but CMS has the authority to increase or decrease this percentage by a scaling factor (up to 3x) to ensure budget neutrality. As such, the total amount of downward adjustments for 2020 payments will determine the extent of upward adjustments.

The MACRA legislation also includes \$500 million for each year of MIPS from 2019 to 2024 for ***exceptional performance bonuses***. For performance in 2018, clinicians scoring between 70 and 100 points are eligible to receive an ***additional*** upward payment adjustment from this pool of funding. Adjustments will be made on a separate linear sliding scale such that an additional bonus of 0.5% would be assigned for a final score at the exceptional performance threshold (70 points) and an additional bonus of 10% would be assigned for a final score of 100. The exceptional performance adjustments are

subject to their own scaling factor (up to 1x), if necessary, to ensure that bonuses do not exceed the available pool of funding.

The translation of 2018 MIPS Final Scores into 2020 Medicare payment adjustments is summarized below:

MIPS Composite Score	2020 Payment Adjustment
≥70 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Larger positive payment adjustment, up to 5% for 2020 (subject to scaling factor of up to 3x) • Also eligible for an additional exceptional performance bonus: 70 points = 0.5% → 100 points = 10% (subject to a scaling factor of up to 1x)
15.01 - 69.99 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smaller to modest positive payment adjustment • Not eligible for exceptional performance bonus
15 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid penalty; neutral payment adjustment
3.76 - 14.99 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negative payment adjustment > -5% and < 0%
0 - 3.75 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negative payment adjustment = -5%