



The HRSA Health Center Program and Medicare Site Enrollment

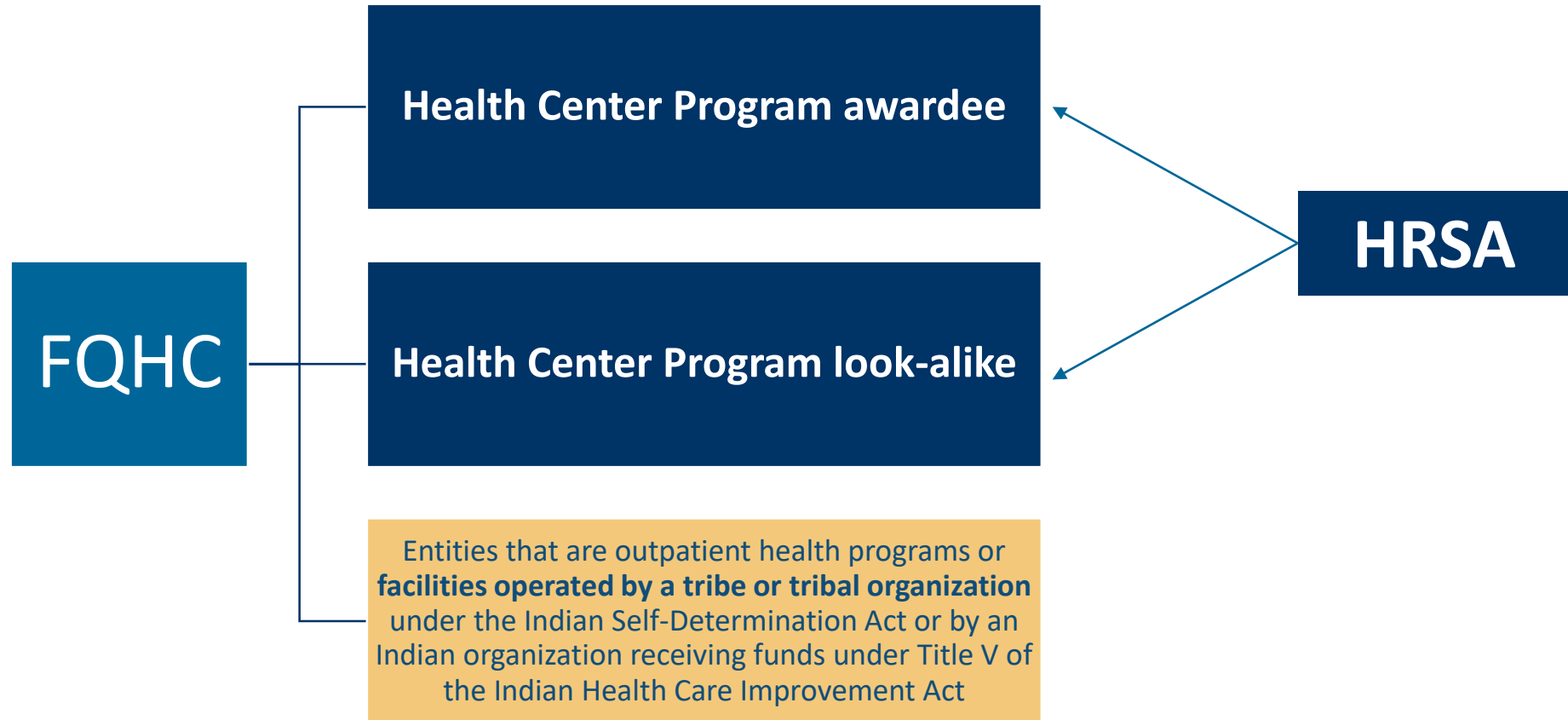
NACHC Policy and Issues Forum

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What is an FQHC?



Medicare - Social Security Act §1861(aa)(4) and **Medicaid** - §1905(l)(2)(B) respectively define the “Federally Qualified Health Center” (FQHC) provider type.



FQHC Medicare Enrollment

- Each health center site must separately enroll through Medicare to receive FQHC designation
- To enroll, an entity must:
 - Submit a complete application package (Form CMS-855A and supporting documents) to the appropriate Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC)
 - Receive from the appropriate CMS Regional Office a CMS Certification Number, a signed Medicare agreement, and an effective date



Streamlining Medicare FQHC Site Enrollment for Health Centers (1/3)

- HRSA and CMS collaborating to streamline FQHC enrollment for health centers
 - Since early 2017 CMS and HRSA have collaborated
 - How can we share information that we both gather during our approval processes?
- Streamlining should lead to quicker approval of sites and provide health centers with the needed reimbursement to serve their patient populations



Streamlining Medicare FQHC Site Enrollment for Health Centers (2/3)

- HRSA will routinely provide CMS with health center site data to pre-populate the Provider, Enrollment, Chain and Ownership System (PECOS)
- Health centers can upload supporting data into PECOS
- After health center validates information in PECOS, CMS will review and approve sites
- The goal is to reduce health center burden and incentivize health centers to use PECOS
- Health centers will also be able to validate currently enrolled site information in PECOS



Streamlining Medicare FQHC Site Enrollment for Health Centers (3/3)

- CMS plans to launch the system upgrade in PECOS in April 2019
- HRSA will conduct a webinar on April 24 with CMS to walk through the process
- Information will be forthcoming through the *Primary Health Care Digest*
 - Register for the Digest:
<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USHSHRSA/subscriber/new?qsp=HRSA-subscribe>



Thank You!

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