

Fees on Health Insurance Policies and Self-Insured Plans for the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Trust Fund

Q What is the purpose of these fees?

A The 2010 health care reform legislation, commonly referred to by one of two acronyms, “ACA,” or “PPACA,” created a new entity called the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute to evaluate and compare the health outcomes and clinical effectiveness, risks and benefits of medical treatments, services, procedures, and drugs. A portion of the Institute’s funding will come from temporary fees imposed on group health plans. Also known as the Comparative Effectiveness Fee or “PCORI Fee,” this fee applies to plans ending in years 2013 through 2029 (October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2029). In the case of an insured plan, the health insurance company providing the coverage must pay the fee. If the plan is a Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA), Medical Expense Reimbursement Plan (MERP) or other self-insured plan, the employer that sponsors the plan must pay.

Q Do the fees apply to plans maintained by all types of employers?

A Yes. The fees even apply to plans sponsored by governmental entities and church organizations.

Q How are the fees paid?

A Fees are paid once a year. A plan sponsor will send its annual payment to the Internal Revenue Service, along with a completed Form 720 (Quarterly Federal Excise Tax Return Form) indicating how the payment amount was determined. Although Form 720 is labeled Quarterly Federal Excise Tax Return Form, this fee will occur on an annual basis. The IRS has [updated instructions to Form 720](#) with more details on the payment and reporting process.

Q When are the fees due?

A The Form 720 and accompanying payment will be due by July 31 of the following plan year. For plan years ending in 2020, the PCORI fees are due by July 31, 2021.

Q Are TPAs allowed to file the Forms 720 for the HRAs and MERPs sponsored by their client companies?

A No. The law explicitly states that this must be done by the plan sponsors.

Additional Resources

Click [here](#) to obtain Form 720. For more information on the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute, please visit www.pcori.org.

PLAN YEARS	PCORI FEE (PER COVERED LIFE)	FILE DUE DATE
February 1, 2018 - January 31, 2019	\$2.45	July 31, 2020
March 1, 2018 - February 28, 2019	\$2.45	July 31, 2020
April 1, 2018 - March 31, 2019	\$2.45	July 31, 2020
May 1, 2018 - April 30, 2019	\$2.45	July 31, 2020
June 1, 2018 - May 31, 2019	\$2.45	July 31, 2020
July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019	\$2.45	July 31, 2020
August 1, 2018 - July 31, 2019	\$2.45	July 31, 2020
September 1, 2018 - August 31, 2019	\$2.45	July 31, 2020
October 1, 2018 - September 30, 2019	\$2.45	July 31, 2020
November 1, 2018 - October 31, 2019	\$2.54	July 31, 2020
December 1, 2018 - November 30, 2019	\$2.54	July 31, 2020
January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019	\$2.54	July 31, 2020
February 1, 2019 - January 31, 2020	\$2.54	July 31, 2021
March 1, 2019 - February 29, 2020	\$2.54	July 31, 2021
April 1, 2019 - March 31, 2020	\$2.54	July 31, 2021
May 1, 2019 - April 30, 2020	\$2.54	July 31, 2021
June 1, 2019 - May 31, 2020	\$2.54	July 31, 2021
July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020	\$2.54	July 31, 2021
August 1, 2019 - July 31, 2020	\$2.54	July 31, 2021
September 1, 2019 - August 31, 2020	\$2.54	July 31, 2021
October 1, 2019 - September 30, 2020	\$2.54	July 31, 2021