

ONC Interim Final Rule

Information Blocking and the ONC Health IT Certification Program: Extension of Compliance Dates and Timeframes in Response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

Who are the actors covered by information blocking?



Health Care Providers



Health Information Networks (HIN)/Health Information Exchanges (HIE)



Health IT Developer of Certified Health IT

Why does this interim final rule matter to you?



Applicability Date Extension

This interim final rule moves the applicability date from **November 2, 2020 to April 5, 2021**. This means that actors now will be subject to the information blocking provisions beginning on April 5, 2021.



Comments

The provisions in this rule, including the date extensions, are **effective immediately**. A 60-day comment period is available for stakeholders to respond to the interim final rule.



Investigations and Penalties/Disincentives

Actors that are subject to the information blocking regulations may be investigated by the HHS Office of Inspector General if they are the subject of a claim of information blocking.

Further, actors found to have committed information blocking are subject to penalties:

- Health IT developers of certified health IT, health information networks, and health information exchanges → Civil monetary penalties (CMPs) up to \$1 million per violation
- Health care providers → Appropriate disincentives to be established by the Secretary

Need to know if you are a covered actor?

Review the terms and definitions available in the [Health Care Provider Fact sheet](#) and [IB Actors fact sheet](#).