Frequently Asked Questions for the Small Rural Pharmacy Grants Program

1. **Which MCO's are eligible for consideration in the "# of MCO Rxs filled in CY 2019" question on the Grant Application Form and for consideration for the grant award funds?**
   - Claims from all of the **9 HealthChoice MCOs** are eligible for consideration for the grant funds:
     - **Aetna Better Health**
     - **Amerigroup Community Care**
     - **Jai Medical Systems**
     - **Kaiser Permanente**
     - **Maryland Physicians Care**
     - **MedStar Family Choice**
     - **Priority Partners**
     - **UnitedHealthcare**
     - **University of Maryland Health Partners**

   The eligible BIN, PCN, and Group #'s for these MCO's which meet the eligibility requirements of the program are listed in the Maryland Pharmacy Program's Provider Manual, which can be found here under Provider Information>>Provider Manual (Page 10 in the Provider Manual).

2. **How will the Program confirm the number of MCO prescriptions our pharmacy has filled for CY 2019 in order to determine our award amount?**
   - The Program will be using MCO prescription volume data for each pharmacy from reports provided by the Medicaid Pharmacy Claims Processing vendor (referenced by the pharmacy's NPI #) and will ultimately be using this data to determine each pharmacy's award amount for the grant funds. If the number of prescriptions on your application differs significantly from the number the Program has from its reports, we will contact you to discuss these differences. Please refer to Question 1 for information on what MCOs and BIN, PCN, and Group #'s are eligible for consideration in determining your grant award amount.

3. **Am I eligible for a grant if I filled more than 30,000 MCO prescriptions in CY 2019? If not, can I still get funding for 30,000 prescriptions filled by my pharmacy for MCO's?**
   - No, you are not eligible for this grant program if your pharmacy filled more than 30,000 MCO prescriptions in CY 2019. However, if when running your reports to find the number of MCO prescriptions your pharmacy filled for CY 2019, you find that the number is not significantly higher than 30,000, please contact Deanna Beebe to compare your prescription volume with the Program's reported number for your pharmacy. As indicated in Questions 1 and 2 above, the Program will be using MCO prescription volume data for each pharmacy from reports provided by the Medicaid Pharmacy Claims Processing vendor. If the vendor's data indicate that your store's volume is 30,000 prescriptions or less, you may still qualify for the grant.

4. **Does "30,000 prescriptions or less" mean MCO prescriptions only, not total prescriptions, for the pharmacy?**
   - Correct, the "30,000 prescriptions or less filled in CY 2019" eligibility requirement relates to MCO prescriptions only. This does not include the Medicaid fee-for-service prescriptions for participants who only have the "red and white" Medical Assistance Card, Medicare prescriptions, or prescriptions covered by commercial or private insurance carriers. Please refer to Question 1 for information on eligible MCOs and BIN, PCN, and Group #'s for consideration in counting your MCO prescription numbers for CY 2019.

5. **How can I apply if I have multiple eligible store locations under the same ownership?**
   - As long as you only have three (3) or fewer stores under the same ownership, and each of your store locations meets the Program's eligibility criteria, each store location is eligible for its own grant award. You must submit a separate grant application for each eligible store location in order for each location to receive an award. Store locations cannot share grant funds.

6. **Am I still eligible to apply if I live in a "rural" area but my pharmacy isn't located within one of the zip codes on CMS's "Zip Codes to Carrier Locality" File or the list on Attachment 8 of the Request for Applications (RFA) document?**
   - No, your pharmacy is not eligible for the grant program if your pharmacy's address is not within one of the zip codes indicated as rural on CMS's "Zip Codes to Carrier Locality" File or listed in Attachment 8 of the Request for Applications (RFA) packet. There are no exceptions to this eligibility requirement.

7. **What are the appropriate uses for grant funds?**
   - Grant funds shall be used to cover the costs of dispensing prescriptions. If you are concerned about whether your potential use for grant funds meets these criteria, please contact **Deanna Beebe** at deanna.beebe@maryland.gov or (410) 767-5701 to discuss your ideas further.

8. **What is the process and the submission deadline for submitting applications?**
   - Your **completed Grant Application Form** and **W-9 Form** for the pharmacy are due back to the Program **via email** to **Deanna Beebe** at **deanna.beebe@maryland.gov** by **5:00 PM EST on Friday, July 31st, 2020**. If you cannot email us your application documents, please email or call Deanna no later than *24hrs before the submission deadline* in order to determine a way to still submit your application documents on time for consideration for grant funds.