Quality Payment

Register for a HCQIS Access Roles and Profile (HARP) Account

Did you know?

You **must live in the United**

States or in a U.S. territory to obtain a HARP account.

Updated: 09/13/2024

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Attention Representatives of Medicare Shared Savings Program (Shared Savings Program) Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs):

Shared Savings Program ACOs have a different Health Care Quality Information System (HCQIS) Access Roles and Profile system (HARP) account creation and Quality Payment Program (QPP) role management process. ACOs will no longer be able to perform these actions on qpp.cms.gov.

If your organization is a Shared Savings Program ACO, please **DO NOT** follow the information in this document. Instead, please refer to the **Medicare Shared Savings Program ACOs: Creating and Managing a HARP Account with a QPP Role in ACO-MS document (PDF) in the <u>QPP Access User Guide</u> (ZIP file) for information on how to obtain a HARP account with a QPP Security Official or Staff User role and manage your role in the <u>ACO Management System (ACO-MS)</u>. If you are your ACO's QPP Security Official or Staff User contact in ACO-MS, then you can sign in to <u>qpp.cms.gov</u> using your ACO-MS Username and Password.**

Please note that the ACO-MS process only applies to representatives of a Shared Savings Program ACO, and not to the Participant TINs in the ACO. Representatives of a Participant TIN will still need to create an account on harp.cms.gov and request and manage their QPP role on qpp.cms.gov, using the information in this resource.



Introduction

You will create an account and establish credentials in the HCQIS Access Roles and Profile system (HARP) on harp.cms.gov. Then you will manage access to organizations by signing in to the Quality Payment Program on qpp.cms.gov.

This document will take you through the steps of registering for a HARP account on harp.cms.gov with screenshots and provides information on the remote identity proofing process that's a part of the registration process.

What is HARP? HARP is a secure identity management portal provided by us. New users who want to sign in to qpp.cms.gov will create their account in the HARP system on harp.cms.gov.

If you already have an account and have verified you can sign in to qpp.cms.gov with your User ID and password, you can stop here.

You **DO NOT** need to register for another HARP account.

Have questions? Contact the Quality Payment Program

By Phone: 1-866-288-8292 (Customers who are hearing impaired can dial 711 to be connected to a TRS Communications Assistant) or By Email: QPP@cms.hhs.gov
Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. ET

Register for a HARP Account: Instructions and Screenshots

Sign In to the Quality Payment Program

Go to qpp.cms.gov, and click **Sign In** on the upper right-hand corner.

You do NOT need to register if you have credentials that let you sign in to qpp.cms.gov. If you have credentials, sign in to qpp.cms.gov. and skip to Step 2: Connect to an Organization in the QPP Access Guide (ZIP file).

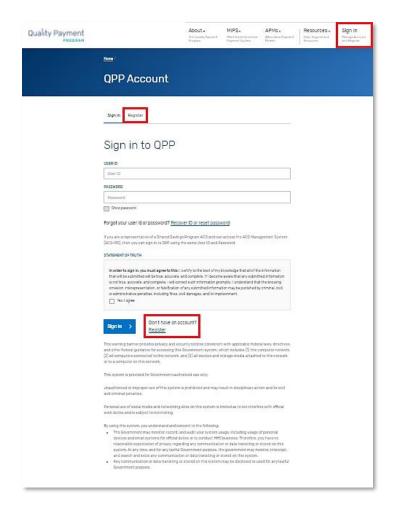
Enter your **User ID** and **Password** in the requested fields to sign in and **stop** here.

You need to register if you have never signed in to <u>app.cms.gov</u>. **Register** with HARP to obtain appropriate credentials in order to sign in.

- 1. Go to https://qpp.cms.gov/login
- 2. Click the **Register** tab or the **Register** link next to Sign In (see next page)

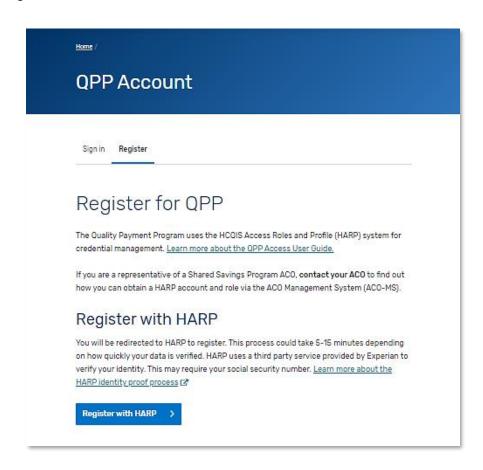
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Register for QPP

Click **Register with HARP** at the bottom of the page, you will be redirected to the <u>HARP</u> site to complete your registration.



Returning users:

Sign in with the same credentials you've always used

New users:

Sign in with your newly created HARP credentials

Don't have an Account?

Click Register next to Sign In

HARP Account Registration

The HARP registration process will take between 5 and 15 minutes, depending on how quickly your identity can be verified.

All fields with an asterisk (*) are required.

To gain access to qpp.cms.gov, your identity must be verified.

- HARP uses Experian **remote identity proofing** to verify your identity.
- For more information about remote identity proofing visit the FAQs.

For a video walking you through the HARP registration process visit the <u>HARP YouTube Playlist</u>.

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Step 1: Profile Information

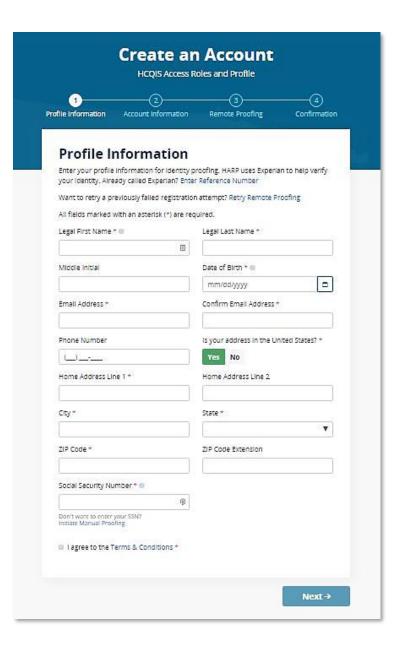
Enter your account information, like your:

- Legal name;
- Date of birth;
- Residential address; and
- Social Security Number (SSN).

You must provide all required information identified with an asterisk (*).

Tip: Enter your **personal home address**, not your organization's address or an address provided in Provider Enrollment, Chain and Ownership System (PECOS).

This information is used to confirm your identity.



Why do I have to enter my personal information?

Because your HARP credentials are used to sign in to Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) applications (e.g., qpp.cms.gov), that handle sensitive information like personally identifiable information (PII) and personal health information (PHI), you must complete identify proofing.

The personal information that uniquely identifies you, like your SSN, is used to verify your identity through Experian's remote proofing process.

This information is used to create personalized remote proofing questions later in the registration process that you will answer to verify your identity.

Don't want to provide your SSN or live in a U.S. territory outside of the United States?

A manual proofing process is available. However, it isn't recommended to initiate the manual proofing if you are able to complete the remote proofing process.

Don't want to enter your SSN? Initiate Manual Proofing

To initiate the manual proofing process, you will:

- 1. **Initiate** the manual proofing process
- 2. Provide all the information on the Profile Information page (you can leave SSN blank)
- 3. **Skip ahead** (click here) for more information.

Want to learn more about the manual proofing process?

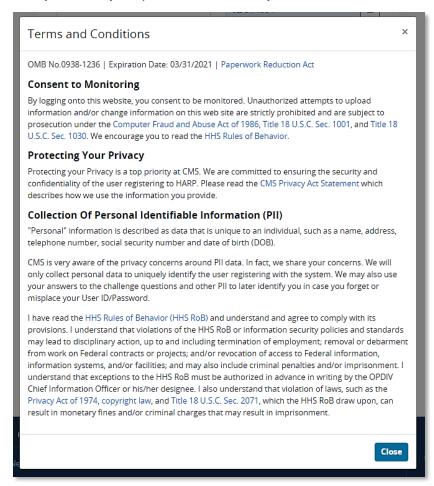
Skip ahead (click here) for more information.

Have questions? Contact the Quality Payment Program

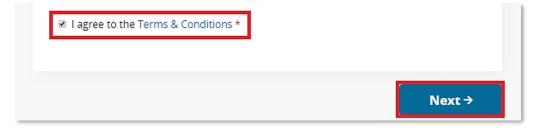
By Phone: 1-866-288-8292 (Customers who are hearing impaired can dial 711 to be connected to a TRS Communications Assistant) or By Email: QPP@cms.hhs.gov
Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. ET

Review the Terms and Conditions

After you enter your profile information, you will review the HARP terms and conditions.



Then you will check the **Terms & Conditions** box to confirm that you read the conditions and select **Next.**

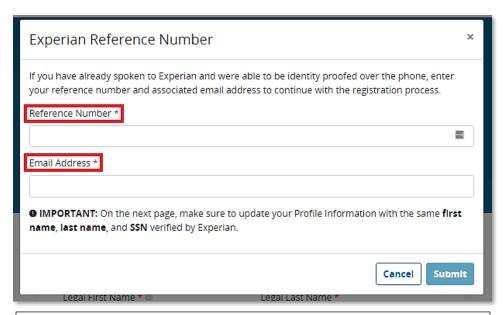


Experian Reference Number

If you have already spoken with Experian, you may enter the **reference number** provided by Experian.



Enter the **reference number** and your **email address** to continue with the registration process.



Important: Make sure your Profile Information contains the same first name, last name, and SSN verified by Experian.

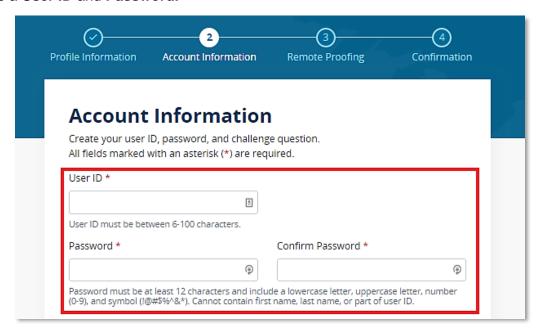
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Step 2: Account Information

User ID and Password

Create a User ID and Password.



When creating your User ID and Password, use the criteria below.

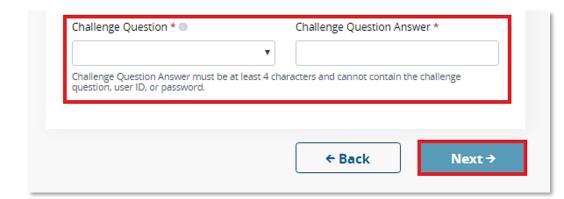
Your HARP User ID must meet the following criteria:	Your HARP password must meet the following criteria:
Be a minimum of 5 characters (maximum of 100) alphanumeric characters and symbols.	Be a minimum of 15 characters, and include the following: • A lowercase letter • An uppercase letter • A number (0-9)
NOTE : Your User ID and password can't contain PII or PHI. In addition, your password can't contain your User ID, first name or last name, the following special characters: '+', '(', ')', '>', '<', or more than 4 sequential numbers (e.g. 1234).	

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Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. ET

Challenge Question

Choose a challenge question and provide an answer, then select Next.



Note: This challenge question will be used if you need to reset your password.

Choosing a Challenge Question and Answer:

Select one challenge question and provide an answer.

The challenge answer is not case sensitive and has a minimum character length of 4 (maximum of 100) alphanumeric characters.

Manual Proofing

A manual proofing process is available.

- 1. Provide all of the information on the Profile Information page (you can leave SSN blank)
- 2. **Skip ahead** (click here) for more information.

Have questions? Contact the Quality Payment Program

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Step 3: Remote (Identity) Proofing

Based on the information provided in <u>Profile Information</u>, Experian will generate personalized remote identity proofing questions unique to you.

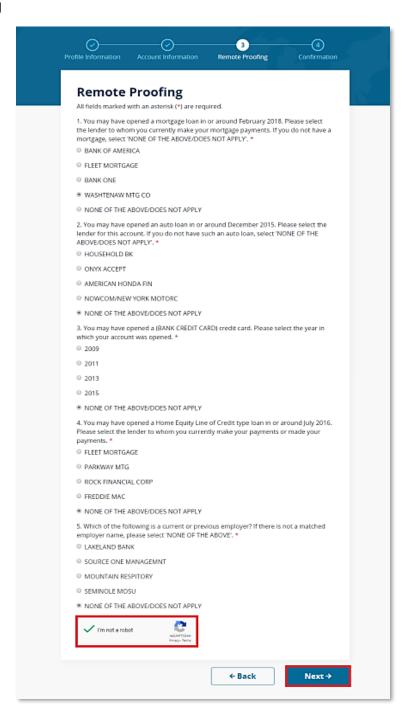
Answer the **remote proofing questions** for Experian to confirm your identity, check **I'm not a robot**, then click **Next**.

For additional information on the remote identity proofing process visit the FAQs.

"I'm not a Robot?"

ReCAPTCHA is a challengeresponse test that determines whether a user is human or a bot.

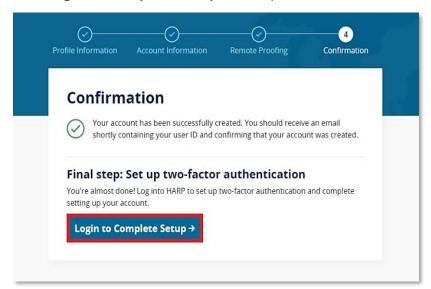
It offers an extra layer of security, protecting both users and websites from spam and abuse by allowing valid users to continue.



Step 4: Confirmation

Your HARP account has been created!

Click **Login to Complete Setup** to set up a device for two-factor authorization.



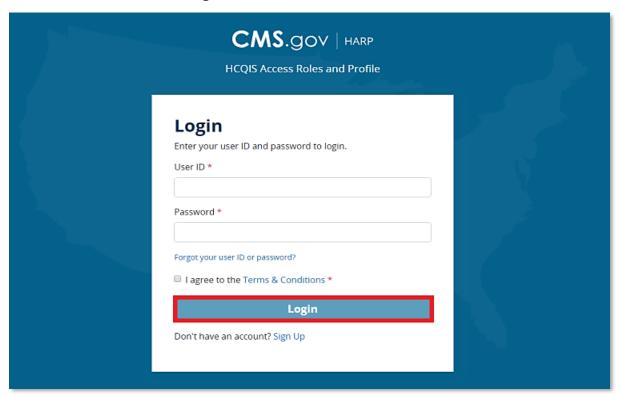
You will also receive an email confirming your registration which contains your User ID.

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Step 5. Set Up Two-Factor Authentication

Enter your newly created **User ID** and **Password** on <u>harp.cms.gov</u>, agree to the **Terms and Conditions**, and then click **Login**.



Future Login and Two-Factor Authentication:

We use two-factor authentication every time you access your HARP account. This means that each time you login, you will be prompted to enter a new security code sent to the device you set up in the following steps.

Have questions? Contact the Quality Payment Program

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Step 5. Set Up Two-Factor Authentication (continued)

After logging in, you will be prompted to set up **two-factor authentication**.

All accounts are required to set up two-factor authentication for additional security.

The available two-factor authentication methods for HARP are as follows:

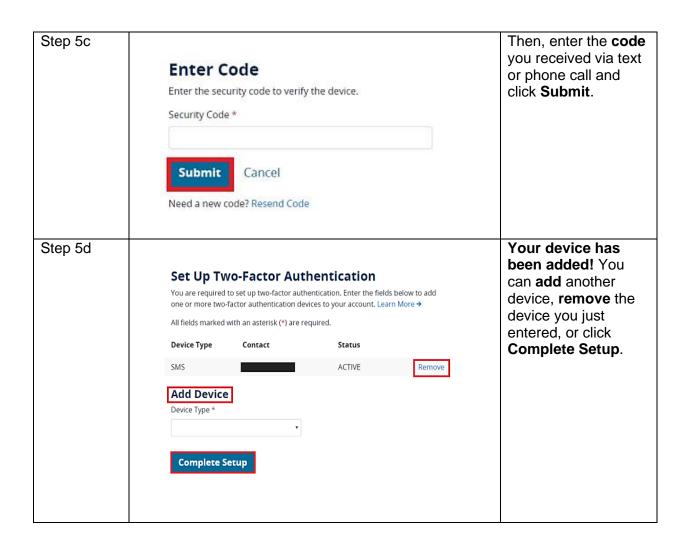
- Short Message Service (SMS) (text message)
- Voice (phone call)
- Google Authenticator
- Okta Verify
- Okta Verify Push

SMS (Text Message) Example

Step 5a	Set Up Two-Factor Authentication You are required to set up two-factor authentication. Enter the fields below to add one or more two-factor authentication devices to your account. Learn More → All fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required. Add Device Device Type *	Select your preferred device type (listed above).
Step 5b	Set Up Two-Factor Authentication You are required to set up two-factor authentication. Enter the fields below to add one or more two-factor authentication devices to your account. Learn More → All fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required. Add Device Device Type * SMS Please enter your phone number to receive a text with a security code. Phone Number * Send Code	Enter your phone number where you would prefer to receive your code (note, must be a mobile device if using SMS). Once complete, click Send Code.

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Can I update devices later?

Yes, you can always log back in later to update your device(s).

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Step 5. Set Up Two-Factor Authentication (continued)

Once your account setup is complete, you will be able to **sign in to QPP** on <u>app.cms.gov</u> to request access to your organization.

- Please note that you won't request a QPP role through the HARP website.
- Once you've established your HARP credentials, use them to sign in to the QPP website
 where you will request access to your organization. (This process is outlined in the Step
 2a. Connect to an Organization document in the QPP Access User Guide ZIP.)



Have questions? Contact the Quality Payment Program

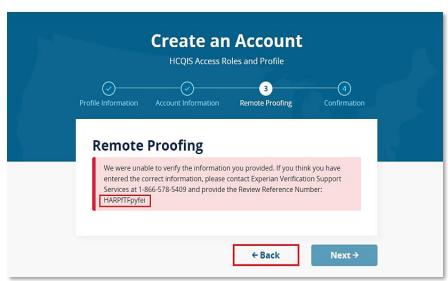
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Errors with the Remote Proofing Process

If your identity **can't** be verified based on the answers you provided, you will receive an error message prompting you to **contact** Experian Verification Support Services.

Before contacting Experian, click the back button and try to remote proof one additional time. Then if you are unsuccessful remote proofing after your second attempt, contact Experian Verification Support Services at 1-866-578-5409 and provide your **review reference number**.

If Experian can't verify your identity, you will need to initiate the **manual proofing process**. For more information on manual proofing, click <u>here</u>.



If you believe you made an error answering one or more Remote Proofing questions, you can also click **Back**.

You will return to the Profile Information page, where you can start the process again.

Manual Identity Proofing

If you don't want to provide your SSN or if you live in a U.S. territory outside of the United States, you will need to go through a **manual proofing process** to verify your identity.

Note: It is not recommended to initiate manual proofing if you are able to complete the remote proofing process because it takes longer to be approved and verified than remote proofing.

Don't want to provide your Social Security Number?

Complete the required (*) Profile Information fields (you can leave SSN blank). Check that you agree to the terms and conditions and click the link to Initiate Manual Proofing below the SSN field.

Have questions? Contact the Quality Payment Program

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Do you live in a U.S. territory outside of the United States?

If you live in a U.S. territory but don't have an address in the United States, complete all the required (*) Profile Information fields (SSN will be optional).



Select **No** to the question regarding your address in the U.S. and check that you agree to the **terms and conditions**.

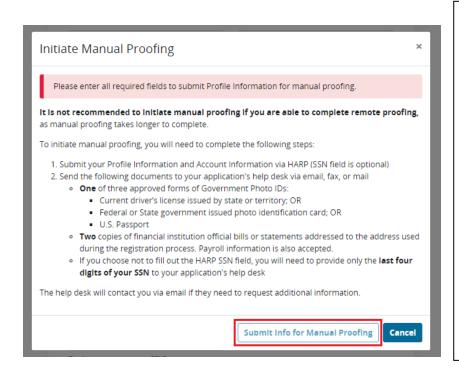
Then, click the link to Initiate Manual Proofing below the SSN field.

Initiate Manual Proofing

Once you click **Initiate Manual Proofing**, additional information about manual proofing will display.

- Review the manual proofing guidance and required documentation needed in order to complete the manual proofing process.
- Then, click Submit Info for Manual Proofing to begin the manual proofing process or you may Cancel your request.

You will only be able to click **Submit Info for Manual Proofing** if you have entered your Profile Information completely (with the exception of the SSN).



Please submit a copy of **2** of the following document types, confirming your personal address:

- Personal bills/statements
- Personal Financial institution statements
- Personal Payroll information/stub

Please submit a copy of <u>1</u> of the following approved forms of Government Photo IDs:

- U.S. Passport or a U.S. Passport Card
- Permanent Resident Card or Alien Registration Receipt Card (Form I-551)
- Driver's License or an ID card issued by a state or possession of the United States, provided it contains a photograph.
- U.S. Military ID card
- U.S. Military dependent's ID Card

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After clicking **Submit Info for Manual Proofing**, you will create a User ID and Password, select a Challenge Question, and provide a Challenge Question Answer.

User ID and Password

Create a User ID and Password using the criteria below.

Your HARP User ID must meet the following criteria:	Your HARP password must meet the following criteria:
Be a minimum of 5 characters (maximum of 100) alphanumeric characters and symbols.	 Be a minimum of 15 characters, and include the following: A lowercase letter An uppercase letter A number (0-9)
NOTE : Your User ID and password can't contain PII or PHI. In addition, your password can't contain your User ID, first name or last name, the following special characters: '+', '(', ')', '>', '<', or more than four sequential numbers (e.g., 1234).	

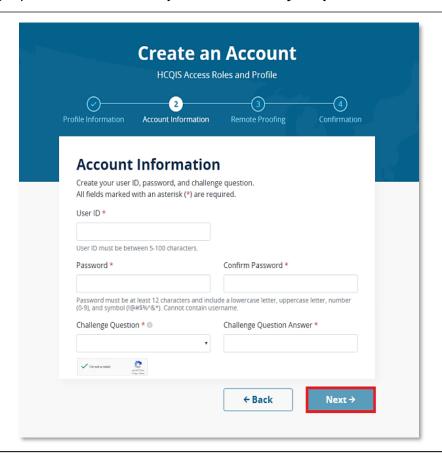
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Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. ET

Challenge Question

Choose a challenge question and provide an answer, then click I'm not a Robot and Next.

The challenge question will be used if you need to **reset your password**.



Choosing a Challenge Question and Answer:

Select one challenge question and provide an answer.

The challenge answer is not case sensitive and has a minimum character length of 4 (maximum of 100) alphanumeric characters.

A manual proofing process is available.

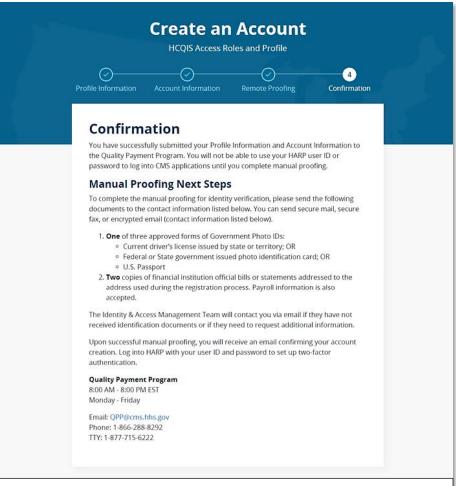
- 1. Provide all of the information on the Profile Information page (you can leave SSN blank)
- 2. **Skip ahead** (click <u>here</u>) for more information.

Have questions? Contact the Quality Payment Program

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Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. ET

Confirmation

After creating your Account Information, you will arrive at the **Confirmation** page, notifying that you have successfully completed the <u>Profile Information</u> and <u>Account Information</u> steps of your HARP registration.

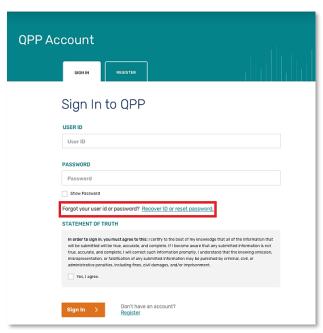


To complete the process, you must send the required documentation to the QPP within the designated time period to verify your identity. If the QPP does NOT receive your required documentation, your account will be closed and you will need to begin the HARP account creation and manual proofing process again.

Note: You will **not** be able to use your HARP account or sign into app.cms.gov until you have completed the **manual proofing** process

Forgot User ID or Password

If you forget your User ID or Password, click the **Recover ID or reset password** at the bottom of the <u>app.cms.gov</u> sign in page.



Need additional help on resetting your password?

Check out the <u>HARP Password</u> <u>Reset</u> video and the <u>HARP Help</u> webpage.

If you need to reset your password, you can't reuse your last 6 passwords, changed more than once in a single day, and your password must be changed every 60 days prior to expiration.

Your new password must meet the HARP password criteria below:

Your HARP password must meet the following criteria:

Be a minimum of 15 characters and include the following:

- A lowercase letter
- An uppercase letter
- A number (0-9)

NOTE: Your **User ID** and **password** can't contain PII or PHI. In addition, your **password** can't contain your User ID, first name or last name, the following special characters: '+', '(', ')', '>', '<', or more than four sequential numbers (e.g. 1234).

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What's Next?

Now that you have completed your HARP registration and set up your device for two-factor authentication, you will be able to **sign in** to <u>qpp.cms.gov</u> with your newly created User ID and password.

Once there you will need to Connect to an Organization.

Review the **Connect to an Organization document** in this guide to learn how to request access to an organization(s) so you can view, submit, and manage data on behalf of that organization(s).

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is remote identity proofing?

Remote identity proofing (RIDP) is the process of validating personal information that uniquely identifies you. For example, your credit history, personal demographic information, Social Security Number (SSN), and other indicators. This information will be used to locate your information in Experian and to create questions that only you can answer to verify your identity.

2. What happens to the data I submit for remote identity proofing?

The personal information you provided, such as your personal address and contact information, is stored in your HARP profile account. The information that uniquely identifies you, such as your Social Security Number (SSN) and credit history that Experian used to confirm your identity, is not retained by us. For more information regarding how we use the information you provide, please read the CMS Privacy Act Statement.

3. Who do I contact if my identity can't be verified during the remote identity proofing process?

If your identity can't be verified through the online <u>remote identity proofing</u> process, you will be prompted to contact Experian Verification Support Services and provide the Review Reference Number included in the notification. For security purposes, Experian Support Services can't assist you if you don't have a reference number.

Experian Verification Support Service representatives are available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., and Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Eastern Time. Call (866) 578-5409. The Experian website can be accessed at www.experian.com.

Have questions? Contact the Quality Payment Program

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All other questions on the HARP Account Registration process should be directed to the Quality Payment Program via phone at 1-866-288-8292 or email at qpp@cms.hhs.gov.

4. What if my identify can't be verified during the Experian phone proofing process?

If you contact the Experian Verification Support Services Help Desk at (866) 578-5409 and your identity can't be confirmed, you will be encouraged to complete the <u>manual identity proofing process</u>. Please note that you will have to send required documentation to the Quality Payment Program Service Center through one of the approved delivery methods within 30 days of your account creation.

5. What if I don't send the required manual proofing documentation to the Service Center within the designated time period?

If you fail to submit the required documentation to the Quality Payment Program to complete the manual proofing process within the designated time period, your request will be closed. If your request is closed, you will need to start the account creation process and manual proofing process again.

In order to complete your HARP account creation and gain QPP Account access, your identity must be verified. In order to complete this process, you must send the required documentation to the Quality Payment Program within the designated time period to complete the manual proofing process and verify your identify.

6. Will remote identity proofing affect my credit score?

No, this will not impact your credit score. Experian creates a "soft" inquiry, which is only visible to you and the requesting consumer. Soft inquiries have no impact on your credit report, history, or score.

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Version History

Date	Change Description		
09/13/2024	Updated QPP Access User Guide link.		
11/10/2023	 Added clarification that you must live in the U.S. or U.S. territory to obtain a HARP account. 		
04/12/2023	Updated password requirements to be a minimum of 15 characters and no longer require a special character.		
04/26/2022	Updated to clarify HARP registration process is completed on the HARP website and the connect to an organization process is completed on the QPP website.		
11/04/2021	Updated to include Shared Savings Program ACO Management System (ACO-MS) callout in Introduction		
	Updated QPP Account sign-in and registration images		
08/04/2021	Updated password requirements		
3/20/2020	Moved Terms and Conditions step to reflect correct location in registration process.		
	Added Quality Payment Program contact information for those who are hearing impaired.		
12/2/2019	Added link to HARP Youtube videos		
7/1/2019	Added version history		
	Corrected stretched images		
12/18/2018	Original posting		