

Institute on Medicare and Medicaid Payment Issues
March 18-20, 2026 | Baltimore Marriott Waterfront Hotel | Baltimore, MD

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

5:00-6:30 pm	
Conference Attendee Assistance: Check-In and Badge Pick-Up Come early to the AHLA Registration area to print out your badge.	
	Grand Registration Desk

Wednesday, March 18, 2026

7:00 am-5:45 pm		
Conference Attendee Assistance: Check-In and Badge Pick-Up Come to the AHLA Registration area to print out your badge.		
		Grand Registration Desk
7:00-8:00 am		
Conference Breakfast This event is included in the conference registration fee. Attendees, speakers, and registered guests are welcome.		
		Ballroom Foyer
8:00-9:30 am Extended Sessions		
1. The A&Bs of Medicare Parts A & B (not repeated) Ragini Acharya Sara Filipelli Erica Waxman Grand 1	2. Year in Review (not repeated) Lynn M. Barrett Jesse A. Berg Grand 5	3. The Changing Medicaid Program—A Panel of State Medicaid Directors (not repeated) Michael H. Cook Melanie Bush Melisa Byrd Carrie Cochrane-McClain Grand 7
9:30-10:00 am		
Networking and Coffee Break		
		Ballroom Foyer

Wednesday, March 18, 2026, continued

10:00 am-12:00 pm General Session

10:00-10:15 am
Welcome and Introductions
Mark Kopson, AHLA President
Charles A. Luband, Planning Committee Chair

10:15-10:45 am
4. OGC Update
Elizabeth (Beth) C. Kelley

10:50-11:25 am
5. OIG Update
Susan Edwards

11:30 am-12:00 pm
6. CMS Update
Kimberly Brandt

Grand 5

12:00-1:15 pm

Lunch and Learn: A Look at the Federal Health Policy Agenda for 2026, *sponsored by Forvis Mazars*
Eric Zimmerman
There is no additional fee; limited attendance and pre-registration is required. Continuing Education Credits are not available.

Essex

1:30-2:30 pm Concurrent Sessions

7. Basics of Medicare Hospital Cost Reporting (not repeated)	8. Distressed Health Care Providers—Key Restructuring Issues for 2026 (not repeat)	9. Graduate Medical Education (GME) in the USA – Key Metrics & Opportunities for 2026	10. Medical Necessity in Medicare Advantage	11. Best Practices for Legal Oversight of 340B Programs in Turbulent Times
Jowita Walkup Dave Yoder	Augustus "Augie" Curtis Samuel R. Maizel	Scott Bezjak Bradley Cunningham	Timothy P. Blanchard Kathy Roe	Trevor Coe Emily J. Cook
Grand 5	Grand 6	Grand 1	Dover	Grand 7

2:30-3:00 pm

Networking and Coffee Break
Exhibits Open—Meet the Exhibitors

Ballroom Foyer

3:00-4:00 pm Concurrent Sessions

12. Deciphering the Dollars: Advanced Medicare Cost Reporting and Appeals Strategies for 2026 (not repeated)	13. Deja Vu All Over Again: What Do Compliance Officers and Yogi Berra Have In Common? (not repeated)	14. Medicare Reimbursement for Hospital-Based Nursing and Allied Health Programs: Current Challenges	15. Current Issues with Provider-Based Status	16. Staying the Course: Civil Rights Compliance and Health Equity
Gregory N. Etzel Eric Lucas	Marti Arvin William T. Mathias	Alek Pivec Ann Showers	Sally Na Andrew D. Ruskin	Margia K. Corner
Grand 5	Grand 6	Grand 1	Grand 7	Dover

Wednesday, March 18, 2026, continued

4:00-4:30 pm

Networking and Coffee Break
Exhibits Open—Meet the Exhibitors

Ballroom Foyer

4:30-5:45 pm Extended Concurrent Sessions

17. Medicaid Unpacked: Fundamentals for a Rapidly Evolving Era (not repeated) Caroline L. Farrell Jeff J. Wurzburg Grand 5	18. Administrative Enforcement (not repeated) Gregory Becker Anaga Nmagu Judith A. Waltz Grand 6	19. Medicaid Litigation Update Garrett F. Mannchen Felicia Y. Sze Grand 1	20. Hospital Inpatient Prospective Payment System Update Marc Hartstein Alyssa Keefe Katrina A. Pagonis Grand 7	21. The Underpinnings of Overpayments Susan J. Banks B. Scott McBride Dover
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5:45-6:45 pm

Networking Reception, *sponsored by GME Solutions*

This event is included in the conference registration. Attendees, speakers, and registered guests are welcome.

Ballroom Foyer

Thursday, March 19, 2026

7:00 am-5:30 pm

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Conference Breakfast

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Ballroom Foyer

7:00-8:00 am

Networking Breakfast: Health System Reimbursement and Finance Professionals, *sponsored by Government Data Services LLC*

Moderators: Richard Toner, K. Michael Nichols

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Continuing Education Credits are not available.

Essex

8:00-9:00 am Concurrent Sessions

22. PRRB Appeals—The View from the Board Chair (not repeated)

Kevin D. Smith

Grand 6

23. Medicare and Medicaid Behavioral Health Coverage and Payment: Promising Developments and Challenges (not repeated)

Matthew W. Bergeron
Susannah Vance Gopalan

Dover

24. Pennies or Payments: Physician Fee Schedule & Part B in 2026

Bryan Hull
Sidney S. Welch

Grand 1

25. Medicare Advantage Fraud Enforcement Under a New Administration: Mitigating Risk for Criminal and Civil Actions

Jolie Apicella
Erek L. Barron
Michael Ronickher
Julie Rapoport Schenker

Grand 5

26. Uncompensated Care DSH Cost Reporting and Reimbursement

Fred Fisher
Karen Kim

Grand 7

9:15-10:30 am Extended Sessions

27. Medicaid Supplemental Payments and Current Issues (Primer) (not repeated)

Sarah E. Mutinsky
Adam D. Striar

Grand 5

28. Traditional Medicare v. Medicare Advantage: Acute Hospital Perspectives (not repeated)

Richelle Marting
Praveen Mekala

Grand 6

29. Medicare Litigation Update

Melissa D. Hart
Daniel J. Hettich

Grand 1

30. Hot Topics in Fraud and Abuse

Edward Crooke
Brian Dupré
Susan E. Gillin
Laura F. Laemmle-Weidenfeld

Grand 7

20. Hospital Inpatient Prospective Payment System Update (repeat)

Marc Hartstein
Alyssa Keefe
Katrina A. Pagonis

Dover

10:30-11:00 am

Coffee and Networking Break, *sponsored by Toyon Associates Inc*
Exhibits Open—Meet the Exhibitors

Ballroom Foyer

Thursday, March 19, 2026

11:00 am-12:00 pm Concurrent Sessions				
31. Navigating Medicare Claim Appeals (not repeated) Stanley I. Osborne, Jr. Cristina M. Prella Vivian N. Rodriguez Deborah Samenow Grand 5	32. Medicaid Managed Care: Recent Growth, Present Challenges, and Future Uncertainty (not repeated) Susan Feigin Harris Rachel Gilbert Grand 6	33. Safety Net Providers in the Medicare and Medicaid Programs and the Anticipated Consequences of the OBBBA (update title or bullet points) Kathy Ghiladi Grand 1	10. Medical Necessity in Medicare Advantage (repeat) Timothy P. Blanchard Kathy Roe Dover	15. Current Issues with Provider-Based Status (repeat) Sally Na Andrew D. Ruskin Grand 7
12:00-1:00 pm				
Lunch on your own				
1:15-2:15 pm Concurrent Sessions				
34. Wasteful and Inappropriate Service Reduction (WiSeR) Model (not repeated) Amy Turner Grand 1	35. Legal Ethics: AI in Litigation and Government Investigations—Ethical Duties in an Algorithmic Era George Breen Douglas Herman Judge David Nazarian Grand 6	36. Hospitals and House Slippers: Shifting Care to the Patient's Home Samantha Schmitt Ryan Thurber Dover	25. Medicare Advantage Fraud Enforcement Under a New Administration: Mitigating Risk for Criminal and Civil Actions (repeat) Jolie Apicella Erek L. Barron Michael Ronickher Julie Rapoport Schenker Grand 7	26. Uncompensated Care DSH Cost Reporting and Reimbursement (repeat) Fred Fisher Karen Kim Grand 5
2:15-2:45 pm				
Coffee and Networking Break, <i>sponsored by King & Spalding</i> Exhibits Open—Meet the Exhibitors Ballroom Foyer				
2:45-3:45 pm Concurrent Sessions				
37. Generating Revenue During Clinical Trials: Medicare and Medicaid Coverage of Clinical Trial Costs (not repeated) Karyn (Kai) Anderson Robert Wanerman Grand 5	38. Creating High-Performing Post-Acute Care Networks to Succeed in Risk-Based Payment Models (not repeated) James M. Daniel Chad Mulvany Grand 7	9. Graduate Medical Education (GME) in the USA – Key Metrics & Opportunities for 2026 (repeat) Scott Bezjak Bradley Cunningham Grand 6	14. Medicare Reimbursement for Hospital-Based Nursing and Allied Health Programs (repeat) Alek Pivec Ann Showers Grand 1	16. Staying the Course: Civil Rights Compliance and Health Equity (repeat) Margia K. Corner Aaron Schuham Dover

Thursday, March 19, 2026, continued

4:00-5:15 pm Extended Sessions				
39. Financing Medicaid Payments: Past, Present, and Future after the OBBBA (Advanced) (not repeated) Catherine Kirkland Baxter Morgan Grand 1	40. A View from the Inside: Preparing for the DMEPOS Medicare Enrollment Screening and Survey Processes and Managing Revocations When They Arise (not repeated) Wendy Russalesi Ross Sallade Grand 7	41. Medicare Hospital Payment Reform: Modernizing Reimbursement to Reflect the Cost of Care Heather D. Mogden K. Michael Nichols Grand 6	29. Medicare Litigation Update (repeat) Melissa D. Hart Daniel J. Hettich Dover	30. Hot Topics in Fraud and Abuse (repeat) Edward Crooke Brian Dupré Susan E. Gillin Laura F. Laemmle-Weidenfeld Grand 5
5:15-6:00 pm				
Reception Attendees, speakers, and registered guests are welcome. Ballroom Foyer				

Friday, March 20, 2026

7:00-11:45 am			
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7:00-8:00 am			
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8:00-9:00 am Concurrent Sessions			
42. Drug Pricing Update—IRA Implementation, MFN Policy, 340B Reform (not repeated) Sabrina Aery Chris Schott Grand 5	43. Key Elements of Medicare Wage Index, Occupational Mix, and Reclassifications (not repeated) Joseph R. Krause Brian Restivo Grand 1	11. Best Practices for Legal Oversight of 340B Programs in Turbulent Times (repeat) Trevor Coe Emily J. Cook Grand 7	24. Pennies or Payments: Physician Fee Schedule & Part B in 2026 (repeat) Bryan Hull Sidney S. Welch Dover
9:15-10:30 am Extended Sessions			
44. PRRB Appeals: Current Topics (not repeated) Lisa Ogilvie-Barr Christine Blowers Maude Shepard Page M. Smith Grand 5	19. Medicaid Litigation Update (repeat) Garrett F. Mannchen Felicia Y. Sze Grand 1	21. The Underpinnings of Overpayments (repeat) Susan J. Banks B. Scott McBride Grand 7	41. Medicare Hospital Payment Reform: Modernizing Reimbursement to Reflect the Cost of Care (repeat) Heather D. Mogden K. Michael Nichols Dover
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