



Aetna Institutes of Quality® Bariatric Surgery
Summary of Criteria
Facility Requirements for Consideration

We may select facilities for our Institutes of Quality (IOQ) Bariatric Surgery network that meet our requirements for quality, value and access. The evaluation for Bariatric Surgery includes the facility's publicly available data and other data, including our own. The Bariatric Surgery IOQ network applies to Aetna® members who are ages 18 and over.

We may select a facility to participate in the network if it meets certain:

- Clinical quality measures
- Contract requirements
- Cost efficiency
- Access for bariatric surgery services

Designation process

The current three-year review cycle is 2025–2027. A new three-year review cycle will start in 2028.

The quality review process takes place in Year 1 between January and May. We won't accept or review quality review data after this time-period. Final designations are done in the fourth quarter, which closes the review process until the start of the next three-year review cycle. Designation is valid for three years. It's dependent upon ongoing compliance with program requirements. If you have questions, send us an email at AetnaBariatricIOQ-National@Aetna.com

1. We review the facility's publicly reported data to determine clinical eligibility. If the facility doesn't meet all applicable clinical criteria, the facility isn't eligible for designation. We evaluate no further.
2. If the facility meets all applicable clinical criteria, we determine if the facility meets contract, cost efficiency and network access criteria. If the facility meets all these requirements, we'll designate the facility into the network.
3. We'll let the facility know if it's designated into the network.
4. We'll list the designated facility in our online provider directory.

Program requirements

To be considered for designation, both inpatient facilities and freestanding ambulatory surgery centers (ASC) must meet all applicable program requirements listed below.

Business requirements

The facility, the surgeons and the anesthesiologists must be credentialed by us. They must also participate in our provider network for all benefit plans and products available in their geographic area.

Patient care requirements

Inpatient facilities must be accredited as a Comprehensive Center. ASCs must be accredited as an Ambulatory Surgery Center by the American College of Surgeon's Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Accreditation and Quality Improvement Program.

The Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Accreditation and Quality Improvement Program (MBSAQIP) is available at: [Facs.org/quality-programs/mbsaqip](https://www.facs.org/quality-programs/mbsaqip)

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