



AHCAE

Association of Health Care Auditors and Educators

2026 National Conference

August 6-8, 2026

Virtual Conference! • Exceptional Speakers • Affordable CEUs

This virtual program has prior approval of up to 35 continuing education units.
Prior approval in no way constitutes endorsement.

Session Topics

- CMS Official – Medical Audit Reviews!
- Medicare Advantage Whistleblower Settlement Case – Hear First Hand!
- Navigating Audits for Episodes of Care
- 2027 Physician Fee Schedule Draft Review
- OIG Medicare Advantage Compliance Program
- Healthcare Law and Legal Trends
- Unraveling Chargemaster Management
- AI in Coding and Reimbursement
- HIPAA: Current State of Privacy and Security



Who should attend this virtual program?

- Auditors and Educators
- EHR Users and Vendors
- Compliance Officers
- Coders, Billers, Revenue Cycle
- Physicians / Clinicians
- Practice Administrators
- Consultants, Educators, Lawyers
- Health Plan Professionals
- HIM Professionals

Don't forget to sign up!

Pre-Conference Session: August 5, 2026

- "Nothing but Notes-Hands-on Auditing!"

Post-Conference Session: August 8, 2026

- "Q&A the Attorney!"



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Wednesday, August 5, 2026 (Pre-Conference) (MST)

Pre-Conference: “Nothing but Notes: Hands-On Auditing!”

9:00am-4:00pm (MST) Speaker: Desiree Dabovich-Larranaga, CHCRA, CHCA, CPC, CGCS
Kayme Whetzel, CHCA, CPC, CPC-I, CHC
(Lunch break from 12-1pm)

Thursday, August 6, 2026 – National Conference Begins (MST)

7:50am-8:00am **Welcome:**
Robin Linker, CHCA, CHCAS, CPC-I, CPC, CCS-P,
MCS-P, COC, CPC-P, CHC;
CEO, Robin Linker & Associates, Inc., and
AHCAE Executive Director of Operations and Auditing

8:00am – 9:15am **Keynote: "Exploring the Science of Gratitude for Healthcare Professionals "**
Speaker: Lisa Ryan, CSP
Grategy

9:15am – 10:30am **Navigating Audits for Episodes of Care Services**
Speaker: Jacqueline Thelian, CHCA, CHC, CPC-I
Medco Consultants, Inc., and AHCAE Leadership Board

10:30am – 10:45am **Break**

10:45am – 12:00pm **Review Medicare Medical Review (Audit) Trends**
Speaker: Stephanie Portzline
Novitas, CMS–Medicare Administrative Contractor

12:00pm – 12:45pm **Lunch Break**

12:45pm – 2:15pm **AI in Coding and Reimbursement**
Speaker: Eric Whittrock, CEO
MRB; Answer Data

2:15pm – 2:30pm **Break**

2:30pm – 4:00pm **Auditing Critical Care and Split Shared Services**
Speaker: Susan Garrison, CHCA, CHCAS, CHC, CPC, CCS-P, CPAR,
CPC, COC, VP, Magnus Confidential; and
AHCAE Executive Director of Education and Compliance



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Friday, August 7, 2026 –Day 2: National Conference (MST)

8:00am – 9:00am	Auditing Behavioral Health Services Speaker: Robin Linker, CHCA, CHCAS, CPC-I, CPC, CCS-P, MCS-P, MCS-P, COC, CPC-P, CHC; CEO, Robin Linker & Associates, Inc., and AHCAE Executive Director of Operations and Auditing
9:00am – 10:30am	Health Care Law Trends Speaker: Ellen Stewart, MSHA, JD, FHFMA; and AHCAE Leadership Board
10:30am – 10:45	Break
10:45am – 12:15pm	Unraveling the Mystery of Chargemaster Management Speaker: Sarah L. Goodman, MBA, CHCAF, COC, CCP, FCS SLG, Inc., President / CEO; and AHCAE Leadership Board
12:15pm – 12:45pm	Lunch Break
12:45-2:15pm	Review of the 2027 Physician Fee Schedule - Draft Speaker: Kathy Rock, PT, MBA, CHCA, CRHC, CPC, CHC Rock Consulting, Inc., and AHCAE Leadership Board
2:15pm – 2:30pm	Break
2:30pm – 4:00pm	30 Years of HIPAA: Current State of Privacy & Security Speaker: Paul W. Kim, JD, MPH Chief Legal Compliance and Privacy Officer

PRIZE DRAWINGS!

All conference attendees will be eligible for various prize drawings which include:

Complimentary registration for attending:

- ✓ 2027 AHCAE National Conference (Main Conference, Pre-Conference, and Post Conference)
- ✓ 2027 CPT Coding and Compliance Updates Workshop!



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Saturday, August 8, 2026 – Day 3: Post - Conference Session (MST)

8:00am – 9:30am **Reducing the Risk, Enhancing the Reward: A Review of the 2026 OIG MA Compliance Program**

Speaker: Daria Bonner, CHCRA, CHCA, CCP, RMC
Xact Healthcare Solutions, Inc., and
AHCAE Leadership Board

9:30am – 9:45am **Break**

9:45am – 11:15am **Perseverance Always Outlasts Pressure: A 12-Year Journey in Medicare Advantage Compliance**

Speaker: James Taylor, MD, CRC FAAFP

11:15pm – 12:30pm **Navigating Pediatric Medical Coding**

Speaker: Melanie Thelian, CPC
Medco Consultants, Inc.

FINAL REMARKS – CEU and Prize Drawings!

POST CONFERENCE SESSION (2 ceus)

**Gain insight from fellow auditors, coding, and compliance experts, as they engage in this Questions and Answer session with a nationally recognized healthcare attorney! Be sure to register!*

1:00pm-3:00pm **"Q&A the Attorney: Defend the Medical Record!"**

Facilitators: Ellen Stewart, MSHA, JD, FHFMA;
and AHCAE Leadership Board Members

We hope you can join us virtually for another exciting line-up of top industry experts at the Association of Health Care Auditors and Educators national conference. Sessions will earn CEUs through AHCAE and other key organizations. A confirmation email will be sent immediately upon registration at www.ahcae.org. Instructions to access the conference will be sent to registered attendees prior to the conference.

Questions? Please feel free to contact us with any questions at 303-905-2357 or info@ahcae.org

Register at: www.ahcae.org or you may fax/email the registration form on the next page.

Approved for up to 35 CEUS by AHCAE and various organizations!
Registration may be transferred to another attendee or future event upon request.



2026 National AHCAE Conference – VIRTUAL!

Association of Health Care Auditors and Educators

August 5-8, 2026 – Virtual!

ATTENDEE INFORMATION		
1 st Attendee and Credentials:		
Company:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Phone:	Cell Phone:	Fax:
Email:		
<i>*Multiple attendee discounts require registrations to be paid and submitted together.</i>		
2 nd Attendee		
3 rd Attendee		
4 th Attendee		

Register Online:
www.ahcae.org

EVENT Registration	AHCAE Members	Non-AHCAE Members	Number of Attendees	Subtotal
<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Conference : -----Aug. 5, 2026 📁 "Nothing But Notes!" 9am - 4pm	\$250.00	\$375.00		
<input type="checkbox"/> 2026 National AHCAE Aug 6-8, 2026 Main Conference	\$550.00	\$625.00		
<input type="checkbox"/> 2026 National AHCAE Aug 6-8, 2026 Conference <i>and</i> Membership <small>(new or renewal)</small>	\$675.00 X _____			
		<i>(Best value for new /renewing members!)</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Post-Conf: (1:00-3:00pm)----August 8, 2026 "Q & A the Attorney!"	\$200.00 X _____			
		<i>Members and Non-Members</i>		

Mail Registration and Payment to: Need an invoice sent by email to click and pay? Yes
 Send to Email: _____

Total	
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Association of Health Care Auditors and Educators
 6140-K6 S. Gun Club Rd. #292
 Aurora. CO 80016

You may also fax your payment and registration to **800-945-4119**

PAYMENT INFORMATION	
<i>*Call if you need special payment arrangements.</i>	
Name:	
Title:	Company:
Address:	
City:	State: Zip:
Phone:	Fax:
Email:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Check enclosed for \$	Checks Payable to: Association of Health Care Auditors or AHCAE
<input type="checkbox"/> Charge my credit card \$	<input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> Master Card <input type="checkbox"/> American Express <input type="checkbox"/> Discover
Card #:	*City credit card bill goes to: Zip code:
Exp. Date: /	Signature:

Register online at www.ahcae.org

Questions: info@ahcae.org or call: 303-905-2357