

Release of Contract Year (CY) 2018 Medicare Advantage (MA) Bid Pricing Data

Technical Notes:

This data release is being made pursuant to §422.272 Release of MA bid pricing data. CMS will release to the public MA bid pricing data for MA plan bids accepted or approved by CMS for a contract year under §422.256. The annual release will contain MA bid pricing data from the final list of MA plan bids accepted or approved by CMS for a contract year that is at least 5 years prior to the upcoming calendar year.

The files in this specific release contain Part C MA bid pricing data submitted by MA organizations, as of October 1, 2017 for their CY 2018 bids. For purposes of this release, the term “MA bid pricing data” means the following information that MA organizations must submit for each MA plan bid for the annual bid submission:

- (1) The pricing-related information described at §422.254(a)(1);
- (2) The information required for MSA plans, described at §422.254(e); and
- (3) The information required for ESRD SNP plans.

Consistent with the exclusions at §422.272, the following information is excluded from the data released:

- (1) For an MA plan bid that includes Part D benefits, the information described at §422.254(b)(1)(ii), (c)(3)(ii), and (c)(7).
- (2) Additional information that CMS requires to verify the actuarial bases of the bids for MA plans for the annual bid submission, as follows:
 - (i) Narrative information on base period factors, manual rates, cost-sharing methodology, optional supplement benefits, and other required narratives.
 - (ii) Supporting documentation.
- (3) Any information that could be used to identify Medicare beneficiaries or other individuals. As part of this exclusion, an “*” indicates that a data field has been suppressed because there are fewer than 11 Medicare beneficiaries in the data field or for necessary complimentary cell suppression.
- (4) Bid review correspondence and reports.

A data dictionary is provided to map each data field to its corresponding cell in the MA bid pricing tool. Data from Section I (General Information) of each Worksheet is identical; therefore, data for Section I is only presented in the file for Worksheet 1.

The bid instructions and bid pricing tools applicable to this data are available at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Health-Plans/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/Bid-Forms-Instructions.html>.

Questions regarding this data may be sent to actuarial-bids@cms.hhs.gov.