

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Center for Beneficiary Choices
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



CENTER FOR BENEFICIARY CHOICES

MEMORANDUM

Date: October 30, 2006
To: Part D Sponsors
From: Cynthia Tudor, Ph.D., Director, Medicare Drug Benefit Group
Subject: Low Income Subsidy Matching Activities

CMS has now secured a contractor, Acumen, LLC., to support the Low Income Subsidy (LIS) information matching process. This contractor will collect and analyze information on LIS eligible beneficiaries from every sponsor (starting first with PDP sponsors receiving auto-enrollments) to analyze the extent to which the sponsor's LIS information is consistent with CMS' LIS information. In the near future, Acumen, LLC., will be contacting your plan on behalf of CMS to begin the process of submitting these data. At this time, the contractor will provide the file layout and submission methods. CMS expects that all plans are responsive to requests from Acumen, LLC regarding the LIS matching process.

By using a contractor, CMS will centralize and eventually replace the LIS matching process previously specified in the August 30, 2006 HPMS memo. This will ensure consistent information is provided to CMS and remove the additional burden on sponsors of performing these analyses. However, since this process is not yet fully established, Part D sponsors must continue their own LIS matching for the remainder of the 2006 contract year.

Verifying the accuracy of LIS beneficiary information is critical to ensure beneficiaries receive their drugs timely and at the correct cost sharing at the point of sale. CMS appreciates your cooperation in this data matching processes. Please direct any questions about this memorandum to PartDMetrics@cms.hhs.gov, and put "LIS matching" in the subject line.