



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, Maryland 21244

TO: Current and Future Medicare Advantage Organizations, Prescription Drug Plan Sponsors, Direct Contract Employer/Union Medicare Advantage Organizations and Prescription Drug Plan Sponsors, Cost Based Plans, and PACE organizations

FROM: Cynthia Tudor, Director, Medicare Drug Benefits Group
Brenda Tranchida, Deputy Director, Employer Policy and Operations Group

RE: Final 2008 Part D and Employer Group Waiver Plan Applications

DATE: January 31, 2007

We have **reposted** the final 2008 Prescription Drug Plan solicitations. All applications are due to CMS by **5p.m. EST on March 12, 2007**. A correction was made to the file containing the counts of Medicare beneficiaries by state, region, and zip code. In addition, two attestations related to PBM price concessions have been removed from the attestation portion of the solicitations.

The following 2008 Part D applications (not including Employer/Union-Only Group Waiver Plans) and instructions are posted at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/PrescriptionDrugCovContra/04_RxContracting_ApplicationGuidance.asp#TopOfPage:

- 2008 Solicitation for Applications for New Prescription Drug Plan (PDP) Sponsors
- 2008 Solicitation for New Medicare Advantage-Prescription Drug Plan (MA-PD) Sponsors
- 2008 Solicitation for Applications for New Cost Based Plan-Prescription Drug Plan Sponsors
- 2008 Part D Service Area Expansion Application for PDP and MA-PD Sponsors

Also, the 2008 Employer/Union-Only Group Waiver Plan (EGWP) applications and instructions are posted at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/EmpGrpWaivers>. The posting includes instructions for the automated online “800 series” EGWP applications, as well as the Direct Contract applications and a summary instructions chart:

- 2008 Application Instructions for PDP Sponsors to Offer New Employer/Union-Only Group Waiver Plans (PDP “800 series” EGWPs)
- 2008 Application Instructions for MA Organizations to Offer New Employer/Union-Only Group Waiver Plans (MAO “800 series” EGWPs)
- 2008 Application Instructions for Cost Plan Sponsors to Offer New Employer/Union-Only Group Waiver Plans (Cost Plan “800 series” EGWPs)

- 2008 Solicitation for Applications for New Employer/Union Direct Contract Prescription Drug Plan (PDP) Sponsors
- 2008 Initial Application for Employer/Union Direct Contract Private Fee-for-Service (PFFS) Medicare Advantage Organization
- 2008 Solicitation for Applications for New Employer/Union Direct Contract Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan (MA-PD) Sponsors
- 2008 Summary Instructions - Employer/Union-Only Group Waiver Plan (EGWP) Applicants

All applications are due to CMS by **5p.m. EST on March 12, 2007**. If you have questions, please contact the following individuals:

For Prescription Drug Plan issues – Marla Rothouse at (410) 786-8063
(marla.rothouse@cms.hhs.gov).

For Employer/Union-Only Group Waiver Plan issues – Marye Isaacs at (410) 786-3276
(marye.isaacs@cms.hhs.gov) or Julian Nadolny at (410) 786-2274
(julian.nadolny@cms.hhs.gov).