



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

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

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

FROM: David A. Lewis, Acting Director, Medicare Advantage Group
Cynthia G. Tudor, Director, Medicare Drug Benefits Group
Brenda Tranchida, Deputy Director, Employer Policy and Operations Group

RE: Industry Training Webcast for 2008 Part C, Part D, and Employer/Union-Only Group Waiver Plan (EGWP) Applications

DATE: January 18, 2007

JOIN THE CMS WEBCAST AND SATELLITE CONFERENCE!

**Application Training Update
Webcast and Satellite Broadcast
Wednesday, January 31, 2007
1:00-4:45 pm EST**

On January 31 from 1:00-4:45pm EST, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services will broadcast a Satellite/Webcast program that will provide guidance to the industry on the submission of MA, MA-PD, PDP and EGWP Applications for the 2008 contract year.

Goal

The goal of this broadcast is to provide Health Plans, Drug Sponsors, Employers and Unions, and other potential applicants with an update on changes and/or revisions on the following topics:

- Overview of the Part C application requirements and process for the 2008 contract year for Coordinated Care Plans (CCP), Private Fee For Service (PFFS), Service Area Expansions (SAE), Medical Savings Account (MSA) and Special Needs Plans (SNP)
- Overview on the Part D application process for the 2008 contract year
- Overview of the EGWP application process for the 2008 contract year (for employers and unions seeking to directly contract with CMS and PDPs, MA Organizations and Section 1876 Cost Plan Sponsors seeking to offer “800 series” employer group waiver plans)

- HPMS automation of the Part D and “800 series” employer group waiver plan applications
- Service Areas and Contact Information

Speakers

Part C Applications - Paul Foster

Special Needs Plans - Cathy Barchi

MSA - Paul Foster

Regional PPOs - Daniella Stanley

Employer Group Waiver Plans – Julian Nadolny and Marye Isaacs

PDPs and MA-PDs – Jennifer Shapiro and Dennis Hodges

Target Audience

New and existing health plans, employers, unions, Part D sponsors, and other interested parties, including Medicare compliance officers and information technology staff seeking to submit Part C, Part D or EGWP applications for the 2008 contract year should participate in this webcast.

Technical Information

Registration and Viewing Instructions

For individual and site registration and viewing instructions go to:

<http://cms.distributedclassroom.org>

Webcast Information

This program will have a live Webcast and will be available for viewing for two months following January 31 at <http://cms.distributedclassroom.org>

Satellite Technical Specifications

This broadcast will be available on C and Ku Digicipher bands. Specific satellite technical specifications will be available for site coordinators will be available at <http://cms.distributedclassroom.org> or can be obtained by calling 1-800-401-9387.

Handouts

Handouts for this broadcast will be available at the following website by January 29:

<http://cms.distributedclassroom.org>

If you have any questions regarding the technical aspects of the satellite/webcast, please call DuVa Clyburn at (410) 786-2161. If you have any questions regarding the programmatic content please call one of the following contacts:

Part C Issues– Kateisha Martin at (410) 786-4651

Part D Issues- Marla Rothouse at (410) 786-8063

Employer Issues – Marye Isaacs at (410) 786-3276