

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
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Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



CENTER FOR BENEFICIARY CHOICES

DATE: June 20, 2007

TO: All Part D Plan Sponsors, Medicare Advantage Organizations and Cost Plans

FROM: Anthony Culotta, Director
Medicare Enrollment and Appeals Group

SUBJECT: 2008 Plan Enrollment Guidance -- UPDATES

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is releasing updates to the existing enrollment and disenrollment guidance for prescription drug plans (PDPs), Medicare Advantage (MA) plans and cost plans.

CMS has created three new eligibility and enrollment webpages on its website, at: <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/home/medicare.asp> under the “**Eligibility and Enrollment**” heading. Each of the three guidance documents listed below can be found there, along with other useful enrollment-related information. The specific links for the revised guidance documents are as follows:

PDP enrollment guidance is at: <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicarePresDrugEligEnrol/>

MA enrollment guidance is at: <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareMangCareEligEnrol/>

Cost plan enrollment guidance is at: <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareMangCareEligEnrol/>

These guidance updates represent final CMS policy and are effective for contract year 2008, including all enrollments with an effective date on or after January 1, 2008. Please note that Special Election Period (SEP) expansions (such as the expanded SEP for low-income subsidy individuals) are effective immediately upon release of this new guidance. Additionally, plans should ensure that their Notices to confirm Auto and Facilitated enrollment contain the important updates regarding possible reimbursement of drug costs during retroactively enrolled periods, and the impact of their Part D enrollment on other existing prescription drug coverage. Organizations may implement other aspects of this guidance before the required implementation date.

Any questions about this guidance should be directed to your CMS plan or account manager or you may contact Jeff Maready at 415-744-3523 (Jeffrey.maready@cms.hhs.gov) for MA guidance, or Lynn Orlosky at 410-786-9064 (lynn.orlosky@cms.hhs.gov) for PDP guidance.