

HPMS E-Mail

Date: May 07, 2024

Subject: Process for Requesting an HPMS Crosswalk Exception for Contract Year 2025

CMS announces that Medicare Advantage organizations, Prescription Drug Plan sponsors, Medicare-Medicaid Plans, and Section 1876 cost plans can enter allowable contract year (CY) 2025 crosswalk exceptions in the Health Plan Management System (HPMS) beginning Tuesday, June 4, 2024, at 3:00 a.m. ET through Wednesday, June 5, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. ET.

The list of permissible crosswalk exceptions may be found at 42 CFR §§417.496 and 422.530. D-SNP look-alikes should refer to 42 CFR § 422.514 regarding required transition of plan enrollees via the crosswalk exception process.

A crosswalk exception request is required for all exception scenarios articulated in the regulation. Plans requesting a crosswalk exception must:

- Complete the plan crosswalk during bid submission;
- Check the crosswalk exception box on the Complete Plan Crosswalk screen in HPMS.
NOTE: Checking this box does **not** complete the exception request; and
- Submit the exception request once the exception submission window opens in June.

Please refer to Chapter 11 of the Bid Submission User Manual for a full explanation of the crosswalk exception process when the Crosswalk Exception functionality is released in HPMS on June 4, 2024. Once released, the Bid Submission User Manual can be found at the following HPMS path: HPMS>Plan Bids>Bid Submission>CY 2025> View Documentation.

The only crosswalk exception requests that should be submitted are those crosswalk requests that were NOT submitted during bid submission or crosswalk requests that do not fall within the standard crosswalk rules. CMS will announce a second opportunity to submit crosswalk exceptions in July. Separate instructions for this second opportunity will be provided in advance of the submission date.

In CY2024, the crosswalk verification functionality in the HPMS Bid Submission module was an optional process. This verification process is now mandatory for all organizations/sponsors to concur or non-concur with their crosswalk data for their contract to be approved by CMS. If the crosswalk verification is not completed by the deadline for a given contract, that contract cannot

be approved. The Crosswalk Verification functionality will be released in August. Additional guidance on the verification process will be released at that time.

Please submit questions to: <https://dmao.lmi.org>. Select the Medicare Advantage Operations tab and submit questions under the “Medicare Advantage Issue” category.

For DSNP-specific crosswalk questions and D-SNP look-alike transitions please contact the DSNP operations mailbox at: MMCO_DSNPOperations@cms.hhs.gov.

For technical issues, please contact the HPMS Help Desk at either: hpms@cms.hhs.gov, or 1-800-220-2028.