

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop C2-21-15
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



DATE: June 27, 2012
TO: Issuers of Health Insurance
FROM: Brian James
CCIIO Data Collection and Management Division
SUBJECT: Optional IFP Submission Window

To accommodate a request from issuers for additional time to compile and submit their Summary of Benefits and Coverage data, the most recent HealthCare.gov refresh was delayed. Due to this accommodation, on several issuer calls and via comments to the CCIIO inbox, issuers have expressed concern about Individual and Family rates expiring and the associated plans being suppressed from HealthCare.gov before the planned submission and mid-August refresh. As a response to those concerns, there will be an *optional, “mini”* IFP submission next week, 7/2-7/6. An issuer may submit new plans with valid rates or revise rate submissions during this extra window, which will allow for a mid-July refresh (anticipated by July 13). To ensure that HealthCare.gov continues to be a reliable source of timely information for consumers, it must display only up-to-date information. Therefore, plans that choose to not submit updated information will not be included on HealthCare.gov until the next refresh in mid-August.

The IFP templates will be the same as used previously. These templates will also be the ones used in the next, previously scheduled, refresh, before the new templates are utilized starting with the 8/27 combined window.

HIOS is currently open for any necessary changes, and will remain open throughout the submission cycle. The process will otherwise be the same, outside of the truncated time period.

Once again, this is NOT a required submission. Issuers need not submit during this window, but anyone with expiring rates will be able to upload the appropriate information to ensure continued listing on the web site.

For policy questions regarding the HealthCare.gov Plan Finder, please email CCIIOPlanFinder@cms.hhs.gov.

For technical assistance regarding product-level data submissions, please contact the HIOS Help Desk at 1-877-343-6507 or insuranceoversight@hhs.gov.