

# CHAPTER 9A: SERVICE AREA PARTIAL COUNTY SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE

## **Instructions for Submitting a Partial County Explanation**

Complete each section below, being as thorough and specific as possible in each of your responses. You must substantiate any assertion you make. For the explanation to be complete, you must respond to all three sections and answer all three questions under Section 1.

Once you have completed your service area partial county supplemental response, combine it with any evidence you are providing to substantiate your responses and Federally-facilitated Marketplace (FFM) state approval evidence into one file. System for Electronic Rate and Form Filing (SERFF) issuers requesting to serve a partial county do not need to submit evidence of state approval; successful transmission of your data will serve as state approval in SERFF states.

Name the combined document file using the following convention: [Issuer ID]\_[State]\_service\_area\_partial\_county, for example, “12345\_MD\_service\_area\_partial\_county.pdf.”

Upload the combined document into the Plan & Benefit section of the Benefits & Service Area Module in the Qualified Health Plan (QHP) Application System using the document upload functionality. Select **Other** from the *Document Type* drop-down menu.

### **Section 1: Partial County Explanation**

*Respond to the following three questions. If the partial county is a result of a legal agreement or settlement splitting up the counties by different issuers, include this information in your response.*

Question 1: Describe how serving this partial county geographic area is necessary. Describe the evidence that you are providing to substantiate this and (if applicable) include it with your response.

Question 2: Describe how serving this partial county geographic area is not discriminatory. Describe the evidence provided to substantiate this and (if applicable) include it with the response.

Issuers must be able to substantiate *both* of the following statements:

- ◆ The racial and economic composition of the population in the portion of the county being proposed is comparable to the excluded portion of the county. Using U.S. census data (or data from another comparable source), compare the racial and economic composition of the included and excluded portions of the proposed county service area.
- ◆ The anticipated healthcare costs of the portion of the county being proposed to serve are similar to the area of the county that will be excluded from the service area.

Question 3: Describe how serving this partial county geographic area is in the best interest of the qualified individuals and employers. Describe the evidence that you are providing to substantiate this and (if applicable) include it with your response.

## **Section 2: Geography**

*Describe the geographic areas for the county, both inside and outside the partial county geographic area, including the major population centers, transportation arteries, significant topographic features (such as lakes and mountain ranges), and any other geographic factors that affected your proposal for the partial county.*

### **Section 3: State Approval**

*Issuers submitting in the Health Insurance Oversight System (HIOS) must include written evidence from the appropriate state regulator, such as an e-mail that lists the specific partial county requested, showing that it is approved by the state. Issuers submitting in SERFF should consult with the state regulator, but successful transmission of your data will indicate state approval.*

**HIOS Issuers Only:** Have you included this evidence?

Yes.

No.

If you don't have enough space here to list your justifications, print out another form to augment them as needed.