

**MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT
CY 2006 PART D IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE FOR PACE ORGANIZATIONS**

ACTIVITY	DATE	VEHICLE OF DISSEMINATION	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Public display date of the Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit; Final Rule	January 21, 2005	CMS website (see link below for complete copy of the final rule)	N/A
CMS circulates memo providing initial guidance on compliance with Part D via HPMS	January 21, 2005	HPMS notice to all plans	Newly forming organizations that anticipate having an effective program agreement by 1/1/06 may access this guidance at: http://www.cms.hhs.gov/healthplans/madvantage/pace_transitionmemo.pdf
Medicare Part D industry training	January 24-25, 2005	Baltimore conference	This training provided a broad overview of Part D requirements.
Publication date of the Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit; Final Rule	January 28, 2005	Federal Register publication: Vol. 70, No. 18	Document available at: http://www.cms.hhs.gov/providerupdate/regs/cms4068f.pdf
Publication date of CMS' Advance Notice of Methodological Changes for CY 2006 Medicare Advantage Payment Rates	February 18, 2005	45 Day Notice of Rate Announcement	This document contains the proposed PACE Part D payment methodology, including applicable adjustments and is available at: http://www.cms.hhs.gov/healthplans/rates/
CMS circulates abbreviated Part D application requirements and listing of Part D waivers applicable to PACE organizations	March 4, 2005	A CMS PACE listserv notice will provide this information. The information will also be posted on the CMS PACE Homepage: http://www.cms.hhs.gov/pace/default.asp	This document is a modified version of the PDP application applicable to PACE organizations. *It also provides a comprehensive listing of Part D provisions that will be waived on behalf of PACE organizations and further clarification on the waiver submission process for those organizations that may elect to submit waiver requests in addition to those granted by CMS on their behalf.

ACTIVITY	DATE	VEHICLE OF DISSEMINATION	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Due date for public comment on Advance Notice of Methodological Changes for CY 2006 Medicare Advantage Payment Rates	5:00 P.M. on March 4, 2005	N/A	Please refer to the Advance Notice for instructions on submitting public comments.
CMS Part D bidders conference	Spring 2005	Please refer to the CMS website for current information regarding this conference: http://www.cms.hhs.gov/healthplans/	N/A
Due date for signed transition attestation	March 23, 2005	N/A	This document was included in the 1/21/05 memo to PACE organizations.
Due date for signed business integrity attestation	March 23, 2005	N/A	This document was included in the 1/21/05 memo to PACE organizations.
Due date for submission of abbreviated Part D application requirements	March 31, 2005	N/A	Please follow the instructions included with this document when submitting this abbreviated Part D application.
Announcement of CY 2006 Medicare Advantage Payment Rates	April 4, 2005	Final 2006 Rate Announcement	This document announces final payment methodologies and rates.
Due date for formulary submission via HPMS	April 18, 2005	N/A	Please refer to the abbreviated Part D application regarding the applicability of this deadline to PACE organizations.
Part D bids due to CMS	June 6, 2005	N/A	*This requirement is waived on behalf of any organization that becomes operational beyond June 6 th . *In addition, to the extent an operational PACE organization is not able to meet this bidding deadline, a waiver will be granted.

