

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Center for Beneficiary Choices
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop C4-23-07
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



CENTERS FOR BENEFICIARY CHOICES

DATE: November 30, 2006

TO: Current and Future Medicare Advantage Organizations

FROM: David A. Lewis, Acting Director, Medicare Advantage Group
Brenda J. Tranchida, Deputy Director, Employer Policy and Operations Group

CC: Abby L. Block, Director, Center for Beneficiary Choices, CMS
Cynthia Tudor, Director, Medicare Prescription Drug Group, Center for
Beneficiary Choices, CMS
CMS Regional Office Managers

RE: Posting of Draft 2008 Medicare Advantage Applications for Public Comment

Today, we are posting draft Medicare Advantage applications for public comment on the CMS website at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareAdvantageApps/>. Employer/Union-Only Group Waiver Plan (EGWP) applications are posted at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/EmpGrpWaivers/01_Overview.asp. CMS welcomes comments from the public on all items set forth in these documents. Comments are most useful if organized by the application type, section/header, and page number to which they apply. Therefore, we ask that you insert all of your comments into the comment matrix ([see: PartC-2008 appcommentmatrix.xls](#)). If you intend for your comments to apply across all applications that include the language to which your comments refer, you only need to submit your comment once. Otherwise, there should be one matrix per application or guideline.

Comments on these materials must be received via email at the indicated addresses below not later than 5:00pm EST, December 11, 2006.

Send comments (using the PartC-2008appcommentmatrix.xls) on the following applications to PartCappcomments@cms.hhs.gov

- o Draft 2008 MA Initial Application for Coordinated Care Plans (CCP)
- o Draft 2008 MA Initial Application for Regional Preferred Provider Organization (RPPO) Plans
- o Draft 2008 MA Initial Application for Private Fee-For-Service (PFFS) Plans

- o Draft 2008 MA Initial Application for Medical Savings Account Plans (MSA)
- o Draft 2008 MA Medical Savings Account (MSA) Plan Application Addendum for Demonstration Applicants
- o Draft 2008 MA Service Area Expansion Application for Coordinated Care Plans (CCP), Private Fee For Service Plans (PFFS), and Medical Savings Account (MSA) Plans

If you have questions on the above Part C applications during this comment period, please contact the following individuals:

Lettica Ramsey at 410-786-5262 or Lettica.Ramsey@cms.hhs.gov
 Shirlene Lower at 410-786-8658 or Shirlene.Lower@cms.hhs.gov

In the Special Needs Section of the Part C applications, please direct all questions to Cathy Barchi at 410-786-7619 or cathy.barchi@cms.hhs.gov.

Send comments (using the PartC-2008appcommentmatrix.xls) on the following EGWP applications to Employerappcomments@cms.hhs.gov:

- o Draft 2008 Application for MA Organizations to Offer New Employer/Union-Only Group Waiver Plans (EGWPs) (PFFS, Local CCP, RPPO, Regular MSA, and Demonstration MSA)
- o Draft 2008 Application for Service Area Expansions for Employer/Union-Only Group Waiver Plans (EGWPs)
- o Draft 2008 Initial Application for Employer/Union Direct Contract Private Fee-For-Service (PFFS) Medicare Advantage Organization

If you have questions on the above EGWP applications during this comment period, please contact the following individuals:

Marye Isaacs at (410) 786-3276 or marye.isaacs@cms.hhs.gov
 Julian Nadolny (410) 786-2274 or julian.nadolny@cms.hhs.gov

We look forward to receiving your comments and appreciate your efforts to help us prepare for the 2008 application/solicitation season.