



Related Medlearn Matters Article #: MM4093

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Revision to Chapter 31 – Attestation Form for Conducting Real Time Eligibility Inquiries with Medicare

Key Words

MM4093, CR4093, Attestation, Form, Eligibility, Inquiries, ANSI, X12N, MEIC, Security, Privacy, Procedures, 270/271, Response, Transaction, Formats, Real, Time

Provider Types Affected

Providers who access the 270/271 health care eligibility inquiry and response application in real time

Key Points

- The effective date of the instruction is October 1, 2005.
- The implementation date is November 7, 2005.
- Change Request (CR) 4093 alerts Medicare providers of the revision to the *Medicare Claims Processing Manual*, Chapter 31 (ANSI X12N Formats Other than Claims or Remittance).
- This revision addresses the standards for Medicare beneficiary eligibility inquiries and creates the database and infrastructure needed to provide a real-time, centralized Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) compliant Health Care Eligibility Benefit Inquiry and Response transaction (270/271).
- Beginning September 1, 2005:
 - The Medicare Eligibility Integration Contraction (MEIC) will e-mail the on-line attestation form outlining security and privacy procedures for submitters already authenticated and who are submitting 270 transactions on a real-time basis.
 - Each submitter should complete the form in its entirety and transmit it back via e-mail to MCAREHD@emdeon.com.

- Beginning October 1, 2005:
 - Submitters will be able to access the appropriate forms for the CMS 270/271 Medicare Eligibility transaction at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/AccessToDataApplication> on the CMS web site.
 - The submitter must provide the information requested on the form electronically and click on the appropriate assurances. If the submitter does not consent to the terms of the agreement by appropriately completing the form, the access process will be terminated.
 - A copy of the appropriately completed form must be electronically submitted to CMS. Once CMS has the completed form, it will be authenticated, and the submitter will then be directed to complete a Medicare Data Communications Network (MDCN) connectivity form and submit it electronically in order to be connected to the 270/271 eligibility database.
- CMS staff will ensure that all of the necessary information is provided on the form and will ensure the complete connectivity to the 270/271 application.
- A MEIC will contact the submitter to authenticate the accessing entity's identity.
- Once authentication has been completed, the MEIC will provide the Clearinghouses, Providers, and Trading Partners with a submitter identification (ID) that must be used on all 270/271 transactions.
- To access the MDCN, you must obtain the necessary telecommunication software from an AT&T reseller yourself. AT&T resellers and contact numbers include:
 - IVANS: <http://www.ivans.com>; 1-800-548-2675
 - McKesson: <http://www.mckesson.com>; 1-800-782-7426, key option 5, then key option 8
- MEIC helpdesk support for connectivity issues is available Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. EST by calling 1-866-324-7315; or by e-mail at MCARE@cms.hhs.gov.

Important Links

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedlearnMattersArticles/downloads/MM4093.pdf>

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R700CP.pdf>

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/it>