



News Flash - The April 2008 version of the *Critical Access Hospital Fact Sheet* is now available in downloadable format from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Medicare Learning Network at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/CritAccessHospfctsh.pdf> on the CMS website. If this hyperlink does not take you directly to the fact sheet, please copy and paste the URL in your Internet browser. The fact sheet provides information about eligible Critical Access Hospital (CAH) providers; CAH designation; CAH payments; reasonable cost payment principles that do not apply to CAHs; election of Standard Method or Optional (Elective) Payment Method; Medicare Rural Pass-Through funding for certain anesthesia services; Health Professional Shortage Area Incentive payments; Physician Scarcity Area Bonus payments; Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003; and grants to states under the Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Program. The fact sheet is also now available in print format. To place your order, visit <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/mlngeninfo/>, scroll down to "Related Links Inside CMS" and select "MLN Product Ordering Page."

MLN Matters Number: MM6126

Related Change Request (CR) #: 6126

Related CR Release Date: August 8, 2008

Effective Date: May 5, 2008

Related CR Transmittal #: R3630TN

Implementation Date: September 8, 2008

Fiscal Year (FY) 2006 Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Data

Provider Types Affected

Hospitals submitting cost reports to a Medicare Administrative Contractor (A/B MAC) or fiscal intermediary (FI).

Impact on Providers

This article is based on Change Request (CR) 6126, which states that, as of May 5, 2008, hospitals (this includes acute care hospitals paid under the inpatient prospective payment system and inpatient rehabilitation facilities (IRF)) may elect to use either its FY 2005 or FY 2006 SSI ratio from the files published on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) website to file its cost report that would otherwise be submitted with the FY 2006 SSI ratio.

Key Points

Disclaimer

This article was prepared as a service to the public and is not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. This article may contain references or links to statutes, regulations, or other policy materials. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. It is not intended to take the place of either the written law or regulations. We encourage readers to review the specific statutes, regulations and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents.

- Until the FY 2007 SSI ratios are published, a hospital, as defined above, may elect to use either its FY 2005 or FY 2006 SSI ratio from the files published on the CMS website to file its cost report that would otherwise be submitted with the FY 2006 SSI ratio.
- Until the FY 2007 SSI ratios are published, if a hospital (as defined above) submitted its cost report using the FY 2006 ratio but would like to use the published FY 2005 SSI ratio instead, the hospital should submit a written request, signed by an official of the hospital, to its FI or MAC. After receiving such a written request, the FI/MAC shall issue (or reissue to the extent a tentative settlement has already been issued) a tentative settlement using the selected FY SSI ratio.

Background

A hospital may elect to use either its FY 2005 or FY 2006 SSI ratio from the files published on the CMS website to file its cost report that would otherwise be submitted with the FY 2006 SSI ratio. Once the FY 2007 SSI ratios are published on the CMS website, hospitals will no longer have the option of submitting cost reports using the published FY 2005 or FY 2006 SSI ratio.

If a hospital has already submitted its cost report using the FY 2006 SSI ratio but would like to use the published FY 2005 SSI ratio instead, the hospital should submit its written request, signed by an official of the hospital, to its Fiscal Intermediary (FI) or Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC). After receiving such a written request, the FI/MAC will issue (or re-issue, to the extent a tentative settlement has already been issued) a tentative settlement using the selected FY SSI ratio.

Additional Information

For complete details regarding this CR please see the official instruction (CR6126) issued to your Medicare FI or A/B MAC. That instruction may be viewed by going to <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R363OTN.pdf> on the CMS website.

CMS has published IRF SSI ratios in the "Downloads" section of http://www.cms.hhs.gov/InpatientRehabFacPPS/05_SSIData.asp#TopOfPage on the CMS website. Other SSI ratios are published in the "Downloads" section of http://www.cms.hhs.gov/AcuteInpatientPPS/05_dsh.asp#TopOfPage on the CMS site.

If you have questions, please contact your Medicare FI or A/B MAC at their toll-free number which may be found at

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<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/CallCenterTollNumDirectory.zip>
on the CMS website.

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