

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services



News Flash – The “Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies (DMEPOS) Quality Standards” fact sheet is now available in a hard copy format from the Medicare Learning Network. This fact sheet is designed to provide education on DMEPOS quality standards for Medicare-deemed Accreditation Organizations (AOs) for DMEPOS suppliers. To place your order, visit the MLN Product Ordering Page at http://CMS.meridianksi.com/kc/pfs/pfs_Inkfrm_fl.asp?lgnfrm=reqprod&function=pfs on the Internet.

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Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies (DMEPOS) Competitive Bidding Program Expansion Announced

Note: This article was updated on July 25, 2012, to reflect current Web addresses. All other content remains the same.

Provider Types Affected

This article is for suppliers of DMEPOS that wish to participate in the upcoming Round 2 of the Medicare DMEPOS Competitive Bidding Program and/or the National Mail-Order Competition for Diabetic Testing Supplies that will occur at the same time as Round 2.

What You Need to Know

This article provides important information from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) regarding the next phase (Round 2 and National Mail-Order) of Medicare’s Competitive Bidding Program for DMEPOS. **If you are interested in bidding, prepare now – don’t wait!**

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. CPT only copyright 2010 American Medical Association.

The Round 2 product categories are:

- Oxygen, oxygen equipment, and supplies;
- Standard (Power and Manual) wheelchairs, scooters, and related accessories;
- Enteral nutrients, equipment, and supplies;
- Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) devices and Respiratory Assist Devices (RADs) and related supplies and accessories;
- Hospital beds and related accessories;
- Walkers and related accessories;
- Negative Pressure Wound Therapy pumps and related supplies and accessories; and
- Support surfaces (Group 2 mattresses and overlays).

CMS will also be conducting a national mail-order competition for diabetic testing supplies at the same time as the Round 2 competition. The national mail-order competition will include all parts of the United States, including the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa.

A list of the specific items in each product category is available on the Competitive Bidding Implementation Contractor (CBIC) website, <http://www.dmecompetitivebid.com/palmetto/cbic.nsf/DocsCat/Home>, and the specific ZIP codes in each Round 2 competitive bidding area (CBA) are also available on the CBIC website.

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION: The following contact information in your enrollment file at the National Supplier Clearinghouse (NSC) must be up to date before you register to bid. If your file is not current, you may experience delays and/or be unable to register and bid. DMEPOS suppliers should review and update the following:

- The name, Social Security number, and date of birth for all authorized official(s) (if you have only one authorized official listed on your enrollment file, consider adding one or more authorized officials to help with registration and bidding) and
- The correspondence address.

DMEPOS suppliers can update their enrollment via the internet-based Provider Enrollment, Chain and Ownership System (PECOS) or by using the 7/11/2011 version of the CMS-855S enrollment form. Suppliers not currently using PECOS can learn more about this system by accessing the PECOS website at

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<http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/MedicareProviderSupEnroll/index.html> or reviewing the PECOS fact sheet at http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/downloads/MedEnroll_PECOS_DMEPOS_FactSheet_ICN904283.pdf on the CMS website.

Information and instructions on how to submit a change of information via the hardcopy CMS-855S enrollment form may be found on the NSC website at <http://www.palmettogba.com/nsc> and by following this path: Supplier Enrollment/Change of Information/Change of Information Guide.

GET LICENSED: Contracts are only awarded to suppliers that have all required state licenses at the time the bid is submitted. Therefore, before you submit a bid for a product category in a CBA, you must have all required state licenses for that product category on file with the NSC. Every location must be licensed in each state in which it provides services. If you have only one location and are bidding in a CBA that includes more than one state, you must have all required licenses for every state in that CBA. If you have more than one location and are bidding in a CBA that includes more than one state, your company must have all required licenses for the product category for every state in that CBA. **It is VERY IMPORTANT that current versions of all required licenses are in your enrollment file with the NSC BEFORE you bid.** If any required licenses are expired or missing from your enrollment file, CMS can reject your bid. Suppliers bidding in the National Mail-Order Competition must have the applicable licenses for all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa.

GET ACCREDITED: Suppliers must be accredited for all items in a product category in order to submit a bid for that product category. If you are interested in bidding for a product category and are not currently accredited for that product category, take action NOW to get accredited for that product category. Your accreditation organization will need to report any accreditation updates to the NSC. CMS cannot contract with suppliers that are not accredited by a CMS-approved accreditation organization.

Current Round 2 and National Mail-Order Schedule

CMS has announced the following next steps for the program to ensure that suppliers have ample time to prepare for the competition:

Summer 2011

- CMS begins pre-bidding supplier awareness program;

Fall 2011

- CMS announces bidding schedule;

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- CMS begins bidder education program; and
- Bidder registration period to obtain user ID and passwords begins.

Winter 2012

- Bidding begins.

Additional Information

The Competitive Bidding Implementation Contractor (CBIC) is the official information source for bidders. Stay informed - visit the CBIC website at <http://www.dmecompetitivebid.com/palmetto/cbic.nsf/DocsCat/Home> to subscribe to e-mail updates and for the latest information.

For more information on the DMEPOS competitive bidding program, visit <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/DMEPOSCompetitiveBid/index.html> on the CMS website.

Information on the DMEPOS accreditation requirements along with a list of the accreditation organizations and those professionals and other persons exempted from accreditation may be found at <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/MedicareProviderSupEnroll/index.html> on the CMS website.

The press release about the expanded competitive bidding program may be found at http://www.cms.gov/apps/media/press_releases.asp on the CMS website.

To view the Fact Sheet titled: Next Steps For Expansion Of The Medicare Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, And Supplies go to http://www.cms.gov/apps/media/fact_sheets.asp on the CMS website.

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