

CMS Manual System	Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS)
Pub 100-04 Medicare Claims Processing	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
Transmittal 2280	Date: August 19, 2011
	Change Request 7549

SUBJECT: Instructions for Downloading the Medicare ZIP Code File for January 2012

I. SUMMARY OF CHANGES: This instruction describes the process for updating the two Medicare ZIP Code files (ZIP5 and ZIP9) for the January 2012 quarter. This instruction also describes the revision to and the process for downloading the Calendar Year-End ZIP Code files per CR 5881, Transmittal 1463. The attached Recurring Update Notification applies to Chapter 15, Section 20.1.5(B).

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2012

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: January 3, 2012

Disclaimer for manual changes only: The revision date and transmittal number apply only to red italicized material. Any other material was previously published and remains unchanged. However, if this revision contains a table of contents, you will receive the new/revised information only, and not the entire table of contents.

II. CHANGES IN MANUAL INSTRUCTIONS: (N/A if manual is not updated)

R=REVISED, N=NEW, D=DELETED-

R/N/D	CHAPTER / SECTION / SUBSECTION / TITLE
N/A	

III. FUNDING:

For Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs), Regional Home Health Intermediaries (RHHIs) and/or Carriers:

No additional funding will be provided by CMS; contractor activities are to be carried out within their operating budgets.

For Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs):

The Medicare Administrative Contractor is hereby advised that this constitutes technical direction as defined in your contract. CMS does not construe this as a change to the MAC Statement of Work. The contractor is not obligated to incur costs in excess of the amounts allotted in your contract unless and until specifically authorized by the Contracting Officer. If the contractor considers anything provided, as described above, to be outside the current scope of work, the contractor shall withhold performance on the part(s) in question and immediately notify the Contracting Officer, in writing or by e-mail, and request formal directions regarding continued performance requirements.

IV. ATTACHMENT:

Recurring Update Notification

**Unless otherwise specified, the effective date is the date of service.*

Attachment – Recurring Update Notification

Pub. 100-04	Transmittal: 2280	Date: August 19, 2011	Change Request: 7549
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SUBJECT: Instructions for Downloading the Medicare ZIP Code File for January 2012

Effective Date: January 1, 2012

Implementation Date: January 3, 2012

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

A. Background: Each calendar quarter, CMS issues an updated, 5-digit ZIP Code file (ZIP5) and 9-digit ZIP Code File (ZIP9) to be used for pricing Medicare claims.

Every 2 months, CMS obtains an updated listing of ZIP Codes from the U.S. Postal Service (USPS). On the basis of the updated USPS file, CMS updates the Medicare ZIP Code files and makes them available to contractors.

Under normal circumstances, approximately 6 weeks prior to the beginning of each calendar quarter (i.e., approximately 6 weeks prior to January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1), CMS will make available the updated ZIP5 and ZIP9 files. Thus, the updated files will be available on approximately November 15th for the January 1 release, approximately February 15th for the April 1 release, approximately May 15th for the July 1 release, and approximately August 15th for the October 1 release.

In addition to the 5 and 9-digit ZIP Code files, CMS will post on the CMS Web site at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/prospmedicarefeesvcpmtgen/01_overview.asp a list of the 5-digit ZIP Codes that require a 4-digit extension, and a list of the most recent additions and deletions to that file. Under normal circumstances, these two files will also be posted approximately 6 weeks prior to the beginning of each calendar quarter.

When the updated files are loaded to the Connect: Direct, it will add to the inventory of ZIP Code files on the mainframe. The name of the ZIP5 file is [MU00.@AAA2390.ZIP5.LOCALITY.Vyyyyr](#), where “yyyy” equals the calendar year and “r” equals the release number with January = 1, April = 2, July = 3, and October = 4. Also, the name of the ZIP9 file is [MU00.@AAA2390.ZIP9.LOCALITY.Vyyyyr](#).

NOTE: Even the most recently updated ZIP Code files will not contain ZIP Codes established by the USPS after CMS compiled the file. Therefore, for ZIP Codes reported on claims that are not on the most recent ZIP Code files, follow the instructions in Publication 100-04, Medicare Claims Processing Manual, chapter 15, section 20.1.5(B).

B. Policy: This instruction describes the process for updating the Medicare ZIP Code files for both the January 2012 Quarterly Update and the 2011 Calendar Year-end Release.

II. BUSINESS REQUIREMENTS TABLE

“Shall” denotes a mandatory requirement

Number	Requirement	Responsibility (place an “X” in each applicable column)						
		A	D	F	C	R	Shared-System Maintainers	OTHER
		/	M	I	A	H		
		B	E		R	H		

		M A C	M A C		R I E R	I	F I S S	M C S	V M S	C W F	
7549.1	Contractors shall use the most recent version of the Medicare ZIP5 Code files to process ambulance claims.	X		X	X		X				
7549.1.1	Contractors shall do jurisdictional pricing for other benefit categories where instructions direct the use of the ZIP Code files.	X		X	X		X				
7549.2	Contractors shall go to the Connect: Direct and search for the ZIP Code files approximately 6 weeks before the beginning of each calendar quarter.	X	X	X	X		X				
7549.2.1	Contractors shall confirm that the release number (the last 5 digits) corresponds to the upcoming calendar quarter for the January 2012 release and the last calendar quarter for the December 2011 year-end release.	X	X	X	X		X				
7549.2.2	Contractors shall notify Wendy Knarr by dialing Relay at #711 then have agent dial 410-786-0843 or email at Wendy.Knarr@cms.hhs.gov , if the release number (the last 5 digits) does not correspond to the upcoming calendar quarter.	X	X	X	X		X				
7549.2.3	Contractors shall notify EDC/Data Centers that the following files are available and EDC/Data Centers shall download and incorporate the files into their testing regime for the upcoming model release: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ZIP5 file for the January 2012 release: MU00.@AAA2390.ZIP5.LOCALITY.V20121 (The release number for this file is 20121, i.e., release 1 for the year 2012). The ZIP9 file for the January 2012 release: MU00.@AAA2390.ZIP9.LOCALITY.V20121 (The release number for this file is 20121, i.e., release 1 for the year 2012). 	X	X	X	X		X				EDC, CDC, CDS
7549.2.4	Contractors shall notify EDC/Data Centers that the following files are available and EDC/Data Centers shall download and incorporate the files into their testing regime for the upcoming model release: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ZIP5 file for the December 2011 year-end release: MU00.@AAA2390.ZIP5.LOCALITY.V20114 (The release number for this file is 20114, i.e., end of year release for the year 2011.) The ZIP9 file for the December 2011 year-end release: MU00.@AAA2390.ZIP9.LOCALITY.V20114 (The release number for this file is 20114, i.e., end of year release for the year 2011.) 	X	X	X	X		X				EDC, CDC, CDS

III. PROVIDER EDUCATION TABLE

Number	Requirement	Responsibility (place an "X" in each applicable column)									
		A / B M A C	D M E M A C	F I I E R	C A R I E R	R H H I S S	Shared-System Maintainers				OTH ER
						F I S	M C S	V M S	C W F		
	NONE										

IV. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Section A: For any recommendations and supporting information associated with listed requirements, use the box below:

"Should" denotes a recommendation.

X-Ref Requirement Number	Recommendations or other supporting information:
N/A	

Section B: For all other recommendations and supporting information, use this space: N/A

V. CONTACTS

Pre-Implementation Contact(s): Wendy Knarr by dialing Relay at #711 then have the agent dial (410) 786-0843 or email at Wendy.Knarr@cms.hhs.gov .

Post-Implementation Contact(s):

Contact your Contracting Officer’s Technical Representative (COTR) or Contractor Manager, as applicable.

VI. FUNDING

Section A: For Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs), Regional Home Health Intermediaries (RHHIs), and/or Carriers:

No additional funding will be provided by CMS; contractor activities are to be carried out within their operating budgets.

Section B: For Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs):

The Medicare Administrative Contractor is hereby advised that this constitutes technical direction as defined in your contract. CMS does not construe this as a change to the MAC Statement of Work. The contractor is not obligated to incur costs in excess of the amounts allotted in your contract unless and until specifically authorized by the Contracting Officer. If the contractor considers anything provided, as described above, to be outside the current scope of work, the contractor shall withhold performance on the part(s) in question and immediately notify the Contracting Officer, in writing or by e-mail, and request formal directions regarding continued performance requirements.