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DATE: January 6, 2026

TO: Current and Future Medicare Advantage Organizations and Prescription Drug Plan Sponsors

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SUBJECT: Release of Contract Year (CY) 2027 Medicare Advantage (MA), Prescription Drug Benefit (Part D) and Related CY 2027 Applications & Deadlines

CMS announces the release of materials for the CY 2027 Medicare Advantage (MA), Prescription Drug Plan (PDP), Employer/Union-Only Group Waiver Plan (EGWP), and Special Needs Plan (SNP) applications. Applications are now posted on the CMS websites listed below and will be available for completion in the Health Plan Management System (HPMS) on January 7, 2026. All applications (excluding PACE applications) must be completed in HPMS by 8:00 p.m. EST on February 11, 2026. All materials and supporting documentation must be submitted through HPMS.

Notices of Intent to Apply (NOIA)

- Organizations intending to submit applications for new contracts must submit a NOIA no later than January 23, 2026.
- Organizations intending to submit service area expansion applications trigger their own NOIA in the HPMS module, *My Application*, when selecting *Add SAE*. Applicants will then update the contract's service area and/or make changes to existing service areas.

See *HPMS memo "Release of Notice of Intent to Apply for Contract Year 2027 Medicare Advantage, Prescription Drug Benefit and Related CY 2027 Application Deadlines"* dated November 4, 2025, and the HPMS *"My Application User Manual"* for detailed instructions.

Applicants' Past Performance

Prior to application submission, organizations should review their past performance in accordance with 42 CFR §§ 422.502(b) and 423.503(b). Organizations should take this information into account when making business decisions about submitting CY 2027 applications, given the risk that CMS may deny the application on past performance grounds, pursuant to §§ 422.502(b)(1) and 423.503(b)(1).

MA and SNP Applications, including Network Adequacy

Trainings on the MA (including EGWP) and SNP applications are available on the CMS YouTube channel as follows:

- MA application training at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zGxRFDxNu5I>,
- SNP application training at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L3gnlfNOwGQ>, and
- MA network adequacy training at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cbgKop6bgIA>.

The CY 2027 consolidated MA application (including EGWP and SNP) and accompanying instructions are posted at <https://www.cms.gov/medicare/health-drug-plans/medicare-advantage-application>.

Questions regarding MA (including EGWP) and SNP applications, and network adequacy submissions, may be directed to the MA/SNP Application Mailbox at <https://dmao.lmi.org>.

Part D Applications

The Part D application training is available on the CMS YouTube channel at <https://youtu.be/pjrb3obNn3Q>. The CY 2027 consolidated Part D application PDF document (including EGWP) and instructions are posted at https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Prescription-Drug-Coverage/PrescriptionDrugCovContra/RxContracting_ApplicationGuidance.

For Part D (including EGWP) application questions – submit questions to PartD_applications@cms.hhs.gov.

NOTE: All applicants MUST click “Final Submit” in HPMS prior to the deadline for their application to be submitted to CMS timely. After clicking “Final Submit” please remember to go to the submission confirmation page to view your submission confirmation number. Applicants will also receive an e-mail with this submission confirmation number. If applicants do not receive a confirmation number, this means CMS has not received the application.