

CY2016 Actuarial Bid Training

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Presentation: Introduction

Slides and Script prepared by CMS Office of the Actuary

[SLIDE #1] Actuarial Bid Training Introduction

Welcome to the Actuarial Bid Training. My name is Kirk Limmer, and I am the Deputy Director of the Parts C and D Actuarial Group within CMS' Office of the Actuary. My staff and I have prepared these training materials to assist you in developing bids for the Medicare Advantage and Prescription Drug programs. We hope you find the presentations to be a useful supplement to the bid instructions.

[SLIDE #2] Training overview

The training program consists of ten sessions with information that is recommended for all actuaries preparing or certifying bids. This first session provides a brief introduction to the bid training. Sessions two and three provide a basic overview of the Medicare Advantage and Part D programs and bid forms for actuaries and other interested parties. Sessions four through ten provide detailed program and technical guidance for preparing bids, with focus on policy updates, changes to the bid tools and instructions since last year, and other significant bidding topics.

For those who haven't submitted bids in the past or would like to refresh on particular topics, I encourage you to review the introductory and basic overview presentations before proceeding through the remaining sessions. To get the most out of the presentations, I suggest that you

download the bid forms and instructions and become familiar with them prior to viewing the training materials.

[SLIDE #3] Other Resources

This slide contains a listing of other key resources regarding the MA and Part D Programs. The Advance Notice and the Final Rate Announcement contain information on the MA payment rates and other payment policy issues. The Call Letter discusses the plan benefit package requirements. The bid instructions are available with the bid tools on the Health Plan Management System, or HPMS, and this written guidance is required reading for actuaries involved in bid development. As in the past, the Office of the Actuary is available for any questions you might have while preparing bids. The best way to contact us is through the weekly series of user group calls. We strongly encourage all actuaries who are preparing or certifying bids to participate. Questions that are sent to the OACT mailbox at least 48 hours in advance of the calls will be discussed and the responses will be documented on our website. Thank you for taking the time to participate in this training. We look forward to working with you on another successful bidding season.