

Subject: MMA Bidding Conference

On-line registration for the Medicare Modernization Act (MMA) Bidding Conference is now available at <http://cms.c2ti.com>.

The conference will be held at the Washington Hilton on April 4 and 5, 2005. It will have two concurrent tracks, the Medicare Advantage/Prescription Drug and the Actuarial Track. The Actuarial Track will be the same on Monday and Tuesday. The scheduling of the various sessions of the Medicare Advantage/Prescription Drug track will be slightly different on Monday and Tuesday, but the same material will be covered on both days. Enrollment will be by track by day. Individuals who wish to participate in both tracks should register individually for each.

Topics that will be covered by the Actuarial Track will be, for both Medicare Advantage and Prescription Drug, the statutory and regulatory basis for bidding, the bid form, special plan types, review, negotiation and supporting documentation. There will be time for questions and answers.

Topics that will be covered by the Medicare Advantage/Prescription Drug Track will be formulary review, prescription drug and Medicare Advantage negotiation, the Medicare Personal Plan Finder, employer groups, and an overview of the pricing tool and risk adjustment. This track will also include time for questions and answers.

The tracks will be augmented by training related to the Health Plan Management System (HPMS). Training sessions referred to as PBP 101, PBP 102 and HPMS 101 will be offered. PBP 101 is intended for new MA-PD organizations and will cover both the Medicare Advantage PBP screens and the new Part D PBP screens. PBP 102 is intended for existing MA-PD and new PDP organizations only and will cover the new Part D PBP screens. An organization should select either PBP 101 or PBP 102. These courses are intended to be mutually exclusive. Organizations should send one representative to either PBP 101 or 102, depending upon their needs and experience.

HPMS 101 is intended for all MA-PD and PDP organizations. It will cover the plan creation and download processes, the formulary and bid upload processes and general HPMS user access. All organizations are encouraged to attend HPMS 101 and there is not a one person limit on attendance per organization for the HPMS 101 session.

CMS looks forward to your participation in the MMA Bidding Conference.