

How is the Medicare payment amount determined when the beneficiary travels?

The Medicare payment amount is always based on the ZIP Code in which the beneficiary maintains a permanent residence.¹ For example:

- If a beneficiary maintains a permanent residence in a CBA and travels outside of the CBA, payment for a competitively bid item for the CBA in which the beneficiary maintains a permanent residence is the single payment amount for that item in the beneficiary’s CBA.
- When a beneficiary maintains a permanent residence in an area that is not in a CBA and travels to a CBA or non-CBA, the supplier that furnishes the item will be paid the fee schedule amount for the area where the beneficiary maintains a permanent residence.

RESOURCES

Table 1. DMEPOS CBP Resources

Resource	Website
DMEPOS Competitive Bidding Program	CMS.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/DMEPOSCompetitiveBid
Beneficiary-Related Information	Medicare.gov
Competitive Bidding Implementation Contractor	DMEcompetitivebid.com/cbic/cbic2021.nsf

Table 2. Hyperlink Table

Embedded Hyperlink	Complete URL
Traveling Beneficiary	https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/Downloads/DME_Travel_Bene_Factsheet_ICN904484.pdf

¹ The permanent residence is the address on file with the SSA. It is the address to which the SSA mails checks and/or correspondence to the beneficiary.

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