



## OFFICE OF THE ACTUARY

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TO: Medicare Advantage & Prescription Drug Plan Sponsors and Certifying Actuaries  
FROM: Jennifer Lazio, Director, Parts C & D Actuarial Group  
DATE: April 6, 2018  
SUBJECT: Actuarial Bid Training for Contract Year (CY) 2019

The CMS Office of the Actuary Parts C and D Actuarial Group is pleased to announce the **CY 2018 Actuarial Bid Training** program will be available on Friday April 6, 2018 at:

<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Health-Plans/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/BidTraining2019.html>

The training consists of the following ten sessions with information that is recommended for all actuaries preparing or certifying CY 2019 bids:

1. Actuarial Bid Training Introduction
2. Introduction to Bidding
3. BPT101
4. Points of Emphasis for CY2019
5. Base Period Experience, Data Aggregation and Credibility
6. Medicare Advantage Pricing Considerations for Dual-Eligible Beneficiaries
7. Risk Score Development
8. Bid Pricing Reviews and Bid Audits
9. Non-Benefit Expense, and Gain/Loss Margin
10. Related Party Arrangements

The first session provides a brief introduction to 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 CY 2019 Medicare Advantage and Part D bids for certifying actuaries, with focus on policy updates, changes to the bid tools and instructions since last year, and other significant bidding topics.

No registration is required to access the online training materials. The training can be independently viewed at any time after the posting date as a webcast, and the presentation slides can be downloaded and printed from the website.

Any questions regarding the actuarial bid training sessions should be directed to the CMS Actuarial Bids mailbox at [actuarial-bids@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:actuarial-bids@cms.hhs.gov).