

PERM Data Processing Reviews

Issue: During a data processing review claims are reviewed in the state's payment system to determine payment errors due in part to, erroneous or lack of, system edits and checks. During an on-site review, the reviewer may find a payment error and request a copy of a payment system screen, a "screen shot." As stated in 42 CFR 431.970 (a) 6, states are obliged to provide information as necessary for estimating improper payments and determining error rates in Medicaid and SCHIP.

The request for copies of screen shots for DP reviews is also necessary:

- As documentation of the finding for difference resolution by the contractor and the state.
- To validate the initial finding for an Inter-Rater Reliability (IRR) review, the contractor's quality control process.
- Used to document the findings for an Office of Inspector General audit.

If a state refuses to comply with a reviewer's request for copies of screen shots then:

- The reviewer will determine if the claim in question is an error.
- If the claim in question is found to be an error, it will not be eligible for difference resolution or CMS appeals as the state did not supply the necessary documentation to prove or disprove the initial finding as required by regulation.