

40.1 – General

(Rev. 123, Issued: 08-19-16, Effective: 08-19-16, Implementation: 08-19-16)

As specified in section 1859(f) of the Act, SNPs may only enroll individuals who meet the plan's specific eligibility criteria and enrollment requirements. For example, a D-SNP that is approved to serve only a Full Medicaid population may not enroll an individual who is not qualified as a Full Medicaid individual even though the individual may qualify for a different category of Medicaid. Similarly, an individual who has no Medicaid entitlement may not enroll in a D-SNP of any type. A C-SNP approved to serve a population with diabetes may not enroll individuals who do not have the diabetic condition. However, enrollees who are dual eligible and who qualify for a C-SNP can choose to enroll in either a D-SNP or a C-SNP. An individual who loses eligibility and is disenrolled from a SNP may re-enroll in the same SNP if that individual once again meets the specific eligibility criteria of the SNP. In general, limits on enrollment, whether specific to persons with Medicare or for any individual eligible to enroll in the SNP, are not permissible. MAOs, including those offering SNPs, must accept, without restriction, all eligible individuals whose enrollment elections are received during a valid election period. See 42 CFR 422.60 and section 1851(g)(1) of the Act.

42 CFR 422.52(f) stipulates that a SNP must employ a process approved by CMS to verify the eligibility of each individual enrolling in the SNP. SNPs must include elements on the enrollment request that correspond to the special needs criteria of the particular SNP. Refer to policy regarding enrollment request mechanisms, including special guidance for C-SNPs, in the Medicare Advantage Enrollment and Disenrollment Guidance.

SNPs that choose whether to opt in to the Online Enrollment Center (OEC) are held to the same accountability as other MAOs. MAOs must accept enrollments through the OEC. Additional

guidance on enrollment processes is available in the Medicare Advantage Enrollment and Disenrollment Guidance. Refer to section 40.2.1 of this chapter and the Medicare Advantage Enrollment and Disenrollment Guidance for more information about C-SNP eligibility verification processes. The Medicare Advantage Enrollment and Disenrollment Guidance also includes information about special election periods (SEPs) for dual-eligible enrollees or enrollees who lose their dual eligibility.