

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
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**CENTER FOR MEDICARE
MEDICARE-MEDICAID COORDINATION OFFICE**

DATE: October 15, 2021

TO: Current and Future Medicare Advantage Organizations and Prescription Drug Plan Sponsors

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SUBJECT: Release of Notice of Intent to Apply for Contract Year 2023 Medicare Advantage (MA) and Prescription Drug Benefit (Part D) and Related CY 2023 Application Deadlines

CMS announces the release of the Contract Year (CY) 2023 Notice of Intent to Apply (NOIA) web tool and key dates for the CY 2023 Medicare Advantage (MA) and Prescription Drug Benefit (Part D) application cycle.

I. 2023 Application Activity Key Dates

CY 2022 Application Activity	Date
Notice of Intent to Apply (NOIA) deadline to ensure access to the CMS Health Plan Management System (HPMS)	November 11, 2021
CMS sends NOIA confirmation e-mails to organizations meeting the November 11 NOIA deadline to ensure timely HPMS access	November 30, 2021
CMS User ID connectivity form submission deadline to ensure user access to HPMS by January 4, 2022	December 1, 2021
CY 2023 MA and Part D applications posted on CMS websites	January 12, 2022
Final day to submit NOIA for 2023	January 21, 2022
CY 2023 MA and Part D applications submission deadline	February 16, 2022

II. Submitting a Notice of Intent to Apply

Organizations should submit the CY 2023 NOIA by **5 p.m. Eastern Time on November 11, 2021**. CMS will continue to process NOIAs between November 11, 2021 and January 21, 2022. Please note that CMS cannot guarantee that applicants submitting a NOIA after November 11 will have access to the online application when it is released in January 2022; therefore, be advised that those organizations may not have the full period of time to complete their applications.

Organizations that submit a NOIA by November 11, 2021, will receive a confirmation email from CMS once the applicant's CY 2023 NOIAs are processed, but no later than **November 30, 2021**.

Organizations must submit a NOIA for CY 2023 if they plan any of the following actions:

- Offering a new (initial) MA and/or Part D product type, such as:
 - Health Maintenance Organization/Health Maintenance Organization-Point of Service (HMO/HMOPOS);
 - Local Preferred Provider Organization (LPPO);
 - Regional Preferred Provider Organization (RPPO);
 - Private Fee-for-Service (PFFS);
 - Medical Savings Account (MSA); or
 - Prescription Drug Plan (PDP)
- Expanding an existing contract's service area (service area expansion or SAE) or adding to an existing contract, such as:
 - Transitioning an existing non- or partial network PFFS to a full network PFFS (a pending contract ID will be issued);
 - Expanding the service area of an existing contract, including EGWP-only service areas;
 - Adding prescription drug benefits to an existing contract for the first time;
 - Adding Employer Group Waiver Plan (EGWP) market to an existing individual-only service area for the first time;
 - Adding individual market to an existing EGWP-only service area for the first time;
 - Adding or expanding the service area of a Special Needs Plan (SNP);

An organization seeking to offer a new product type or an expansion of an existing MA or Part D contract must complete a separate NOIA for each unique application it intends to submit.

For CY 2023, there are two distinct websites for interested organizations. Organizations must use the following links to access and complete the NOIA web tools:

- New/Initial MA or Part D Plan –
https://cms.gov1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9BUmXUpMcT5aF9A

- MA or Part D SAE (including adding a SNP to an existing contract) – https://cms.gov1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eA1J406CYnaYose

III. CMS Processing of Notices of Intent to Apply and Confirmations

CMS will review and process NOIA submissions. For organizations seeking to offer a new product type in CY 2023, CMS will use the information submitted to generate pending contract IDs. CMS will accommodate organizations' requests for separate contract numbers only when an existing contract is not allowed to expand based on CMS policy.

Please also note the following:

- Other than for Regional PPOs, CMS will not issue new contract numbers to existing legal entities for product types they currently contract with CMS to offer in CY 2022. Those entities should complete SAE applications to achieve the business goals of broadening the contract's service area, or adding EGWP or individual plans, to existing contracts. Where state Medicaid agencies request (or plan to request) that D-SNPs have separate contract numbers, organizations may submit a NOIA while we work with the state.
- Organizations seeking to offer a Regional PPO in a new region may request and file the application under a new contract number.
- CMS will not accept P.O. Boxes as valid addresses for application purposes. Processing will be delayed for any NOIAs that contain a P.O. Box for the mailing address of the legal entity while CMS attempts to collect the street address for the legal entity.
- All EGWP SAEs will follow the same application timeline as the individual market applications.
- Current PFFS contractors with service areas transitioning to network-based coverage starting in CY 2023 must file a single NOIA for those areas that are transitioning. CMS will assess the network-based PFFS areas under a new contract number. Non-network PFFS plans (those plans that cover county(ies) not identified by CMS as being a county that must have network-based PFFS coverage) may continue to operate under their current contract numbers.
- In those states that currently have D-SNPs or any other plans authorized by CMS to exclusively enroll dually eligible individuals, such as MMPs, CMS will not enter into contracts for new non-SNP MA plans that project in their bids that 80 percent or more of their total enrollment will be entitled to Medicaid.

IV. CY 2023 Applications

The CY 2023 MA and Part D Initial and SAE and SNP Initial and SAE applications will be posted on the CMS websites and in HPMS by January 12, 2022 and will be due on February 16, 2022.

All CY 2023 Medicare applications and supporting documentation must be submitted electronically via HPMS. To ensure timely access to CMS systems, including HPMS, organizations must complete the NOIA online and the CMS User ID connectivity form (required for organizations seeking a new 2023 contract). Submitting a NOIA does not bind that organization to submit an application for CY 2023.

If you have questions about the CY 2023 NOIA process, please contact the CMS Part D Application mailbox at PartD_Applications@cms.hhs.gov.

If you have questions related to HPMS user access, please send an email to hpms_access@cms.hhs.gov.