



CORNERSTONE GROUP

Advisory Bulletin

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Issues New Creditable & Non-Creditable Coverage Notices for Medicare Part D

May 20, 2011

CMS recently posted on its website revised model creditable and non-creditable coverage notices. These new notices must be provided to Medicare Part D eligible individuals on or after April 1, 2011. The changes in the notices reflect the change in the Medicare Part D annual coordinated election period from its prior November 15-December 31 timeframe to its new October 15-December 7 timeframe.

This change in the election period was made under health care reform and reflects recently issued regulations. The change applies beginning with plan year 2012-i.e., beginning with the 2011 election period.

These revised model creditable and non-creditable coverage notices replace the model notices that were posted in 2009.

Employers who are using the model disclosure notices should be advised to replace them with the revised versions, while those using customized versions of the notices should review their practices for providing personalized information for consistency with the revisions.

To obtain a copy of the model notices, please click on the link below:
<http://www.cms.gov/CreditableCoverage/Model%20Notice%20Letters.asp#TopOfPage>

For more information on this topic, please contact your Cornerstone advisor.