

MEDICARE ADVANTAGE/PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT

2009 Application Instructions for MA Organizations to Offer New Employer/Union-Only Group Waiver Plans (EGWPs)

January __, 2008

PUBLIC REPORTING BURDEN: According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0938-0935. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 1 hours per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: CMS/~~EPOG~~, 7500 Security Boulevard, ~~C1-22-06~~[C4-26-05](#), Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.

BACKGROUND:

The Medicare Modernization Act (MMA) provides employers and unions with a number of options for providing coverage to their Medicare-eligible members. Under the MMA, those options include purchasing benefits from sponsors of prescription drug-only plans (PDPs), making special arrangements with Medicare Advantage Organizations (MAOs) and Section 1876 Cost Plans to purchase customized benefits, including drug benefits, for their members; and directly contracting with CMS to become Part D or MAO plan sponsors themselves. Each of these approaches involves the use of CMS waivers authorized under Sections 1857(i) or 1860D-22(b) of the Social Security Act (SSA). Under this authority, CMS may waive or modify requirements that “hinder the design of, the offering of, or the enrollment in” employer-sponsored group plans. CMS may exercise its waiver authority for PDPs, MAOs and Cost Plan Sponsors that offer employer/union-only group waiver plans (EGWPs). EGWPs are also known as “800 series” plans because of the way they are enumerated in CMS systems.

Which Applicants Should Complete This Application?

This application is to be used by MAOs seeking to offer the following new “800 series” EGWPs: Private Fee-For-Service (PFFS) Plans, Local Coordinated Care Plans (CCPs), Regional Preferred Provider Organization Plans (RPPOs), Regular Medical Savings Accounts (MSAs) and Demonstration MSAs. CMS issues separate contract numbers for each type of offering and thus a separate application is required for each corresponding contract. However, MAO Applicants may submit one application to be eligible to offer new MA-only and new MA-PD EGWPs under the same contract number. All applications are required to be submitted electronically in the Health Plan Management System (HPMS). Please follow the application instructions below and submit the required material in support of your application to offer new “800 series” EGWPs.

Elimination of the Requirement to Offer Individual Plans (i.e., the “Nexus Test”)

For Contract Years 2006 and 2007, CMS employer group waiver policy required all MAOs to offer plans to individual Medicare beneficiaries as a condition of being able to offer “800 series” EGWPs to employers and unions. Beginning in 2008, this requirement was eliminated for MAOs offering Non-Network PFFS plans, Regular MSAs or Demonstration MSAs. Pursuant to CMS employer group waiver policy, MAOs are permitted to offer Non-Network PFFS, Regular MSA or Demonstration MSA “800 series” plans to employer and union group beneficiaries without being required to offer plans to individual Medicare beneficiaries. This waiver policy was not extended to MAOs offering Network PFFS plans, RPPOs or Local CCPs; therefore these MAOs are required to offer plans to individual beneficiaries in order to offer “800 series” plans to employer or union group beneficiaries. All new MAOs that are applying to only offer “800 series” plans (i.e., no plans will be offered to individual Medicare beneficiaries under the applicant’s contract number) will be required to designate their application as one which only offers “800 series” plans when completing the application.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

This application must be submitted electronically through HPMS by ~~5:00 pm Eastern Time on~~ March __, 2008, by the following entities applying to offer new MA-only and/or MA-PD “800 series” EGWPs:

- New MA Organization applicants seeking to offer new “800 series” EGWPs. New ~~MAO-MA~~ Organizations include Applicants that have not previously applied to offer plans to individual beneficiaries or “800 series” EGWPs.

Note: All new MA Organization applicants must complete the *2009 Medicare Advantage Application in addition to this application*. All new MA Organizations intending to offer Part D EGWPs (i.e., MA-PDs) must also complete the *2009 Solicitation for Applications for New Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan (MA-PD) Sponsors*. The *2009 Medicare Advantage Application* and the *2009 Solicitation for Applications for New Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan (MA-PD) Sponsors* are also required to be submitted electronically through HPMS. These requirements are also applicable to ~~any~~ new MA Organizations applying to offer “800 series” Non-Network PFFS, Regular MSA or Demonstration MSA plans that do not intend to offer plans to individual beneficiaries in 2009. Together these documents will comprise a completed application for new MA Organizations. Failure to complete the *2009 Medicare Advantage Application* and, if applicable, the *2009 Solicitation for Applications for New Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan (MA-PD) Sponsors*, will result in a denial of the EGWP application.

- Existing MA Organizations that currently offer plans to individual beneficiaries under an existing contract but that have not previously applied to offer EGWPs (MA-only or MA-PD) under this same contract.

Note: Existing MA Organizations are only required to complete this application.

Using HPMS to Submit an Application

In order to submit an application, please log on to HPMS and follow the instructions. To complete the application, please access the following link in HPMS:

Contract Management > Contract Management > Select Contract Number > Online Applications/EGWP Attestation

Separate Applications Required For Each Contract Number

A separate application must be submitted for *each contract number* under which the MAO Applicant is applying to offer new “800 series” EGWPs.

EGWP SERVICE AREA REQUIREMENTS:

New MAO Applicants and existing MAOs will be able to enter their EGWP service areas directly into HPMS during the application process.

For Regular MSA or Demonstration MSA Applicants: Applicants offering Regular MSA EGWPs or Demonstration MSA EGWPs may designate national service areas and provide coverage to employer group members wherever they reside (i.e., nationwide). These Applicants are not required to offer corresponding individual plans.

For Non-Network PFFS Applicants: Applicants offering Non-Network PFFS EGWPs may designate national service areas and provide coverage to employer group members wherever they reside (i.e., nationwide). Applicants offering Non-Network PFFS EGWPs are not required to offer corresponding individual plans.

For Network PFFS Applicants: Applicants offering individual plans in any part of a state may provide coverage to employer group members residing throughout the entire state.

For Local CCP Applicants: Applicants offering individual plans in any part of a state may provide coverage to employer group members residing throughout the entire state.

However, to enable employers and unions to offer coordinated care plans to all their Medicare eligible retirees wherever they reside, a MAO offering a local coordinated care plan in a given service area (i.e., state) can extend coverage to an employer or union sponsor’s beneficiaries residing outside of that service area when the MAO, either itself or through partnerships with other MAOs, is able to meet CMS provider network adequacy requirements and provide consistent benefits to those beneficiaries. Applicants who are eligible for this waiver at the time of application or who may be-become eligible at any time during the contract year are strongly encouraged to designate their service area as broadly as anticipated (e.g., multiple states, national) to allow for the possibility for enrolling members during the contract year if adequate networks are in place (**no mid-year service area expansions will not be allowedpermitted**). Applicants offering both individual and “800 series” plans will not initially be required to have Part C or Part D networks in place for those designated EGWP service areas outside of their individual plan service areas. However, access sufficient to meet the needs of enrollees must be in place once an Applicant enrolls members of an employer or union group residing in particular geographic locations outside of its individual plan service area.

For Non-Network PFFS plans, Regular MSAs or Demonstration MSAs that only intend to offer “800 series” EGWPs (i.e., no plans will be offered to individual Medicare beneficiaries under the contract number): Applicants may designate national service areas and provide coverage to employer group members wherever they reside (i.e., nationwide). However, entities that offer Non-Network PFFS plans must demonstrate adequate Part D network access

MAO (“800 series”) EGWP

in its [defined](#) service area in accordance with employer group waiver pharmacy access policy during the application process.

For RPPO Applicants: Applicants offering individual plans in any region may provide coverage to employer group members residing throughout the entire region (i.e., RPPOs must have the same service area for their “800 series” EGWPs as for their individual plans).

**REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL WAIVER/MODIFICATION OF REQUIREMENTS
(OPTIONAL):**

As a part of the application process, Applicants may submit individual waiver/modification requests to CMS. The Applicant should submit these additional waiver/modification requests via hard copy to:

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
Mail Stop: C1-22-06
Attn: 2009 Additional Waiver Request (Contract #: HXXXX or RXXXX)
7500 Security Blvd.
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850

These requests must be identified as requests for additional waivers/modifications and must fully address the following items:

- Specific provisions of existing statutory, regulatory, and/or CMS policy requirement(s) the entity is requesting to be waived/modified (please identify the specific requirement (e.g., “42 CFR 422.66,” or “Section 40.4 of Chapter 2 of the Medicare Managed Care Manual (MMCM)”) and whether you are requesting a waiver or a modification of these requirements);
- How the particular requirements hinder the design of, the offering of, or the enrollment in, the employer-sponsored group plan;
- Detailed description of the waiver/modification requested including how the waiver/modification will remedy the impediment (i.e., hindrance) to the design of, the offering of, or the enrollment in, the employer-sponsored group plan;
- Other details specific to the particular waiver/modification that would assist CMS in the evaluation of the request; and
- Contact information (contract number, name, position, phone, fax and email address) of the person who is available to answer inquiries about the waiver/modification request.

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ASSISTANCE:

If you have any questions about this application, please contact:

Julian Nadolny by email at Julian.Nadolny@cms.hhs.gov or by phone at 410-786-2274.

Usree Bandyopadhyay by email at Usree.Bandyopadhyay@cms.hhs.gov or by phone at 410-786-6650.

**DESIGNATION OF APPLICATION AS “800 SERIES” EGWP ONLY
(NO INDIVIDUAL PLANS WILL BE OFFERED)**

Checking the box below is optional. Only check the box below if you are applying to only offer “800 series” plans under this contract (no plans to individual beneficiaries will be offered). Do not check the box below if you intend to offer plans to individual beneficiaries and “800 series” plans under this contract number.

I am hereby designating this non-network PFFS or MSA application as one which will only offer “800 series” plans. No plans will be offered to individual Medicare beneficiaries under this contract number.

{Entity MUST complete if it is applying to only offer non-network PFFS or MSA “800 series” EGWPs (no plans will be offered to individual Medicare beneficiaries under this contract number).}

EGWP Attestation for Contract _____

1. EGWP SERVICE AREA & PHARMACY ACCESS REQUIREMENTS

For Regular MSA or Demonstration MSA Applicants: Applicants offering Regular MSA EGWPs or Demonstration MSA EGWPs may designate national service areas and provide coverage to employer group members wherever they reside (i.e., nationwide). These Applicants are not required to offer corresponding individual plans.

For Non-Network PFFS Applicants: Applicants offering Non-Network PFFS EGWPs may designate national service areas and provide coverage to employer group members wherever they reside (i.e., nationwide). Applicants offering Non-Network PFFS EGWPs are not required to offer corresponding individual plans.

For Network PFFS Applicants: Applicants offering individual plans in any part of a state may designate statewide service areas and provide coverage to employer group members residing throughout the entire state.

For Local CCP Applicants: Applicants offering individual plans in any part of a state may designate statewide service areas and provide coverage to employer group members residing throughout the entire state.

However, to enable employers and unions to offer coordinated care plans to all their Medicare eligible retirees wherever they reside, a MAO offering a local coordinated care plan in a given service area (i.e., state) can extend coverage to an employer or union sponsor’s beneficiaries residing outside of that service area when the MAO, either itself or through partnerships with other MAOs, is able to meet CMS provider network adequacy requirements and provide consistent benefits to those beneficiaries. Applicants

who are eligible for this waiver at the time of application or may be-become eligible at any time during the contract year are strongly encouraged to designate their service area as broadly as anticipated (e.g., multiple states, national) to allow for the possibility for enrolling members during the contract year if adequate networks are in place (**no mid-year service area expansions will not be allowed/permitted**). Applicants offering both individual and “800 series” plans will not initially be required to have Part C or D networks in place for those designated EGWP service areas outside of their individual plan service areas. However, access sufficient to meet the needs of enrollees must be in place once Applicant enrolls members of an employer or union group residing in particular geographic locations outside of its individual plan service area.

For RPPO Applicants: Applicants offering individual plans in any region may provide coverage to employer group members residing throughout the entire region (i.e., RPPOs must have the same service area for its EGWPs as for its individual plans).

For Regular or Demonstration MSAs, Non-Network PFFS plans, and Local CCPs that intend to offer individual plans in addition to “800 series” EGWPs: In order to be able to enroll and thereby offer coverage to employer and union group members nationwide, MA Organization must have a national service area (i.e., 50 states and Washington, DC) designated in the Health Plan Management System (HPMS). These MA Organization Applicants will not be initially required to have networks in place to cover members nationally. However, access sufficient to meet the needs of enrollees must be in place once the MA Organization Applicant contracts with an employer or union group that has members residing in any particular geographic location of the MA Organization’s service area.

For Non-Network PFFS plans, Regular MSAs or Demonstration MSAs that only intend to offer “800 series” EGWPs (i.e., no plans will be offered to individual Medicare beneficiaries under the contract number): Applicants may designate national service areas and provide coverage to employer group members nationwide. However, entities that offer Non-Network PFFS plans must demonstrate adequate Part D network access in its defined service area in accordance with employer group waiver pharmacy access policy during the application process.

I certify that I am an authorized representative, officer, chief executive officer, or general partner of the business organization that is applying for qualification to offer employer/union-only group waiver plans in association with my organization’s Medicare Advantage Contract with CMS. I have read, understand, and agree to comply with the above statement about service areas. If I need further information, I will contact one of the individuals listed in the instructions for this application.

{Entity MUST complete for a complete application.}

2. CERTIFICATION

Note: Any specific certifications below that reference Part D are not applicable to MAO Applicants applying to offer Regular MSAs or Demonstration MSAs because these

entities cannot offer Part D under these contracts. Entities can offer Part D benefits through a separate standalone Prescription Drug Plan (PDP); however, a separate application is required to offer “800 series” PDPs.

For new MA Organization Applicants, this application, along with the *2009 Medicare Advantage Application* and the *2009 Solicitation for Applications for New Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan (MA-PD) Sponsors*, if applicable, comprise the entire EGWP application for MA Organization. All provisions of the *2009 Medicare Advantage Application* and the *2009 Solicitation for Applications for New Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan (MA-PD) Sponsors* apply to all employer/union-group waiver plan benefit packages offered by MA Organization except where the provisions are specifically modified and/or superseded by particular employer/union-only group waiver guidance, including those waivers/modifications set forth below.

For existing MA Organizations, this application comprises the entire “800 series” EGWP application for MA Organization. All provisions of the MA Organization’s existing contract with CMS [will](#) apply to all employer/union-group waiver plan benefit packages offered by MA Organization except where the provisions are specifically modified and/or superseded by particular employer/union-only group waiver guidance, including those waivers/modifications set forth below.

I, the undersigned, certify to the following:

- 1) Applicant is applying to offer new employer/union-only group waiver (“800 series”) plans and agrees to be subject to and comply with all CMS employer/union-only group waiver guidance.
- 2) In order for new ~~MA Organization~~ MAO Applicants to be eligible for the CMS employer group waiver that allows certain MA Organizations (Non-Network PFFS, Regular MSA or Demonstration MSA) to offer employer/union-only group waiver plan benefit packages without offering plans to individual beneficiaries, Applicant understands and agrees that it must complete and submit the *2009 Medicare Advantage Application* and, if applicable, the *2009 Solicitation for Applications for New Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan (MA-PD) Sponsors* in addition to this application. The *2009 Medicare Advantage Application*, the *2009 Solicitation for Applications for New Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan (MA-PD) Sponsors*, if applicable, and this document comprise new MA Organization’s entire application.
- 3) In order for new MAO Applicants to be eligible for the CMS employer group waiver that allows Non-Network PFFS plans, Regular MSA or Demonstration MSA plans to offer employer/union-only group waiver ~~plans~~ **plan benefit packages** without offering plans to individual beneficiaries, MAO Applicant understands and agrees that it must ~~complete and submit~~ **be licensed in at least one state. (Section 1.3 of the 2009 Medicare Advantage Application in addition to this application. If new MAO Applicant is also applying to offer Part D Non-Network PFFS plans (not applicable to Regular MSA and Demonstration MSA plans), new MAO Applicant also understands and agrees that it must complete and submit the 2009 Solicitation for Applications for New Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan (MA-PD) Sponsors in addition to this application.)**

~~4) In order for new MAO Applicants to be eligible for the CMS employer group waiver that allows Non-Network PFFS plans, Regular MSA or Demonstration MSA plans to offer employer/union-only group waiver plan benefit packages without offering plans to individual beneficiaries, MAO Applicant understands and agrees that it must be licensed in at least one state.~~

~~5) Applicant understands and agrees that it is not required to submit a 2009 Part D bid (i.e., bid pricing tool) to offer its employer/union-only group waiver plans. (Section 3.2.6.A.1 of the 2009 Solicitation for New Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan (MA-PD) Sponsors)~~

~~6) In order for new MAO Applicants to apply to offer Part D for its Non-Network PFFS employer/union-only group waiver plan benefit packages without offering plans to individual beneficiaries, MAO Applicant understands and agrees that as part of its completion of the 2009 Solicitation for Applications for New Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan (MA-PD) Sponsors, it will submit GeoNetworks® retail pharmacy reports (Appendix IX - Retail Pharmacy Network Access Instructions) and other General Pharmacy Access pharmacy access submissions required in Section 3.5 of the 2009 Solicitation for Applications for New Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan (MA-PD) Sponsors (mail order, home infusion, long-term care, I/T/U) required at the time of application in Section 3.5 of the 2009 Solicitation for Applications for New Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan (MA-PD) Sponsors for its entire designated EGWP service area. (Sections 3.3.B, 3.4.A.1, and 3.5.1.B of the 2009 Solicitation for New Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan (MA-PD) Sponsors)~~

~~6) MAO Applicants applying to offer employer/union-only group waiver plans and plans to individual beneficiaries understand and agree that it will not initially be required to have Part C or Part D networks in place for those designated EGWP service areas outside of their individual plan service areas or submit Part D GeoNetworks® retail pharmacy reports (Appendix IX - Retail Pharmacy Network Access Instructions) and other pharmacy access submissions (mail order, home infusion, long-term care, I/T/U) required in Section 3.5 of the 2009 Solicitation for Applications for New Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan (MA-PD) Sponsors for its designated EGWP service area. However, Part C and Part D access sufficient to meet the needs of enrollees must be in place once an Applicant enrolls members of an employer or union group residing in particular geographic locations outside of its individual plan service area. (Sections 2.2, and 2.3 of the 2009 Medicare Advantage Application; Section 3.5 of the 2009 Solicitation for New Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan (MA-PD) Sponsors)~~

7) In order to be eligible for the CMS retail pharmacy access waiver of 42 CFR 423.120(a)(1) (i.e., application of “TRICARE” standards), Applicant attests that its retail pharmacy network is sufficient (or will be sufficient prior to enrollment) to meet the needs of its enrollees throughout the employer/union-only group waiver service area, including situations involving emergency access, as determined by CMS. Applicant acknowledges and understands that CMS may review the adequacy of the plan’s

pharmacy networks and potentially require expanded access in the event of beneficiary complaints or for other reasons it determines in order to ensure that the plan’s network is sufficient to meet the needs of its employer group population. (Sections [3.4.A.1](#) and [3.5.1.B](#) of the *2009 Solicitation for New Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan (MA-PD) Sponsors*)

8) Applicant agrees to restrict enrollment in its employer/union-only group waiver plans to those Medicare eligible individuals eligible for the employer’s/union’s employment-based group coverage. (~~Section 1.13.2.A.2 of the 2009 Medicare Advantage Application~~)

9) Applicant understands that its employer/union-only group waiver plans will not be included in the processes for auto-enrollment (for full-dual eligible beneficiaries) or facilitated enrollment (for other low income subsidy eligible beneficiaries). (Section [3.6.A.2](#) of the *2009 Solicitation for Applications for New Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan (MA-PD) Sponsors*)

10) Applicant understands that its employer/union-only group waiver plans will not be subject to the requirements contained in 42 CFR 422.64 and 42 CFR 423.48 to submit information to CMS, including the requirements to submit information (e.g., pricing and pharmacy network information) to be publicly reported on www.medicare.gov, Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Finder (“MPDPF”) and the Medicare Options Compare. (Sections 3.8.A and 3.17.A.17 of the *2009 Solicitation for New Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan (MA-PD) Sponsors*)

11) Applicant understands that dissemination/disclosure materials for its employer/union-only group waiver plans are not subject to the requirements contained in 42 CFR 422.80 or 42 CFR 423.50 to be submitted for review and approval by CMS prior to use. However, Applicant agrees that it will submit these materials to CMS at the time of use in accordance with the procedures outlined in Chapter 9 of the Medicare Managed Care Manual (MMCM). Applicant also understands CMS reserves the right to review these materials in the event of beneficiary complaints or for any other reason it determines to ensure the information accurately and adequately informs Medicare beneficiaries about their rights and obligations under the plan. (Section 3.14.A.1 of the *2009 Solicitation for New Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan (MA-PD) Sponsors*)

12) Applicant understands that its employer/union-only group waiver plans will not be subject to the requirements regarding the timing for issuance of [certain dissemination materials, such as](#) the Annual Notice of Change (ANOC), Summary of Benefits (SB), Formulary (if applicable), and Evidence of Coverage (EOC) when an [employer/union’s](#) or union’s open enrollment period does not correspond to the annual coordinated Medicare open enrollment period and/or an employer’s or union’s plan year does not correspond to the Medicare calendar year plan year. For these employers and unions, the timing for issuance of the above marketing/dissemination materials should be appropriately based on the employer/union sponsor’s plan year (~~two months before the plan year begins or open enrollment period begins~~) (for example, if an employer or union

sponsor’s plan year begins on July 1, ~~2008~~2009 and ends on June 30, ~~2009, 2010~~ the EOC must be issued no later than the Annual Notice last day of Change (ANOC) must be issued no later than April 30, 2008 (two months before the beginning first month of the plan year), or by July 31, 2009; similarly, if an employer or union sponsor’s open enrollment period begins on December 15, 2008, the ANOC, SB and Formulary must be issued at least 15 days before the open enrollment period, or by November 30, 2008). (Section 3.14.A.10 of the 2009 Solicitation for New Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan (MA-PD) Sponsors)

13) Applicant understands that the dissemination/disclosure requirements set forth in 42 CFR 422.111 and 42 CFR 423.128 will not apply to its employer/union-only group waiver plans when the employer/union sponsor is subject to alternative disclosure requirements (e.g., the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (“ERISA”)) and complies with such alternative requirements. Applicant agrees to comply with the requirements for this waiver contained in employer/union-only group waiver guidance, including those requirements contained in Chapter 9 of the MMCM. (Sections 3.14.A.1-2, 8 of the 2009 Solicitation for New Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan (MA-PD) Sponsors)

14) Applicant understands that its employer/union-only group waiver plans will not be subject to the Part D beneficiary customer service call center hours and call center performance requirements. Applicant attests that it will ensure that a sufficient mechanism is available to respond to beneficiary inquiries and will provide customer service call center services to these members during normal business hours. However, CMS may review the adequacy of these call center hours and potentially require expanded beneficiary customer service call center hours in the event of beneficiary complaints or for other reasons in order to ensure that the entity’s customer service call center hours are sufficient to meet the needs of its enrollee population. (Section 3.14.A.5 of the 2009 Solicitation for New Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan (MA-PD) Sponsors)

15) Applicant understands that CMS has waived the requirement that the employer/union-only group waiver plans must provide beneficiaries the option to pay their premium through Social Security withholding. Thus, the premium withhold option will not be available for enrollees in Applicant’s employer/union-only group waiver plans. (Sections 3.6.A.9 and 3.24.A.2-4 and 3.6.A.9 of the 2009 Solicitation for New Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan (MA-PD) Sponsors)

16) In order to be eligible for the CMS service area waiver for Local Coordinated Care plans that allows an MAO to extend coverage to employer group members outside of its individual plan service area, Applicant attests it has at the time of application or will have at the time of enrollment, Part C networks adequate to meet CMS requirements and is able to provide consistent benefits to those beneficiaries, either itself or through partnerships with other MAOs. If Applicant is also applying to offer Part D, Applicant attests that such expanded service areas will have convenient Part D pharmacy access sufficient to meet the needs of these enrollees.

17) Regular MSA or Demonstration MSA employer/union-only group waiver plan Applicants understand that that they will be permitted to enroll members through a Special Election Period as specified in Chapter 2, Section 30.4.4.1, of the Medicare Managed Care Manual (MMCM).

18) This Certification is deemed to incorporate any changes that are required by statute to be implemented during the term of the contract, and any regulations and policies implementing or interpreting such statutory provisions.

19) I have read the contents of the completed application and the information contained herein is true, correct, and complete. If I become aware that any information in this application is not true, correct, or complete, I agree to notify CMS immediately and in writing.

20) I authorize CMS to verify the information contained herein. I agree to notify CMS in writing of any changes that may jeopardize my ability to meet the qualifications stated in this application prior to such change or within 30 days of the effective date of such change. I understand that such a change may result in termination of the approval.

21) I understand that in accordance with 18 U.S.C. § 1001, any omission, misrepresentation or falsification of any information contained in this application or contained in any communication supplying information to CMS to complete or clarify this application may be punishable by criminal, civil, or other administrative actions including revocation of approval, fines, and/or imprisonment under Federal law.

22) I acknowledge that I am aware that there is operational policy guidance, including the forthcoming 2009 Call Letter, relevant to this application that is posted on the CMS website and that it is continually updated. Organizations submitting an application in response to this solicitation acknowledge that they will comply with such guidance should they be approved to offer employer/union-only group waiver plans in association with the organization’s Medicare Advantage Contract with CMS.

I certify that I am an authorized representative, officer, chief executive officer, or general partner of the business organization that is applying for qualification to offer employer/union-only group waiver plans in association with my organization’s Medicare Advantage Contract with CMS. I have read and agree to comply with the above certifications.

{Entity MUST check box for a complete application.}

{Entity MUST create 800-series PBPs during plan creation and designate EGWP service areas.}