

CENTER FOR MEDICARE

DATE: April 22, 2025

TO: All Current and Prospective Medicare Advantage, Prescription Drug, Section 1833 and 1876 Cost plans, and PACE Organizations

FROM: Kathryn A. Coleman, Director
Medicare Drug & Health Plan Contract Administration Group

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Medicare Drug Benefit and C & D Data Group

SUBJECT: Release of the Contract Year 2026 Service Area Verification Functionality

The Contract Year (CY) 2026 Service Area Verification (SAV) functionality is now available in the Bid Submission module of the Health Plan Management System (HPMS). All organizations/sponsors must verify their entire contract(s) service area and applicable attributes (e.g., employer only/Special Needs Plan (SNP)/pending/partial counties or regions) in HPMS for accuracy and completeness, as soon as possible. All organizations/sponsors must concur or non-concur with their CY 2026 contract service area for each contract, as shown in HPMS, by the bid submission deadline, Monday, June 2, 2025.

Organizations/sponsors may review their service area(s) using the HPMS Plan Service Area Report at the following path: Plan Bids > Bid Reports > CY 2026. Once an organization reviews their contract service area(s) using this report, they must return to the SAV functionality to concur or non-concur with their service area(s) as shown in the HPMS Plan Service Area Report.

Organizations/sponsors that non-concur with their contract service area(s) must provide an explanation to support their non-concurrence, resolve any discrepancies, verify their contract service area(s), and submit their non-concurrence in HPMS via the SAV functionality.

In addition, if issues are identified with a contract service area(s) that result in a non-concurrence, including the presence of a county or region that should not be a part of a contract's service area, please email the appropriate contact:

Medicare Advantage Organizations, PACE, and Cost Plan Service Area Issues (Individual and Employer): <https://dmao.lmi.org/>

Prescription Drug Plans Service Area Issues (Individual and Employer):
April.Forsythe@cms.hhs.gov

For technical assistance, please contact the HPMS Help Desk at either 1-800-220-2028 or hpms@cms.hhs.gov.