

Deadline for Retiree Drug Subsidy One-Time Payment Request is April 10

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Retiree Drug Subsidy Center recently announced that plan sponsors with approved retiree drug subsidy (RDS) applications who selected the monthly payment frequency option may request a one-time payment for prescription drug costs incurred in January, February and March of 2006. Importantly, CMS just updated its information on making this request and now requires that an additional document – a cost report certification letter – be submitted.

Thus, in order to receive this one-time payment, qualifying plan sponsors must submit all of the following four documents –

- [Authorized Representative Verification Form](#)
- [Electronic Funds Transfer \(EFT\) Confirmation](#)
- [Cost Reporting Spreadsheet](#)
- [Cost Report Certification Letter](#).

CMS notes that these documents must be completed in the provided format (i.e., not modified) to participate in the one-time payment request.

All documents must be received by CMS no later than April 10, 2006. Documents may be sent to CMS via FAX, via scanned image in an email, or via United States mail.

The latest information on making this payment, including downloads of instructions and worksheets, is available [here](#).

A sponsor who does not make a one-time payment request or otherwise does not submit all eligible claims for the January-March period through the one-time payment process will still be able to submit eligible claims for that period through the regular cost reporting and payment request process beginning in July 2006. (According to CMS, access to payment setup functionality will be available by April 6, 2006, and access to cost reporting and payment request functionality will be available by July 1, 2006.)

Buck's consultants would be pleased to discuss this information with plan sponsors that would like to take advantage of this one-time payment or who otherwise would like assistance with obtaining payment under the RDS program.

This NewsFlash is intended to provide general information. It does not offer legal advice or purport to treat all the issues surrounding any one topic.