

INDIVIDUAL AND MEDIGAP MEMBERS SENT NOTICE OF PART D CREDITABLE COVERAGE STATUS

Health plans that provide prescription drug coverage are required to send a Medicare Part D creditable coverage notice to members at the time they become eligible for Medicare and during the Annual Election Period each year. We recently discovered that a notification process was disabled during a system transition, and as a result the required creditable coverage notices to our Individual and Medigap members were not mailed.

We've notified the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) of this error, and they're allowing us to offer a special enrollment period. Medicare-eligible members will be allowed to enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan between Feb. 1, 2012, and April 3, 2012. To be eligible for coverage under this special enrollment period, we must receive applications no later than 5 p.m. on April 3, 2012.

To be eligible for our Part D prescription drug plans, a member needs Medicare Part A and/or Part B. To be eligible for our Medicare Advantage plans with Part D a member must have Part A and Part B.

Beginning the week of Jan. 16, 2012, letters were sent to impacted members to explain the situation and offer the special enrollment period.

Sample letters:

Creditable Coverage letter

Non Creditable Coverage letter

We've corrected the issue that led to this unfortunate situation and feel confident that the appropriate creditable coverage notifications will be sent to our members in the future.

If you have questions, please call your Regence sales representative.