

Distribution Deadline Nears for Medicare Part D Notices

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Just a reminder that the deadline is Nov. 15, 2010 to distribute the annual Notice of Creditable Coverage required under Medicare Part D. The notice informs participants whether the prescription drug coverage offered under your health plan constitutes creditable or noncreditable coverage.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has posted forms and instructions for providing this notice. The forms have not changed since last year. They are available, both in English and Spanish, through the following links:

- [2009 Updated Guidance](#)
- [Model Individual Notice of Creditable Coverage \(2009\)](#)
- [Model Individual Notice of Creditable Coverage-Spanish \(2009\)](#)
- [Model Individual Notice of Non-Creditable Coverage \(2009\)](#)
- [Model Individual Notice of Non-Creditable Coverage-Spanish \(2009\)](#)

Employers who sponsor a health plan offering prescription drug benefits must provide an annual notice to all Medicare-eligible participants that explains whether the prescription drug benefits offered under the plan are at least as good as the benefits offered under the Medicare Part D plan. The only employers exempt from this notice requirement are those that establish their own Part D plan or that contract with a Part D plan.

More information about the Part D notifications is available [here](#).

If you have any questions, please contact Norbert F. Kugele (616.752.2186 or at nkugele@wnj.com) or any other member of the Warner Norcross & Judd Employee Benefits Practice Group.