

**Certification Timeline:**

CMS reminds plans that the Encounter Data Front-End Certification deadline remains January 3, 2012.

**Certification Notice:**

CMS would like to thank you for your Encounter Data Submission (EDS) testing thus far and appreciate your efforts and feedback during this EDS initial testing phase.

Since we began the front-end testing phase in September 2011, several updates have been made to Common Edit Module (CEM) edits and CMS has identified several edits that needed to be permanently deactivated for Encounter data purposes. Please refer to User Group slides dated 12-1-2011 for a list of these edits.

In order to ensure your files are passing with the most current version of CEM edits, CMS would like submitters to resubmit their certification files which should contain a minimum of 50 Encounters for both Professional and Institutional and obtain an acceptance rate of 100% from the translator and CEM.

A certification notification will be sent via email within 2 business days of successful completion.

**Certification Changes (Atypical Providers):**

CMS is advising MAOs and other entities that we are relaxing the requirements for the collection of Encounter claims from atypical providers for a period of time.

Providers who are not considered health care providers and do not provide health care services are referred to as “atypical service providers.” Examples of atypical service providers include, but are not limited to, Non-Emergency Transportation Providers such as Taxis, Personal Care Attendants, Building Contractors, and Language Interpreters.

CMS will communicate the revised deadline for the submission of atypical provider encounter claims during the upcoming user group call on December 15, 2011. If MAOs and other entities are able to submit atypical provider Encounter claims they may; however, this notification is to advise that the requirement to submit such claims will be delayed.

In the event you have questions concerning your front-end certification, please contact CSSC Operations at 1-877-534-2772 or by email at: [CSSCOperations@palmettogba.com](mailto:CSSCOperations@palmettogba.com)