

Provider

Alert



Subject: Passport Advantage is Extending the PSA Component of the Rural Health Provider Bonus

From: Passport Advantage

Sent: March 19, 2008

To: All Passport Advantage Rural Health Providers

Provider Types Affected:

All Passport Advantage (PAD) Rural Health Providers

Background:

As communicated to you in a Provider Alert dated December 20, 2007, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced the sunset of the PSA bonus payment at the conclusion of 2007.

CMS recently announced its decision to extend the Physician Scarcity Area (PSA) bonus payment for dates of service through June 30, 2008.

As a result, the PAD Rural Health Provider Bonus will mirror the CMS extension of the PSA bonus payment. The PSA component of the PAD Rural Health Provider Bonus will be payable for claims paid after December 31, 2007. The Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) component of the PAD Rural Health Provider Bonus is not affected by this change.

The Rural Health Provider Bonus, including the PSA and HPSA components, for claims paid from July 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007, will be mailed in March and paid on a separate check from PAD claims payments. The next 2008 Rural Health Provider Bonus, including the PSA component, will be mailed third quarter 2008.

Provider Action Needed:

None.

Resources and Questions:

If you have questions regarding this communication, please contact your Provider Relations representative or the Provider Relations department at (502) 585-7943.

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