

**Section 9.1 Standard Medicare Supplement Benefit Plans for 2010 Standardized Medicare Supplement Benefit Plan Policies or Certificates Issued for Delivery on or After June 1, 2010**

The following standards are applicable to all Medicare supplement policies or certificates delivered or issued for delivery in this state on or after June 1, 2010. No policy or certificate may be advertised, solicited, delivered or issued for delivery in this state as a Medicare supplement policy or certificate unless it complies with these benefit plan standards. Benefit plan standards applicable to Medicare supplement policies and certificates issued before June 1, 2010 remain subject to the requirements of [ -insert proper citation- ].

**Drafting Note.** Each state should insert the proper citation(s) to its statutes or rules that govern Medicare supplement insurance policies and certificates issued prior to the June 1, 2010 effective date of the 2010 Standardized benefit plan standards found in Sections 8.1 and 9.1 of this regulation. It is recommended that each state's applicable statutes or rules for Medicare supplement benefit plans for policies and certificates issued prior to June 1, 2010 be retained and that this section of the Model be adopted in its entirety as a new section to govern policies and certificates issued on and after June 1, 2010. (The benefit plan standards of the Medicare Supplement Model Regulation for policies issued prior to June 1, 2010 are found in Section 9 of this regulation.)

- A. (1) An issuer shall make available to each prospective policyholder and certificate holder a policy form or certificate form containing only the basic (core) benefits, as defined in Section 8.1B of this regulation.
- (2) If an issuer makes available any of the additional benefits described in Section 8.1C, or offers standardized benefit Plans K or L (as described in Sections 9.1E(8) and (9) of this regulation), then the issuer shall make available to each prospective policyholder and certificate holder, in addition to a policy form or certificate form with only the basic (core) benefits as described in subsection A(1) above, a policy form or certificate form containing either standardized benefit Plan C (as described in Section 9.1E(3) of this regulation) or standardized benefit Plan F (as described in 9.1E(5) of this regulation).
- B. No groups, packages or combinations of Medicare supplement benefits other than those listed in this Section shall be offered for sale in this state, except as may be permitted in Section 9.1F and in Section 10 of this regulation.
- C. Benefit plans shall be uniform in structure, language, designation and format to the standard benefit plans listed in this Subsection and conform to the definitions in Section 4 of this regulation. Each benefit shall be structured in accordance with the format provided in Sections 8.1B and 8.1C of this regulation; or, in the case of plans K or L, in Sections 9.1E(8) or (9) of this regulation and list the benefits in the order shown. For purposes of this Section, “structure, language, and format” means style, arrangement and overall content of a benefit.
- D. In addition to the benefit plan designations required in Subsection C of this section, an issuer may use other designations to the extent permitted by law.

**Drafting Note:** It is anticipated that if a state determines that it will authorize the sale of only some of these benefit plans, the letter codes used in this regulation will be preserved. The *Guide to Health Insurance for People with Medicare* published jointly by the NAIC and CMS will contain a chart comparing the possible combinations. In order for consumers to compare specific policy choices, it will be important that a uniform “naming” system be used. Thus, if only Plans A, B, D, F, F with High Deductible, and K (for example) are authorized in a state, these plans must retain their alphabetical designations. An issuer may use, in addition to these alphabetical designations, other designations as provided in Section 9.1D of this regulation.

E. Make-up of 2010 Standardized Benefit Plans:

- (1) Standardized Medicare supplement benefit Plan A shall include only the following: The basic (core) benefits as defined in Section 8.1B of this regulation.
- (2) Standardized Medicare supplement benefit Plan B shall include only the following: The basic (core) benefit as defined in Section 8.1B of this regulation, plus one hundred percent (100%) of the Medicare Part A deductible as defined in Section 8.1C(1) of this regulation.
- (3) Standardized Medicare supplement benefit Plan C shall include only the following: The basic (core) benefit as defined in Section 8.1B of this regulation, plus one hundred percent (100%) of the Medicare Part A deductible, skilled nursing facility care, one hundred percent (100%) of the Medicare Part B deductible, and medically necessary emergency care in a foreign country as defined in Sections 8.1C(1), (3), (4), and (6) of this regulation, respectively.
- (4) Standardized Medicare supplement benefit Plan D shall include only the following: The basic (core) benefit (as defined in Section 8.1B of this regulation), plus one hundred percent (100%) of the Medicare Part A deductible, skilled nursing facility care, and medically necessary emergency care in an foreign country as defined in Sections 8.1C(1), (3), and (6) of this regulation, respectively.
- (5) Standardized Medicare supplement [regular] Plan F shall include only the following: The basic (core) benefit as defined in Section 8.1B of this regulation, plus one hundred percent (100%) of the Medicare Part A deductible, the skilled nursing facility care, one hundred percent (100%) of the Medicare Part B deductible, one hundred percent (100%) of the Medicare Part B excess charges, and medically necessary emergency care in a foreign country as defined in Sections 8.1C(1), (3), (4), (5), and (6), respectively.
- (6) Standardized Medicare supplement Plan F With High Deductible shall include only the following: one hundred percent (100%) of covered expenses following the payment of the annual deductible set forth in Subparagraph (b).
  - (a) The basic (core) benefit as defined in Section 8.1B of this regulation, plus one hundred percent (100%) of the Medicare Part A deductible, skilled nursing facility care, one hundred percent (100%) of the Medicare Part B deductible, one hundred percent (100%) of the Medicare Part B excess charges, and medically necessary emergency care in a foreign country as defined in Sections 8.1C(1), (3), (4), (5), and (6) of this regulation, respectively.

- (b) The annual deductible in Plan F With High Deductible shall consist of out-of-pocket expenses, other than premiums, for services covered by [regular] Plan F, and shall be in addition to any other specific benefit deductibles. The basis for the deductible shall be \$1,500 and shall be adjusted annually from 1999 by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to reflect the change in the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers for the twelve-month period ending with August of the preceding year, and rounded to the nearest multiple of ten dollars (\$10).
- (7) Standardized Medicare supplement benefit Plan G shall include only the following: The basic (core) benefit as defined in Section 8.1B of this regulation, plus one hundred percent (100%) of the Medicare Part A deductible, skilled nursing facility care, one hundred percent (100%) of the Medicare Part B excess charges, and medically necessary emergency care in a foreign country as defined in Sections 8.1C(1), (3), (5), and (6), respectively. Effective January 1, 2020, the standardized benefit plans described in Section 9.2 A. (4) of this regulation (Redesignated Plan G High Deductible) may be offered to any individual who was eligible for Medicare prior to January 1, 2020.
- (8) Standardized Medicare supplement Plan K is mandated by The Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003, and shall include only the following:
- (a) Part A Hospital Coinsurance 61st through 90th days: Coverage of one hundred percent (100%) of the Part A hospital coinsurance amount for each day used from the 61st through the 90th day in any Medicare benefit period;
- (b) Part A Hospital Coinsurance, 91st through 150th days: Coverage of one hundred percent (100%) of the Part A hospital coinsurance amount for each Medicare lifetime inpatient reserve day used from the 91st through the 150th day in any Medicare benefit period;
- (c) Part A Hospitalization After Lifetime Reserve Days are Exhausted: Upon exhaustion of the Medicare hospital inpatient coverage, including the lifetime reserve days, coverage of one hundred percent (100%) of the Medicare Part A eligible expenses for hospitalization paid at the applicable prospective payment system (PPS) rate, or other appropriate Medicare standard of payment, subject to a lifetime maximum benefit of an additional 365 days. The provider shall accept the issuer's payment as payment in full and may not bill the insured for any balance;
- (d) Medicare Part A Deductible: Coverage for fifty percent (50%) of the Medicare Part A inpatient hospital deductible amount per benefit period until the out-of-pocket limitation is met as described in Subparagraph (j);
- (e) Skilled Nursing Facility Care: Coverage for fifty percent (50%) of the coinsurance amount for each day used from the 21st day through the 100th day in a Medicare benefit period for post-hospital skilled

nursing facility care eligible under Medicare Part A until the out-of-pocket limitation is met as described in Subparagraph (j);

- (f) Hospice Care: Coverage for fifty percent (50%) of cost sharing for all Part A Medicare eligible expenses and respite care until the out-of-pocket limitation is met as described in Subparagraph (j);
  - (g) Blood: Coverage for fifty percent (50%), under Medicare Part A or B, of the reasonable cost of the first three (3) pints of blood (or equivalent quantities of packed red blood cells, as defined under federal regulations) unless replaced in accordance with federal regulations until the out-of-pocket limitation is met as described in Subparagraph (j);
  - (h) Part B Cost Sharing: Except for coverage provided in Subparagraph (i), coverage for fifty percent (50%) of the cost sharing otherwise applicable under Medicare Part B after the policyholder pays the Part B deductible until the out-of-pocket limitation is met as described in Subparagraph (j);
  - (i) Part B Preventive Services: Coverage of one hundred percent (100%) of the cost sharing for Medicare Part B preventive services after the policyholder pays the Part B deductible; and
  - (j) Cost Sharing After Out-of-Pocket Limits: Coverage of one hundred percent (100%) of all cost sharing under Medicare Parts A and B for the balance of the calendar year after the individual has reached the out-of-pocket limitation on annual expenditures under Medicare Parts A and B of \$4000 in 2006, indexed each year by the appropriate inflation adjustment specified by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
- (9) Standardized Medicare supplement Plan L is mandated by The Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003, and shall include only the following:
- (a) The benefits described in Paragraphs 9.1E(8)(a), (b), (c) and (i);
  - (b) The benefit described in Paragraphs 9.1E(8)(d), (e), (f), (g) and (h), but substituting seventy-five percent (75%) for fifty percent (50%); and
  - (c) The benefit described in Paragraph 9.1E(8)(j), but substituting \$2000 for \$4000.
- (10) Standardized Medicare supplement Plan M shall include only the following: The basic (core) benefit as defined in Section 8.1B of this regulation, plus fifty percent (50%) of the Medicare Part A deductible, skilled nursing facility care, and medically necessary emergency care in a foreign country as defined in Sections 8.1C(2), (3) and (6) of this regulation, respectively.
- (11) Standardized Medicare supplement Plan N shall include only the following: The basic (core) benefit as defined in Section 8.1B of this regulation, plus one hundred percent (100%) of the Medicare Part A deductible, skilled nursing

facility care, and medically necessary emergency care in a foreign country as defined in Sections 8.1C(1), (3) and (6) of this regulation, respectively, with co-payments in the following amounts:

- (a) the lesser of twenty dollars (\$20) or the Medicare Part B coinsurance or co-payment for each covered health care provider office visit (including visits to medical specialists); and
- (b) the lesser of fifty dollars (\$50) or the Medicare Part B coinsurance or co-payment for each covered emergency room visit, however, this co-payment shall be waived if the insured is admitted to any hospital and the emergency visit is subsequently covered as a Medicare Part A expense.

**Drafting Note:** The NAIC expects to periodically review the co-payment levels for Medicare supplement Plan N and make adjustments to this regulation as necessary.

- F. **New or Innovative Benefits:** An issuer may, with the prior approval of the [commissioner], offer policies or certificates with new or innovative benefits, in addition to the standardized benefits provided in a policy or certificate that otherwise complies with the applicable standards. The new or innovative benefits shall include only benefits that are appropriate to Medicare supplement insurance, are new or innovative, are not otherwise available, and are cost-effective. Approval of new or innovative benefits must not adversely impact the goal of Medicare supplement simplification. New or innovative benefits shall not include an outpatient prescription drug benefit. New or innovative benefits shall not be used to change or reduce benefits, including a change of any cost-sharing provision, in any standardized plan.

**Drafting Note:** Recognizing the challenge in maintaining standardization while ensuring availability of new or innovative benefits, the drafters have included additional guidance to states in the NAIC Medicare Supplement Insurance Model Regulation Compliance Manual. This guidance includes a recommendation that states consider making publicly available all approved new or innovative benefits, and requests states to report the approval of all new or innovative benefits to the NAIC Senior Issues Task Force, who will maintain a record of these benefits for use by regulators and others. The Senior Issues Task Force will periodically review state approved benefits and consider whether to recommend that they be made part of standard benefit plan designs in this regulation.

**Drafting Note:** A state may determine by statute or regulation which of the above benefit plans may be sold in that state. Plan A, which consists of the basic (core) benefits must be made available by all issuers. Therefore, Plan A must be one of the authorized benefit plans adopted by a state. If an issuer offers any benefit plan in addition to Plan A, then the issuer must also offer either Plan C or Plan F. Therefore, if any benefit plan is authorized by a state other than Plan A, then either Plan C or Plan F must be among the authorized benefit plans adopted by a state. Except where a new or innovative benefit is approved by the [commissioner] for sale in a state, a state may not authorize the sale of any Medicare supplement plan other than the standardized Medicare supplement benefit plans (that is, Plans A, B, C, D, F, F With High Deductible, G, K, L, M and N) set forth in this regulation.

**Drafting Note:** The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990 preempts state mandated benefits in Medicare supplement policies or certificates, except for those states which have been granted a waiver for non-standardized plans.

**Section 9.2. Standard Medicare Supplement Benefit Plans for 2020 Standardized Medicare Supplement Benefit Plan Policies or Certificates Issued for Delivery to Individuals Newly Eligible for Medicare on or After January 1, 2020.**

**The Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA) requires the following standards are applicable to all Medicare supplement policies or certificates delivered or issued for delivery in this state to individuals newly eligible for Medicare on or after January 1, 2020. No**

policy or certificate that provides coverage of the Medicare Part B deductible may be advertised, solicited, delivered or issued for delivery in this state as a Medicare supplement policy or certificate to individuals newly eligible for Medicare on or after January 1, 2020. All policies must comply with the following benefit standards. Benefit plan standards applicable to Medicare supplement policies and certificates issued to individuals eligible for Medicare before January 1, 2020, remain subject to the requirements of [-insert proper state citation-].

A. Benefit Requirements. The standards and requirements of Section 9.1 shall apply to all Medicare supplement policies or certificates delivered or issued for delivery to individuals newly eligible for Medicare on or after January 1, 2020, with the following exceptions:

- (1) Standardized Medicare supplement benefit Plan C is redesignated as Plan D and shall provide the benefits contained in Section 9.1 E. (3) of this regulation but shall not provide coverage for one hundred percent (100%) or any portion of the Medicare Part B deductible.
- (2) Standardized Medicare supplement benefit Plan F is redesignated as Plan G and shall provide the benefits contained in Section 9.1 E. (5) of this regulation but shall not provide coverage for one hundred percent (100%) or any portion of the Medicare Part B deductible.
- (3) Standardized Medicare supplement benefit plans C, F, and F with High Deductible may not be offered to individuals newly eligible for Medicare on or after January 1, 2020.
- (4) Standardized Medicare supplement benefit Plan F With High Deductible is redesignated as Plan G With High Deductible and shall provide the benefits contained in Section 9.1 E. (6) of this regulation but shall not provide coverage for one hundred percent (100%) or any portion of the Medicare Part B deductible; provided further that, the Medicare Part B deductible paid by the beneficiary shall be considered an out-of-pocket expense in meeting the annual high deductible.

**Drafting Note:** Subsection A.(4), above implements the High Deductible Plan G as a redesignation of the prior High Deductible Plan F because federal law “deems” any reference to Plan F as Plan G for “newly eligible” Medicare beneficiaries. High Deductible Plan G is the same as the High Deductible Plan F except that where the annual out-of-pocket expenses are met with Medicare Part A expenses only, any subsequent Medicare Part B deductible expense incurred by the beneficiary after the required annual out-of-pocket expenses is met may not be paid for by the High Deductible Plan G. Federal law prohibits the sale or issuance of any Medigap policy that provides coverage (i.e. third party payment) of the Part B deductible to a “newly eligible” Medicare beneficiary and was enacted for the purpose of increasing cost-sharing and reducing “first dollar coverage”. Treating the Medicare Part B deductible as an out-of-pocket expense of the beneficiary under Plan G High Deductible meets this purpose.

- (5) The reference to Plans C or F contained in Section 9.1 A(2) is deemed a reference to Plans D or G for purposes of this section.

B. Applicability to Certain Individuals. This Section 9.2, applies to only individuals that are newly eligible for Medicare on or after January 1, 2020:

- (1) by reason of attaining age 65 on or after January 1, 2020; or
- (2) by reason of entitlement to benefits under part A pursuant to section 226(b) or 226A of the Social Security Act, or who is deemed to be eligible for benefits under section 226(a) of the Social Security Act on or after January 1, 2020.

C. Guaranteed Issue for Eligible Persons. For purposes of Section 12.E, in the case of any individual newly eligible for Medicare on or after January 1, 2020, any reference to a Medicare supplement policy C or F (including F With High Deductible) shall be deemed to be a reference to Medicare supplement policy D or G (including G With High Deductible) respectively that meet the requirements of this Section 9.2A.

D. Applicability to Waivered States. In the case of a State described in Section 1882(p)(6) of the Social Security Act (“waivered” alternative simplification states) MACRA prohibits the coverage of the Medicare Part B deductible for any Medicare supplement policy sold or issued to an individual that is newly eligible for Medicare on or after January 1, 2020.

E. Offer of Redesignated Plans to Individuals Other Than Newly Eligible. On or after January 1, 2020, the standardized benefit plans described in subparagraph A.(4), above may be offered to any individual who was eligible for Medicare prior to January 1, 2020 in to the standardized plans described in section 9.1 E of this regulation.

**Drafting Note:** The standardized benefit plans described in subparagraphs A.(1) and A.(2), above in this Section are also included as benefit plans D and G in Section 9.1.E (4) and (7).