

WAC 284-66-066 Standard medicare supplement benefit plans.

Standard medicare supplement benefit plans issued for delivery prior to June 1, 2010, must comply with this section.

(1) An issuer must make available to each prospective policyholder and certificate holder a policy form or certificate form containing only the basic "core" benefits, as defined in WAC 284-66-063(2) of this regulation.

(2) No groups, packages, or combinations of medicare supplement benefits other than those listed in this section may be offered for sale in this state, except as permitted in WAC 284-66-066(7) and in WAC 284-66-073.

(3) Benefit plans must be uniform in structure, language, designation, and format to the standard benefit plans "A" through "L" listed in this subsection and conform to the definitions in WAC 284-66-030 and 284-66-040. Each benefit must be structured according to the format provided in WAC 284-66-063 (2), (3), (4) or (5) and list the benefits in the order shown in this subsection. For purposes of this section, "structure, language, and format" means style, arrangement, and overall content of benefit.

(4) An issuer may use, in addition to the benefit plan designations required in subsection (3) of this section, other designations to the extent permitted by law.

(5) Make-up of benefit plans:

(a) Standardized medicare supplement benefit plan "A" must be limited to only the basic ("core") benefits common to all benefit plans, as defined in WAC 284-66-063(2).

(b) Standardized medicare supplement benefit plan "B" consists of only the following: The core benefit as defined in WAC 284-66-063(2), plus the medicare Part A deductible as defined in WAC 284-66-063 (3)(a).

(c) Standardized medicare supplement benefit plan "C" consists of only the following: The core benefit as defined in WAC 284-66-063(2), plus the medicare Part A deductible, skilled nursing facility care, medicare Part B deductible and medically necessary emergency care in a foreign country as defined in WAC 284-66-063 (3)(a), (b), (c), and (h), respectively.

(d) Standardized medicare supplement plan "D" consists of only the following: The core benefit, as defined in WAC 284-66-063(2), plus the medicare Part A deductible, skilled nursing facility care, medically necessary emergency care in a foreign country and the at-home recovery benefit as defined in WAC 284-66-063 (3)(a), (b), (h), and (j), respectively.

(e) Standardized medicare supplement benefit plan "E" consists of only the following: The core benefit as defined in WAC 284-66-063(2), plus the medicare Part A deductible, skilled nursing facility care, medically necessary emergency care in a foreign country and preventive medical care as defined in WAC 284-66-063 (3)(a), (b), (h), and (i), respectively.

(f) Standardized medicare supplement benefit plan "F" consists of only the following: The core benefit as defined in WAC 284-66-063(2), plus the medicare Part A deductible, the skilled nursing facility care, the Part B deductible, one hundred percent of the medicare Part B excess charges, and medically necessary emergency care in a foreign country as defined in WAC 284-66-063 (3)(a), (b), (c), (e), and (h), respectively.

(g) Standardized medicare supplement benefit high deductible plan "F" consists of only the following: One hundred percent of covered ex-

penses following the payment of the annual high deductible plan "F" deductible. The covered expenses include the core benefit as defined in WAC 284-66-063(2), plus the medicare Part A deductible, skilled nursing facility care, the medicare Part B deductible, one hundred percent of the medicare Part B excess charges, and medically necessary emergency care in a foreign country as defined in WAC 284-66-063 (3) (a), (b), (c), (e) and (h) respectively. The annual high deductible plan "F" deductible must consist of out-of-pocket expenses, other than premiums, for services covered by the medicare supplement plan "F" policy, and must be in addition to any other specific benefit deductibles. The annual high deductible plan "F" deductible is one thousand seven hundred thirty dollars for 2005, and is based on the calendar year. The deductible will be adjusted annually by the secretary 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.

(h) Standardized medicare supplement benefit plan "G" consists of only the following: The core benefit as defined at WAC 284-66-063(2), plus the medicare Part A deductible, skilled nursing facility care, eighty percent of the medicare Part B excess charges, medically necessary emergency care in a foreign country, and the at-home recovery benefit as defined in WAC 284-66-063 (3) (a), (b), (d), (h), and (j), respectively.

(i) Standardized medicare supplement benefit plan "H" consists of only the following: The core benefit as defined in WAC 284-66-063(2), plus the medicare Part A deductible, skilled nursing facility care, basic prescription drug benefit, and medically necessary emergency care in a foreign country as defined in WAC 284-66-063 (3) (a), (b), (f), and (h), respectively. The outpatient prescription drug benefit may not be included in a medicare supplement policy sold after December 31, 2005.

(j) Standardized medicare supplement benefit plan "I" consists of only the following: The core benefit as defined in WAC 284-66-063(2), plus the medicare Part A deductible, skilled nursing facility care, one hundred percent of the medicare Part B excess charges, basic prescription drug benefit, medically necessary emergency care in a foreign country, and at-home recovery benefit as defined in WAC 284-66-063 (3) (a), (b), (e), (f), (h), and (j), respectively. The outpatient prescription drug benefit may not be included in a medicare supplement policy sold after December 31, 2005.

(k) Standardized medicare supplement benefit plan "J" consists of only the following: The core benefit as defined in WAC 284-66-063(2), plus the medicare Part A deductible, skilled nursing facility care, medicare Part B deductible, one hundred percent of the medicare Part B excess charges, extended prescription drug benefit, medically necessary emergency care in a foreign country, preventive medical care, and at-home recovery benefit as defined in WAC 284-66-063 (3) (a), (b), (c), (e), (g), (h), (i), and (j), respectively. The outpatient prescription drug benefit may not be included in a medicare supplement policy sold after December 31, 2005.

(l) Standardized medicare supplement benefit high deductible plan "J" consists of only the following: One hundred percent of covered expenses following the payment of the annual high deductible plan "J" deductible. The covered expenses include the core benefit as defined in WAC 284-66-063(2), plus the medicare Part A deductible, skilled nursing facility care, medicare Part B deductible, one hundred percent of the medicare Part B excess charges, extended outpatient prescrip-

tion drug benefit, medically necessary emergency care in a foreign country, preventative medical care benefit and at-home recovery benefit as defined in WAC 284-66-063 (3)(a), (b), (c), (e), (g), (h), (i) and (j) respectively. The annual high deductible plan "J" deductible must consist of out-of-pocket expenses, other than premiums, for services covered by the medicare supplement plan "J" policy, and must be in addition to any other specific benefit deductibles. The annual deductible is one thousand seven hundred thirty dollars for 2005, and is based on the calendar year. The deductible will be adjusted annually by the secretary 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. The outpatient prescription drug benefit may not be included in a medicare supplement policy sold after December 31, 2005.

(6) Make-up of two medicare supplement plans mandated by The Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003 (MMA):

(a) Standardized medicare supplement benefit plan "K" consists of only those benefits described in WAC 284-66-063(4).

(b) Standardized medicare supplement benefit plan "L" consists of only those benefits described in WAC 284-66-063(5).

(7) 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 benefits provided in a policy or certificate that otherwise complies with the applicable standards. The new or innovative benefits may include benefits that are appropriate to medicare supplement insurance, new or innovative, not otherwise available, cost-effective, and offered in a manner which is consistent with the goal of simplification of medicare supplement policies. After December 31, 2005, the innovative benefits may not include an outpatient prescription drug benefit.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 48.66.030 (3)(a), 48.66.041, and 48.66.165. WSR 09-24-052 (Matter No. R 2009-08), § 284-66-066, filed 11/24/09, effective 1/19/10. Statutory Authority: RCW 48.06.060 and 48.66.165. WSR 07-06-014 (Matter No. R 2006-13), § 284-66-066, filed 2/26/07, effective 3/29/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 48.02.060 and 48.66.165. WSR 05-17-019 (Matter No. R 2004-08), § 284-66-066, filed 8/4/05, effective 9/4/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 48.02.060. WSR 92-17-078 (Order R 92-7), § 284-66-066, filed 8/19/92, effective 9/19/92. Statutory Authority: RCW 48.02.060, 48.20.450, 48.20.460, 48.20.470, 48.30.010, 48.44.020, 48.44.050, 48.44.070, 48.46.030, 48.46.130 and 48.46.200. WSR 92-06-021 (Order R 92-1), § 284-66-066, filed 2/25/92, effective 3/27/92.]