
FEHB Program Carrier Letter

Health Maintenance Organizations

U.S. Office of Personnel Management
Office of Insurance Programs

Letter No. 2000-36

Date: July 25, 2000

Fee-for-service [--] Experience-rated HMO [32] Community-rated HMO [33]

SUBJECT: Verification of accreditation status (for HMO plans)

Now is the time of year we need to hear from you about your health plan's accreditation status with the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA), the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO), or the American Accreditation Healthcare Commission/URAC.

If your accreditation status from NCQA or JCAHO has changed, or you have been newly accredited by any of these organizations since July, 1999, please tell your OPM contract specialist what your accreditation status is and when it was granted. For all accredited plans we will show a checkmark in the accreditation column in our Guide to Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Plans and the individual accreditation level on our web site.

Keep in mind that the entity and service area reviewed for accreditation must match the plan product and service area offered through our Program in order to be recognized in the Guide and our web site. Accredited plans may display the NCQA, JCAHO, or URAC seal of accreditation on the front cover of your FEHB brochure, following the accepted protocol of these organizations.

If your accreditation status has changed or you are newly accredited, please inform your OPM contract specialist. We can make web-based changes on a recurring basis, but to show changes in the Guide we must hear from you by August 16, 2000.

Sincerely,

(signed)
Frank D. Titus
Assistant Director
for Insurance Programs