



BENEFIT NEWS BRIEFS

RDS User Guide Updated; 2010 Part D Adjustments

The Retiree Drug Subsidy (RDS) program posted news about the following: (1) an update to the User Guide and (2) the 2010 Part D drug subsidy program adjusted cost threshold and cost limit amounts. The news can be found on the RDS homepage at: <http://rds.cms.hhs.gov/>.

Version 2 of RDS User Guide

The RDS Program just released Version 2 of the RDS User Guide. The 306 page document has been updated with a new Appeals chapter. The old *How to Request an Informal Written Reconsideration* on the RDS Program Website will be replaced with Version 2's Chapter 14 *Appealing An Initial Determination Using the RDS Secure Website* (beginning on page 259). Version 2 is available online at: <http://rds.cms.hhs.gov/downloads/rdsuserguide.pdf> or by "clicking here."

A table displaying the "How Tos" that are no longer available on the RDS Program Website and their location in the New RDS User Guide is available at: http://rds.cms.hhs.gov/news/announcements/user_guide_update.htm.

2010 Adjusted Cost Threshold and Cost Limit Amounts

CMS also posted the 2010 adjusted cost threshold and cost limit amounts that apply to Plan Sponsors participating in the RDS Drug Subsidy Program:

	2009	2010
Standard Benefit Design Parameters		
Deductible	\$295	\$310
Initial Coverage Limit	\$2,700	\$2,830
Out-of-Pocket (OOP) Threshold	\$4,350	\$4,550
Total Covered Part D Drug Spend at OOP Threshold	\$6,153.75	\$6,440.00
Minimum Cost-sharing in Catastrophic Coverage Portion of Benefit		
Generic/Preferred Multi-Source Drug	\$2.40	\$2.50
Other	\$6.00	\$6.30

For more information on this announcement see the RDS Program Secure Website at: http://rds.cms.hhs.gov/news/announcements/cost_threshold10.htm

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