

Using the Medicare Easy Print for your 835 reconciliation reports

PA Medicare has discontinued the paper EOB reports for all their electronic customers as of April 1, 2006. I am sure others will not be far behind.

These reports are still available in a format that requires special programming to interpret.

Medicare has developed this software and made it available for free to all users, so it does not seem prudent to write software to duplicate this effort.

The data in these files is currently in a paper report format called an EOB and does not integrate to the MOS files so all our customers, Windows, Unix and Linux will be able to use this solution as long as you have a Windows computer with a modem and phone line.

What you need to make it work:

1. Windows computer running Windows XP or newer with a modem and .NET installed. The .NET can be installed and information is available on the CMS web site telling you how to do it. The .NET protocols provide the security.
2. Connect the modem to a phone line.
3. Download the Easy Print software. You can find it at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/AccessstoDataApplication/>

Select the link to Medicare Remit Easy Print (MREP) under the Access to CMS Data & Applications heading on the left.

Download and install the application. Note there is also a Demo that could be used to learn about how it all works.

PA Steps to get a Medicare 835 Report

Your clearinghouse will have various methods for collecting this report. The following steps are for customers in PA.

4. Select the Start > All Programs > Accessories > Communications > HyperTerminal

If you have never used your system before for dialing you may need to define your location by indicating your local area code and entering some information about your phone system. Do that and press OK.

Then you will enter a Connection Description, we suggest: Medicare 835 Reports
Select an icon from the list.

Then you need to enter the phone call information:

Country/Region: United States(1)
Area Code: 717
Phone Number: 2147376
Connect Using: (Should reflect the name of the modem you have installed)

Press OK.

Review that the phone number displayed is what would be correctly dialed from your location to reach the Medicare system.

Select Modify if it does not appear correct. Do you need a 1? Is the area code required or not? Look close this will be saved to make this easier from now on.

Select DIAL when all the information is correctly entered.

This should connect you with the Medicare Bulletin board and a LOGIN: prompt should appear.

Enter your login for electronic submitting, and then your password.

A menu will appear that looks like this:

WELCOME TO DIRECT ACCESS SERVICES
ELECTRONIC MAIL CLAIMS NETWORK

FRI MAR 31 10:45:51 2006

PLEASE SELECT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

S)UBMIT CLAIM DATA
G)ET CONFIRMATION REPORT
A)CQUIRE MCS EDIT REPORT
R)ETRIEVE RECONCILIATION
E)SPR
C)HANGE PASSWORD
H)ELP
L)OGOFF

ENTER LETTER OF SELECTION ==>

Type XR and press ENTER. (I know it is not one of the choices but that is what you need to type.)

A message will indicate if there are files to download, and if there are you need to select the Transfer menu at the top of the window and then Receive under it.

Identify the folder where you will be writing the files and press OK. I might suggest that you define a folder just for this and enter it the first time you do this step. Remember where this is the first time because you will need that name to import the files to Easy Print.

Wait while all the files download to the folder. Then log off. All the other choices on the menu are done automatically from the software.

Now Start EASY PRINT and import the file(s) you just downloaded.

You should now be able to see the data and print the reports you need.

Helpful Links:

Manuals and Documentation for PA Highmark EDI Solutions.
<http://www.athighmark.com/edi/tpssecs.shtml>